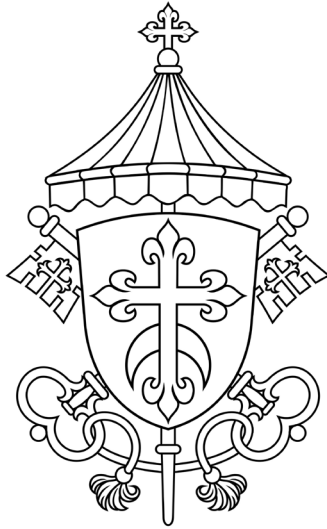


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Vespers and Benediction

The Office of Evening Prayer

THE MOST
HOLY TRINITY

31 May 2026
5.00pm

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.**

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

At the sound of the Sacristy bell all stand.

As the Blessed Sacrament is brought to the altar all kneel and sing:



O sa - lu - tá - ris Hó - sti - a, Quae cae - li pan - dis ós - ti - um,
O saving Victim, opening wide the gate of Heaven to man below;



Bel - la pre - munt ho - stí - li - a, Da ro - bur, fer au - xí - li - um.
Our foes press hard on every side; thine aid supply; thy strength bestow.



U - ni tri - nó - que Dó - mi - no Sit sem - pi - tér - na gló - ri - a,
All praise and thanks to thee ascend, for ever more, blest one in three.



Qui vi - tam si - ne tér - mi - no No - bis do - net in pá - tri - a.
O grant us life that shall not end, in our true native land with thee.



A - men.

ORDER OF VESPERS

INTRODUCTION TO THE OFFICE

☩ Deus, in adiutorium meum intende.	<i>O God, come to our aid.</i>
☩ Domine, ad adiuvandum me festina.	<i>O Lord, make haste to help us.</i>
Gloria Patri et Filio	<i>Glory be to the Father and to the Son</i>
et Spiritui Sancto.	<i>and to the Holy Spirit,</i>
Sicut erat in principio	<i>as it was in the beginning,</i>
et nunc et semper	<i>is now, and ever shall be,</i>
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. Alleluia.	<i>world without end. Amen. Alleluia.</i>

OFFICE HYMN

Immensa et una Trinitas, cuius potestas omnia facit regitque tempora et exstat ante sæcula,	<i>Almighty Trinity in one, Whose sovereign power all things has made, You rule the ages and the world, Before all time You reigned supreme.</i>
Tu sola pleno sufficis tibi beata gaudio; tu para, simplex, provida cælos et orbem contines.	<i>Full plenitude of joy is yours, Alone and perfect, needing nought, Un sullied, simple purity, All things are held within your sway.</i>
Omnis, Pater, fons gratiæ, Lumen paternæ gloriæ, Sancte utriusque Spiritus interminata caritas,	<i>O Father, fount of every grace, O Father's glory, God the Son, O Holy Spirit of them both, Unending source of love divine.</i>
Ex te suprema origine, Trias benigna profluit creata quicquid sustinet, quicquid decore perficit.	<i>To you, the origin serene, The Godhead one in persons three, All things created owe their form And every beauty they contain.</i>
Quos et corona muneras adoptionis intimæ, nos templa fac nitentia tibi placere iugiter.	<i>Your children whom you have endowed With sonship and adoption's gift, Beg you to make them temples fair For your indwelling Spirit's joy.</i>
O viva lux, nos angelis da iungi in aula cælica, ut grati amoris laudibus te concinamus perpetim. Amen.	<i>O loving light, grant us the grace To join the angels round your throne, That praising you with grateful love, Creation's hymn may never end. Amen.</i>

PSALMODY

FIRST ANTIPHON

O VERA summa sempiterna Trinitas,
Pater, Filius, Spiritus Sanctus.

*O true, highest and everlasting Trinity,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

PSALM 109 (110)

Dixit Dominus Domino meo: *The Lord's revelation to my Master:*
«Sede a dextris meis, *'Sit on my right:*

donec ponam inimicos tuos: *your foes I will put*
scabellum pedum tuorum». *beneath your feet.'*

Virgam potentiae tuae emittet Dominus ex Sion: *The Lord will wield from Zion your sceptre of power:*
dominare in medio inimicorum tuorum. *rule in the midst of all your foes.*

Tecum principatus in die virtutis tuae, *A prince from the day of your birth*
in splendoribus sanctis: *on the holy mountains;*
ex utero ante luciferum genui te. *from the womb before the dawn I begot you.*

Iuravit Dominus et non pœnitebit eum: *The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.*
«Tu es sacerdos in æternum secundum *'You are a priest for ever,*
ordinem Melchisedech». *a priest like Melchizedek of old.'*

Dominus a dextris tuis: *The Master standing at your right hand*
conquassabit in die iræ suæ reges. *will shatter kings in the day of his wrath.*

De torrente in via bibet: *He shall drink from the stream by the wayside*
propterea exaltabit caput. *and therefore he shall lift up his head.*

Gloria Patri et Filio, *Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
et Spiritui Sancto. *and to the Holy Spirit,*

Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper *as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. *world without end. Amen.*

The Antiphon is repeated.

