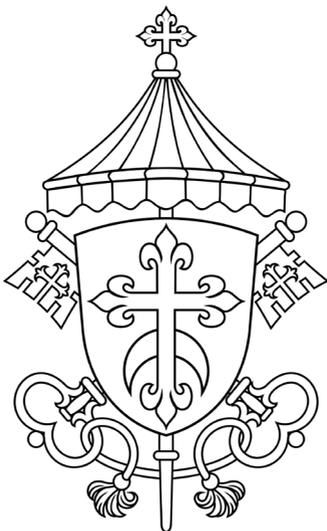


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Mass

Fifth Sunday
of Lent

22 March 2026
10.30am

WELCOME

to St Mary's Cathedral which stands in the centre of Sydney as a Christian statement of grace and beauty. Generations of artists have bequeathed to it their magnificent gifts in stone and glass, designing a unique space of solace and prayer within this vibrant city. This Cathedral represents the spiritual origins of the Catholic Church in Australia. It is one of Sydney's most treasured historic buildings and one of the finest examples of English-style gothic churches in the world. William Wilkinson Wardell, the 19th century architect, dreamed of a gothic structure shaped from the local yellow-block sandstone on which this city is built. The building was finally completed 100 years after the architect's death. The Cathedral is dedicated to Mary, Immaculate Mother of God, Help of Christians.

THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR

St Mary's Cathedral Choir is the oldest musical institution in Australia. In 1818 a group of choristers was formed to sing Vespers before the Blessed Sacrament in the Dempsey household, the centre of Catholic worship in the penal colony. After the establishment of St Mary's Cathedral in 1833 the successors of these choristers formed the permanent Cathedral Choir. In faithfulness to the Benedictine English tradition from which the Cathedral's founders came, the Choir was formed of men and boys, preserving the historical character of Catholic liturgical and musical heritage. However, from 2025, St Mary's began a girls' choir, and St Mary's is the only Catholic Cathedral in Australia to have an on-site Choir School where the boy and girl choristers are educated. The other parts of the Choir are provided by lay clerks who are professional singers. The Choir's primary function is to sing Vespers and Mass in the Cathedral which it does almost daily, but it has also undertaken several international tours, recordings and concert projects.

REGULAR CHORAL SERVICES

Sunday	1030	Solemn Mass <i>Full Choir</i>
	1700	Solemn Vespers and Benediction <i>Lay Clerks</i>
Monday	1700	Vespers <i>Lay Clerks</i>
	1730	Mass <i>Boy Choristers & Lay Clerks</i>
Tuesday	1700	Vespers <i>Cathedral Scholars</i>
	1730	Mass <i>Boy & Girl Choristers</i>
Wednesday	1700	Vespers <i>Cathedral Scholars</i>
	1730	Mass <i>Girl Choristers & Lay Clerks</i>
Thursday	1700	Vespers <i>Lay Clerks</i>
	1730	Mass <i>Lay Clerks</i>

Download the weekly Music List at <http://musiclists.cathedralchoir.sydney>

**TO MAINTAIN A SPIRIT OF REVERENCE AND SOLEMNITY,
PLEASE TURN OFF AND REFRAIN FROM USING ALL MOBILE TELEPHONES
AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.**

ORDER OF MASS

At the sound of the Sacristy bell all stand and sing

THE HYMN



I heard the voice of Je - sus say, 'Come un - to me and rest;



Lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down Your head up - on my breast.'



I came to Je - sus as I was, So wea - ry worn and sad;



I found in him a rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 'Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one,
 Stoop down and drink, and live.'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
 Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
 And now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 'I am this dark world's light;
Look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
 And all thy day be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
 In him my Star, my Sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk
 Till travelling days are done.

