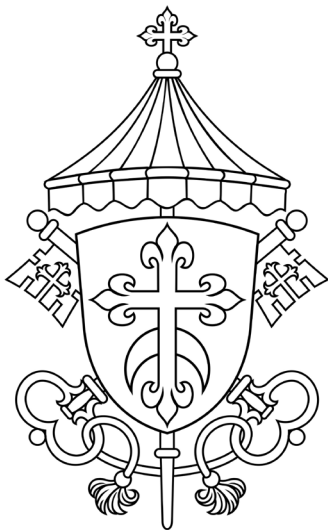


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



First Vespers

The Office of Evening Prayer

THE MOST
HOLY TRINITY

30 May 2026
5.30pm

THE OFFICE OF VESPERS

Vespers, also called Evening Prayer, is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office. In the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church fulfills Jesus' command to "pray continually". Through hymns, psalms, canticles, readings, and prayers, the people of God sanctify the day by continual praise of God and intercession for the needs of the world.

The Liturgy of the Hours includes several specified times of prayer. The most important times are Morning Prayer: Lauds (which takes place upon rising) and Evening Prayer: Vespers (which takes place as dusk begins to fall). The Office of Vespers gives thanks for the day just past and makes an evening sacrifice of praise to God.

Bishops, priests, deacons, and many men and women in consecrated life pray the Liturgy of the Hours each day. Their work is organised around this prayer, keeping God always at the centre of their days. Lay people are encouraged to pray the Liturgy of the Hours as well, especially Morning and Evening Prayer. The public singing of Lauds and Vespers is a regular part of the life and worship of St Mary's Cathedral.

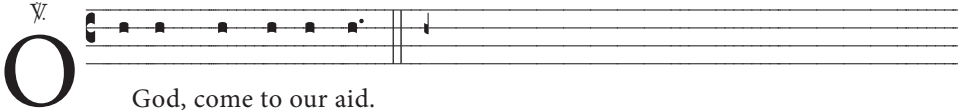
**TO MAINTAIN A SPIRIT OF REVERENCE AND SOLEMNITY,
PLEASE TURN OFF AND REFRAIN FROM USING ALL MOBILE TELEPHONES
AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.**

ORDER OF VESPERS

At the sound of the Sacristy bell all stand.

INTRODUCTION TO THE OFFICE

♯



O God, come to our aid.



♯ **O Lord, make haste to help us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son**




and to the Holy Spi-rit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,



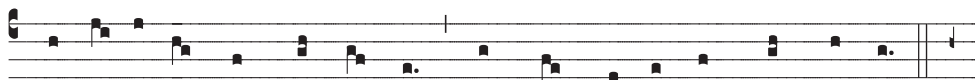
world without end. A-men. Al-le-lu-ia.

All sing

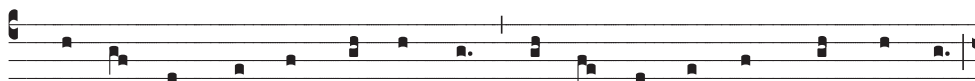
THE OFFICE HYMN



O Tri-ni-ty of bles-sèd light, O U-ni-ty of prince-ly might,



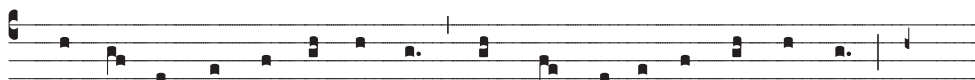
The fie-ry sun now goes his way; Shed thou with-in our hearts thy ray.



2. To thee our morn-ing song of praise, To thee our eve-ning prayer we raise;



Thy glo-ry hum-bly we a-dore For ev-er and for ev-er-more.



3. All laud to God the Fa-ther be; All praise, e-ter-nal Son, to thee;



All glo-ry, as is ev-er meet, To God the Ho-ly Pa-ra-cte. A- men.

All sit.



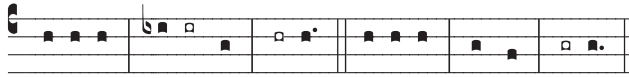
Bless-èd be the Ho-ly Tri-ni-ty; let us give praise to him.