SECOND ANTIPHON

LIBERA nos, salva nos, iustifica nos, o
Beata Trinitas.

*Give us freedom, salvation and life, O
blessed Trinity.*

PSALM 113A (114)

In exitu Israel de Ægypto, *When Israel came forth from Egypt,*
domus Iacob de populo barbaro, *Jacob's sons from an alien people,*

factus est Iuda sanctuarium eius, *Judah became the Lord's temple,*
Israel potestas eius. *Israel became his kingdom.*

Mare vidit et fugit, *The sea fled at the sight:*
Iordanis conversus est retrorsum; *the Jordan turned back on its course,*

montes saltaverunt ut arietes, *the mountains leapt like rams*
et colles sicut agni ovium. *and the hills like yearling sheep.*

Quid est tibi, mare, quod fugisti? *Why was it, sea, that you fled,*
Et tu, Iordanis, *that you turned back, Jordan,*
quia conversus es retrorsum? *on your course?*

Montes, quod saltastis sicut arietes, *Mountains, that you leapt like rams;*
et colles, sicut agni ovium? *hills, like yearling sheep?*

A facie Domini contremisce, terra, *Tremble, O earth, before the Lord,*
a facie Dei Iacob, *in the presence of the God of Jacob,*

qui convertit petram *who turns the rock*
in stagna aquarum *into a pool*
et silicem in fontes aquarum. *and flint into a spring of water.*

Gloria Patri, et Filio, *Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
et Spiritui Sancto, *and to the Holy Spirit,*

Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper *as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. *world without end. Amen.*

The Antiphon is repeated.

THIRD ANTIPHON

SANCTUS, sanctus, sanctus Dominus Deus
Omnipotens, qui erat et qui est et qui venturus est.

*Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was,
who is, and who is to come.*

CANTICLE

Apocalypse 19:1-2. 5-7

	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
Salus et gloria et virtus Deo nostro:	Alleluia.	<i>Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,</i>
	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
quia vera et iusta iudicia eius.	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>his judgements are true and just.</i>
	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>Alleluia, alleluia.</i>
	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
Laudem dicite Deo nostro, omnes servi eius:	Alleluia.	<i>Praise our God, all you his servants,</i>
	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
et qui timetis eum, pusilli et magni!	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>you who fear him, small and great.</i>
	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>Alleluia, alleluia.</i>
	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
Quoniam regnavit Dominus,	Alleluia.	<i>The Lord our God,</i>
Deus noster omnipotens:	Alleluia.	<i>the Almighty, reigns,</i>
	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
Gaudeamus et exultemus et demus gloriam ei.	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.</i>
	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>Alleluia, alleluia.</i>
	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
Quia venerunt nuptiæ Agni:	Alleluia.	<i>The marriage of the Lamb has come,</i>
	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
et uxor eius præparavit se.	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>and his bride has made herself ready.</i>
	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>Alleluia, alleluia.</i>
	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
Gloria Patri et Filio:	Alleluia.	<i>Glory be to the Father and to the Son</i>
	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
et Spiritui Sancto.	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>and to the Holy Spirit,</i>
	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>Alleluia, alleluia.</i>
	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper	Alleluia.	<i>as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,</i>
	Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>world without end. Amen.</i>
	Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>Alleluia, alleluia.</i>

The Antiphon is repeated.

DO your best to preserve the unity which the Spirit gives, by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body and one Spirit, just as there is one hope to which God has called you. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism; there is one God and Father of all men, who is Lord of all, works through all, and is in all.

SHORT RESPONSORY

Benedicamus Patrem et Filium cum Sancto Spiritu.	<i>Let us bless the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit.</i>
Laudemus in saecula.	<i>Let us praise him for ever.</i>
℣. Soli Deo honor et gloria. ℟.	<i>To God alone be all honour and glory.</i>
℣. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto. ℟.	<i>Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.</i>

All stand.

MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

TE Deum Patrem ingenitum, te Filium unigenitum, te Spiritum Sanctum Paraclitum, sanctam et individuum Trinitatem, toto corde et ore confitemur, laudamus atque benedicimus: Tibi gloria in saecula.