*Kingsfold
Adapted from an English folk song
by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)*

Horatius Bonar (1808–1889)

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

The Choir sings the INTROIT

cf. Psalm 42:1-2; 3

IUDICA me Deus, et discerne causam meam de gente non sancta: ab homine iniquo et doloso eripe me: quia tu es Deus meus, et fortitudo mea. ☩ Emitte lucem tuam, et veritatem tuam: ipsa me deduxerunt, et adduxerunt in montem sanctum tuum, et in tabernacula tua.

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength. ☩ O send forth your light and your truth; let these be my guide. Let them bring me to your holy mountain to the place where you dwell.

All make the Sign of the Cross as the Archbishop says

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

☩ **Amen.**

Peace be with you.

☩ **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

After a brief silence all say

I CONFESS to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

All strike their breast thrice, saying

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

The Archbishop gives the absolution, saying

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

☩ **Amen.**

The Choir sings the KYRIE

from Missa in honorem Sancti Dominici

Edmund Rubbra (1901–1986)

Kyrie, eleison. Christe, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

The Archbishop says the COLLECT

Let us pray.

BY your help,
we beseech you, Lord our God,
may we walk eagerly in that same charity
with which, out of love for the world,
your Son handed himself over to death.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

℟: **Amen.**

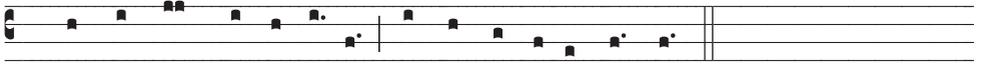
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:12-14

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 129 ℣. v.7



℣. **With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. ℣.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. ℣.

My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak. ℣.

Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. ℣.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:8-11

The Choir sings the TRACT

Psalm 128:1-4

SÆPE expugnauerunt me a iuuentute mea. Prolongauerunt iniquitatem sibi: Dominus iustus concidet cervices peccatorum.

They have pressed me hard from my youth. They have long oppressed me with their iniquities. But the Lord who is just, has destroyed the yoke of the wicked.

The Lord be with you.

℟: **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

℟: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel:

The Gospel of the Lord.

℟: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I BELIEVE in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

All bow during the following line:

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Choir sings the OFFERTORY MOTET

William Byrd (c.1540–1623)

NE irascaris Domine satis, et ne ultra memineris iniquitatis nostræ: Ecce respice
populus tuus omnes nos.

*O Lord, confine your anger, and do not remember our wrongdoings for ever. Look on
your people, look on us all.*

The Archbishop says

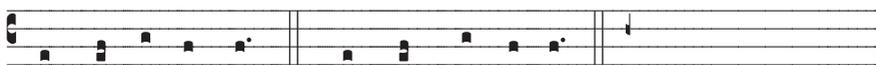
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable
to God, the almighty Father.

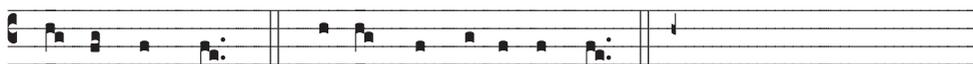
℟: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his
name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

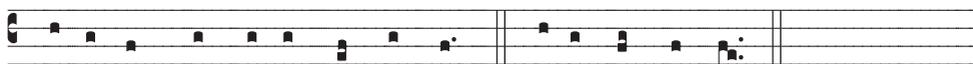
The Archbishop says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

℟: **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

T
HE Lord be with you. ℟: **And with your spi-rit.**


Lift up your hearts. ℟: **We lift them up to the Lord.**


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ℟: **It is right and just.**

THE PREFACE

An- ctus, * San- ctus, San- ctus Dó-mi-nus De-us Sá- ba-oth. Ple-ni
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

sunt cæ- li et ter- ra gló-ri- a tu- a. Ho- sán-na in ex-cél-sis. Be-ne-díc-
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed

tus qui ve-nit in nó-mine Dómi-ni. Ho- sán-na in excél- sis.
is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

When the Archbishop sings

The mystery of faith.

All sing

AVE us, Sa- viour of the world, for by your Cross and

Re-sur-rec- tion you have set us free.