PSALM 147 (147B)



- Cantor* 1 O praise the | Lord, Je- | rusalem! *
Zion, | praise your | God!
- All* 2 **He has strengthened the | bars of your | gates *
he has blessed the child- | ren with- | in you.**
- 3 He established | peace on your | borders, *
he feeds you with | finest | wheat.
- 4 **He sends out his word | to the | earth *
and swiftly runs | his com- | mand.**
- 5 He showers down snow | white as | wool, *
he scatters hoar- | frost like | ashes.
- 6 **He hurls down | hailstones like | crumbs. *
The waters are frozen | at his | touch;**
- 7 he sends forth his word | and it | melts them: *
at the breath of his mouth the | waters | flow.
- 8 **He makes his word | known to | Jacob, *
to Israel his laws | and de- | crees.**
- 9 He has not dealt thus with | other | nations; *
he has not taught them | his de- | crees.
- 10 **Glory be to the Father and | to the | Son *
and to the | Holy | Spirit,**
- 11 as it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be, *
world without | end. A- | men.

All repeat the Antiphon.



13 Glory be to the Father and | to the | Son *
 and to the | Holy | Spirit,

14 as it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be, *
 world without | end. A- | men.

All repeat the ANTIPHON



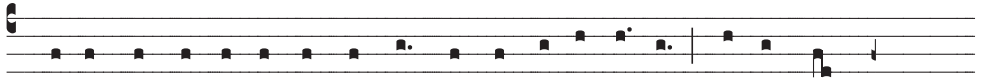
Glo-ry and honour be to God in the u-ni-ty of the Tri-ni-ty, for ev-er and ev-er.

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 11:33-36

HOW rich are the depths of God—how deep his wisdom and knowledge—and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

THE SHORT RESPONSORY



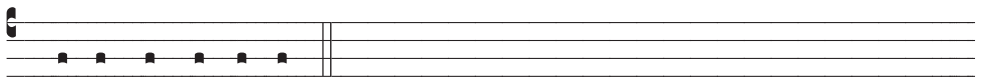
Let us bless the Father and the Son with the Ho-ly Spi-rit. Let us praise



him for ev-er. *∇* To God a-lone be all honour and glo-ry. *⌘* Let us praise him...



∇ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit.



⌘ Let us bless the Father...

All stand.

We give thanks to you, O God, the one and true Tri-ni-ty.

MAGNIFICAT

- Cantor* 1 My soul proclaims the greatness | of the | Lord, *
my spirit rejoices in | God my | Saviour;
- All* 2 **for he has looked with favour on his | lowly | servant, ***
and from this day all generations will | call me | blessèd.
- 3 The Almighty has done | great things for | me, *
holy | is his | Name.
- 4 **He has mercy on | those who | fear him *
in every | gene- | ration.**
- 5 He has shown the | strength of his | arm, *
he has scattered the proud in | their con- | ceit.
- 6 **He has cast down the mighty | from their | thrones, ***
and has lifted | up the | lowly.
- 7 He has filled the | hungry with | good things, *
and the rich he has sent | away | empty.
- 8 **He has come to the help of his | servant | Israel *
for he has remembered his pro- | mise of | mercy,**
- 9 the promise he | made to our | fathers, *
to Abraham and his child- | ren for | ever.
- 10 **Glory be to the Father and | to the | Son *
and to the | Holy | Spirit,**
- 11 As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be, *
world without | end. A- | men.

All repeat the Antiphon.

COLLECT

GOD our Father,
you revealed the great mystery of your godhead to men
when you sent into the world
the Word who is Truth
and the Spirit who makes us holy.
Help us to believe in you and worship you,
as the true faith teaches:
three Persons, eternal in glory,
one God, infinite in majesty.
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.**

CONCLUSION OF THE OFFICE

The Lord be with you.

℟: **And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

℟: **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

℟: **Thanks be to God.**

In the absence of a Priest:

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

℟: **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

℟: **Thanks be to God.**

All sing

THE ANTIPHON TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

S

Al-ve, Re-gí-na, * **ma-ter mi-se-ri-cór-di-ae** : **Vi-ta, dul-cé-do, et spes**
Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and

nostra, sal-ve. Ad te clamámus, éx-su-les, fí-li-i Hevae. Ad te su-spi-rámus,
our hope, hail. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up

ge-méntes et flén-tes in hac la-crimárum val-le. E-ia er-go, Ad-vo-cá-ta
our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious

nos-tra, il-los tu-os mi-se-ri-cór-des ó-cu-los ad nos con-vér-te. Et Ie-sum,
advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; And show

be-ne-díctum fructum ventris tu-i, no-bis post hoc ex-sí-li-um os-tén-de.
unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, after this our exile.

O cle-mens : O pi-a : O dul-cis Vir-go Ma-rí-a.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

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