With our heart and lips we praise you, we worship you and we bless you, God the Father unbegotten, only-begotten Son, and Holy Spirit Paraclete: all glory is yours for ever.

MAGNIFICAT

Quarti toni

Orlande de Lassus (1532–1594)

Magnificat *My soul*
anima mea Dominum, *glorifies the Lord,*

et exsultavit spiritus meus *my spirit rejoices*
in Deo salutari meo, *in God, my Saviour.*

quia respexit humilitatem ancillæ suæ. *He looks on his servant in her lowliness;*
Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent *henceforth all ages*
omnes generationes, *will call me blessed.*

quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est, *The Almighty works marvels for me.*
et sanctum nomen eius, *Holy his name!*

et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies *His mercy is from age to age,*
timentibus eum. *on those who fear him.*

Fecit potentiam in brachio suo, *He puts forth his arm in strength*
dispersit superbos mente cordis sui; *and scatters the proud-hearted.*

deposuit potentes de sede; *He casts the mighty from their thrones*
et exaltavit humiles; *and raises the lowly.*

esurientes implevit bonis *He fills the starving with good things,*
et divites dimisit inanes. *sends the rich away empty.*

Suscepit Israel puerum suum, *He protects Israel, his servant,*
recordatus misericordiæ suæ, *remembering his mercy,*

sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, *the mercy promised to our fathers,*
Abraham et semini eius in sæcula. *to Abraham and his sons for ever.*

Gloria Patri et Filio, *Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
et Spiritui Sancto. *and to the Holy Spirit,*

Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper *as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. *world without end. Amen.*

The Antiphon is repeated.

INTERCESSIONS

Father, through your Holy Spirit you gave Christ your Son to us in the flesh, so that we might have life through him. Filled now with that life, we raise our hearts in praise of the Holy Trinity, saying:



∞ Exaudire digneris. ∞ **Te, rogamus, audi nos.**

Father almighty, eternal God, in the name of your Son send your Holy Spirit upon the Church: may the Comforter preserve us in unity, harmony and the fulness of truth. ∞

Lord, send your labourers into the harvest to teach all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: strengthen them all in the faith. ∞

Lord, support all those who suffer persecution on account of their faith in your Son: give them the Spirit of truth who will, according to his promise, speak through them. ∞

Father almighty, all acknowledge that you, the Word and the Spirit are one: as we believe in one God, so may we hope in you and love you. ∞

Father of the living, bring those who have died to share your glory: with your Son and the Holy Spirit may they reign eternally with you in heaven. ∞

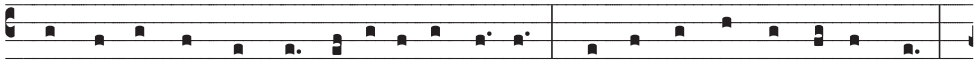
At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

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.

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.**

The Choir sings

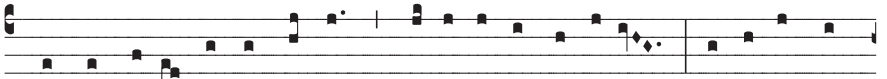
THE MOTET

BENEDICTA sit sancta Trinitas, atque indivisa Unitas: confitebimur ei, quia fecit
nobiscum misericordiam suam, alleluia.

*Blessed be the Holy Trinity and undivided Unity; let us give praise to him, for he has
shown us his mercy, alleluia.*

Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548–1611)


All sing



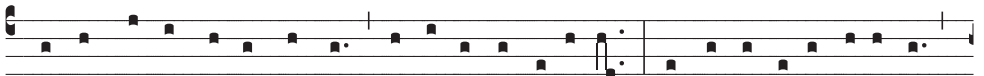
T ANTUM er-go Sa-craméntum * Vene-rémur cérnu- i : et an-tí-quum
Therefore we, before him bending, this great Sacrament revere; types and shadows




do-cuméntum No-vo ce-dat rí-tu- i : præstet fi-des suppleméntum
have their ending, for the newer rite is here; faith our outward sense befriending,



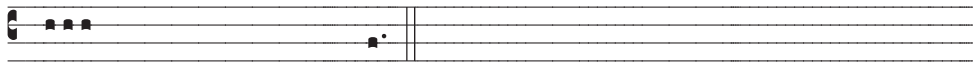
sénsu-um de-féc-tu- i. Ge-ni-tó-ri, Ge-ni-tó-que laus et iu-bi-la-ti-o,
makes our inward vision clear. Glory let us give and blessing to the Father and the Son,



sa-lus, honor, virtus quoque sit et be-ne-dícti- o : pro-ce-dénti ab utró-que
honour, thanks, and praise addressing while eternal ages run; ever too his love confessing,



compar sit lau-dá-ti- o. A- men.
who from both with both is One.