When the Archbishop sings

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

All respond

⌘ **A-men.**

COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All sing

O UR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come,

thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread,

and forgive us our trespasses, as we for-give those who trespass a-gainst us;

and lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e- vil.

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

For the kingdom, the power and the glo-ry are yours now and for ev-er.

For the kingdom, the power and the glo-ry are yours now and for ev-er.

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

For Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

For And with your spirit.

The Choir sings the AGNUS DEI

from Missa in honorem Sancti Dominici

Edmund Rubbra

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Archbishop shows the host to the congregation, saying

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

℟: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Catholics who have made the proper spiritual and sacramental preparation may come forward in the procession to receive Holy Communion. The sacred host must be consumed in the presence of the communion minister.

The Choir sings the COMMUNION MOTET

William Byrd

CIVITAS sancti tui facta est deserta.
Sion deserta facta est.
Ierusalem desolata est.

Your holy city has been deserted.

Sion has been deserted.

Jerusalem has been left desolate.

The Choir sings the COMMUNION ANTIPHON

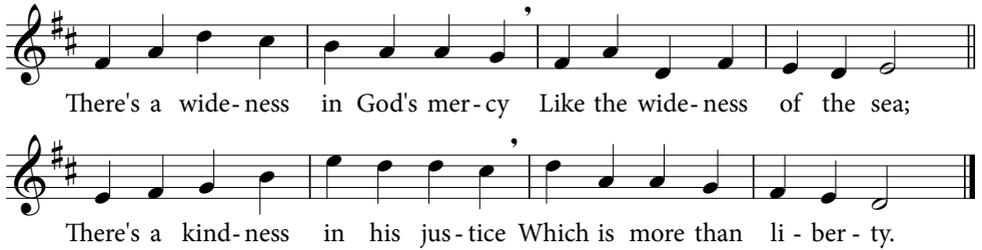
John 11:33, 35, 43, 44, 39

Videns Dominus flentes sorores Lazari ad monumentum, lacrimatus est coram Iudaeis, et clamabat: Lazare, veni foras: et prodiit ligatis minibus et pedibus, qui fuerat quatruiduanus mortuus.

The Lord, seeing the sisters of Lazarus weeping at the tomb, wept before the Jews and cried out: 'Lazarus, come forth'. And he who had been dead for four days came out, bound hand and foot.

All sing

THE HYMN



There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy Like the wide-ness of the sea;
There's a kind-ness in his jus-tice Which is more than li-ber-ty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of man's mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.

There is welcome for the sinner,
And more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Saviour;
There is healing in his Blood.

There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members
In the sorrows of the Head.

If our love were but more simple,
We should take him at his word;
And our lives would be all gladness
In the joy of Christ our Lord.

The Archbishop says the PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

℟: **Amen.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

℟: **And with your spirit.**

Bow down for the blessing.

BLESS, O Lord, your people, who long for the gift of your mercy, and grant that what, at your prompting, they desire they may receive by your generous gift. Through Christ our Lord.

℟: **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

℟: **Amen.**

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

℟: **Thanks be to God.**

*Liturgical law requires that solo organ music is not played during Lenten services.
The Choir and sacred ministers return to the Sacristy in silence.*

Immediately following this mass, you are welcome to remain for the Angelus and Day of the Unborn Child procession. Please remain in the Cathedral for further instructions

LATER TODAY IN THE CATHEDRAL

Solemn Vespers and Benediction *sung by the Girl Choristers & Lay Clerks
of St Mary's Cathedral Choir*

5.00pm



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR

THE OLDEST MUSIC INSTITUTION IN AUSTRALIA



The Cathedral offers full scholarships for all Choristers to study at St Mary's Cathedral College.

PLACES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS IN YEAR 3 FOR 2027

For more information or to arrange an informal audition, please visit stmaryscathedral.org.au/chorister or scan the QR Code:





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