∇ Panem de cælo præstitisti e- is.
You gave them bread from heaven.



⌘ **Omne delectaméntum in se habén- tem.**
Containing in itself all sweetness.

Oremus.

Let us pray.

DEUS, qui nobis sub sacramento
 mirabili passionis tuæ memoriam
 reliquisti: tribue quæsumus, ita nos corporis
 et sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari; ut
 redemptionis tuæ fructum in nobis iugiter
 sentiamus. Qui vivis et regnas in sæcula
 sæculorum.

*O God, who in a wonderful Sacrament
 has left us a memorial of your passion:
 grant us so to venerate the sacred
 mysteries of your Body and Blood, that
 we may perceive within ourselves the fruit
 of thy redemption; who lives and reigns
 for ever and ever.*

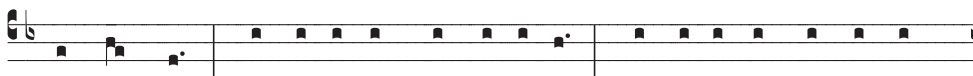
⌘ **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *is given.*

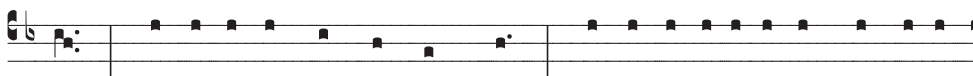
THE DIVINE PRAISES



Blessèd be God. Blessèd be his Holy Name. Blessèd be Jesus Christ, true God



and true Man. Blessèd be the Name of Je-sus. Blessèd be his Most Sacred



Heart. Blessèd be his Most Precious Blood. Blessèd be Jesus in the Most Holy



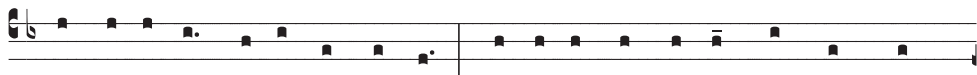
Sacrament of the Al-tar. Blessèd be the Holy Spi-rit, the Pa-raclete. Blessèd be



the great Mother of God, Ma-ry most Ho-ly. Blessèd be her Holy and Imma-



cu-late Conception. Blessèd be her Glorious Assumption. Blessèd be the

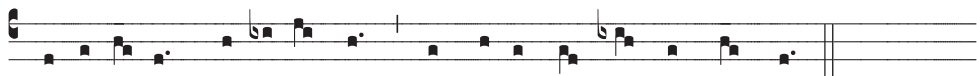


name of Ma-ry, Virgin and Mother. Blessèd be Saint Joseph, her most chaste



spouse. Blessèd be God in his Angels and in his Saints.

As the Blessed Sacrament is reposed, all sing



A-do-ré-mus * in æ-tér-num Sanc-tís-si-mum Sa-cra-mén-tum.

Let us adore for ever the most Holy Sacrament.

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes: *O praise the Lord, all you nations,*
laudate eum omnes populi. *acclaim his all you peoples!*

Quoniam confirmata est super nos *Strong is his*
misericordia eius: *love for us;*
et veritas Domini manet in æternum. *he is faithful for ever.*

Gloria Patri, et Filio: *Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
et Spiritui Sancto, *and to the Holy Spirit,*

sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper: *as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. *world without end. Amen.*



A-do-ré-mus * in æ-tér-num Sanc-tís-si-mum Sa-cra-mén-tum.

Let us adore for ever the most Holy Sacrament.

All sing

THE ANTIPHON TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

S Al- ve, * Re-gi- na, ma-ter mi-se-ri-córdi- ae: Vi- ta, dulcé- do,
Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness

et spes nostra, sal- ve. Ad te clamá- mus, éxsu-les, fí- li- i Hevae. Ad te
and our hope, hail. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee

suspi- rá- mus, geméntes et flen-tes in hac la-cri- má- rum val- le. E- ia ergo,
do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then,

advoca- ta nostra, il-los tu- os mi-se-ri-cór-des ó-cu-los ad nos convér- te.
most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us;

Et Ie-sum, bene-díc-tum fructum ventris tu- i, no-bis post hoc ex-sí-li- um
And show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, after this our exile.

os- ténde. O cle- mens : O pi- a : O dul- cis Virgo Ma-rí- a.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Alleluyas

Simon Preston (1938-2022)

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