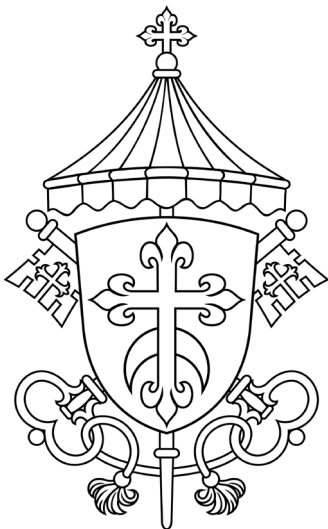


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Mass

Fifth Sunday of Easter

closing the Sydney Synod 2026

3 May 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 stmaryscathedral.org.au/music-list

**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



Church of God, elect and glo-rious, ho-ly na-tion, cho-sen race;



Called as God's own spe-cial peo-ple, roy-al priests and heirs of grace:



know the pur- pose of your cal-ling, show to all God's migh-ty deeds;



tell of love which knows no li-mits, grace which meets all hu-man needs.

**God has called you out of darkness
into his most marvellous light;
brought his truth to life within you,
turned your blindness into sight.
Let your light so shine around you
that God's name is glorified;
and all find fresh hope and purpose
in Christ Jesus crucified.**

**Church of God, elect and holy,
be the people he intends;
strong in faith and swift to answer
each command your master sends:
royal priests, fulfil your calling
through your sacrifice and prayer;
give your lives in joyful service
sing his praise, his love declare.**

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

The Choir sings the INTROIT

Psalm 97:1-2

CANTATE Domino canticum novum, alleluia: quia mirabilia fecit Dominus, alleluia: ante conspectum gentium revelavit iustitiam suam, alleluia, alleluia. *℣.* Salvavit sibi dextera eius: et brachium sanctum eius.

O sing a new song to the Lord, alleluia, for he has worked wonders, alleluia; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia. ℣. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation.

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.**

BLESSING AND SPRINKLING OF WATER

Dear brethren (brothers and sisters), let us humbly beseech the Lord our God to bless this water he has created, which will be sprinkled on us as a memorial of our Baptism. May he help us by his grace to remain faithful to the Spirit we have received.


LORD our God, in your mercy be present to your people's prayers, and, for us who recall the wondrous work of our creation and the still greater work of our redemption, graciously ✠ bless this water. For you created water to make the fields fruitful and to refresh and cleanse our bodies. You also made water the instrument of your mercy: for through water you freed your people from slavery and quenched their thirst in the desert; through water the Prophets proclaimed the new covenant you were to enter upon with the human race; and last of all, through water, which Christ made holy in the Jordan, you have renewed our corrupted nature in the bath of regeneration. Therefore, may this water be for us a memorial of the Baptism we have received, and grant that we may share in the gladness of our brothers and sisters who at Easter have received their Baptism. Through Christ our Lord.


℣. **Amen.**


WE humbly ask you, almighty God: be pleased in your faithful love to bless ✠ this salt you have created, for it was you who commanded the prophet Elisha to cast salt into water, that impure water might be purified. Grant, O Lord, we pray, that, wherever this mixture of salt and water is sprinkled, every attack of the enemy may be repulsed and your Holy Spirit may be present to keep us safe at all times. Through Christ our Lord.

℣. **Amen.**

During the sprinkling all sing

V 
I- di a- quam * egre- di- én-tem de tem- plo, a lá- te-re dex- tro,
I saw water flowing from the Temple, from its right-hand side,


al-le- lú- ia; et omnes, ad quos per-vé-nit a- qua i- sta,
alleluia; and all to whom this water came


sal- vi fa- cti sunt, et di- cent: Al-le-lú- ia, al- le- lú- ia.
were saved and shall say: Alleluia, alleluia.

May almighty God cleanse us of our sins, and through the celebration of this Eucharist make us worthy to share at the table of his Kingdom.

✠ **Amen.**

The Choir sings the GLORIA

from Mass for the Mystery of Faith

Ghislaine Reece Trapp (b. 1992)

GLORIA in excelsis Deo et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam, Domine Deus, Rex cælestis, Deus Pater omnipotens. Domine Fili Unigenite, Iesu Christe, Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis; qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus Altissimus, Iesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu: in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Archbishop says the COLLECT

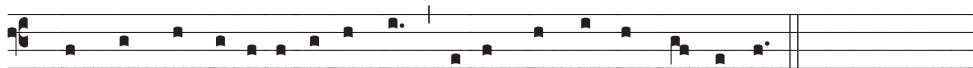
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 6:1-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 32:1-2,4-5,18-19 ☩ v.22



☩ **May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.**

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. ☩

For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. ☩

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. ☩

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:4-9

The Choir sings the ALLELUIA

☩ *Romans 6:9*

Alleluia.

☩ *Christus resurgens ex mortuis, iam non moritur: mors illi ultra non dominabitur.*

Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die again. Death has no power over him any more.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 14:1-12

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

Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name. For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting: and his truth endureth from generation to generation. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end, Amen.

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

S Anctus, * Sanctus, Sanctus Dómi-nus De-us Sá-ba- oth. Ple- ni sunt
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven

cae- li et ter-ra gló- ri- a tu- a. Ho- sánna in ex- cél- sis. Be- ne- díc- tus qui
and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he

ve- nit in nó- mi- ne Dó- mi- ni. Ho- sánna in excél- sis.
who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER
 FOR VARIOUS NEEDS AND OCCASIONS I
For a Synod

YOU are indeed Holy and to be glorified, O God, who love the human race and who always walk with us on the journey of life. Blessed indeed is your Son, present in our midst when we are gathered by his love, and when, as once for the disciples, so now for us, he opens the Scriptures and breaks the bread.

Therefore, Father most merciful, we ask that you send forth your Holy Spirit to sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the day before he was to suffer, on the night of the Last Supper, he took bread and said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT, FOR THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

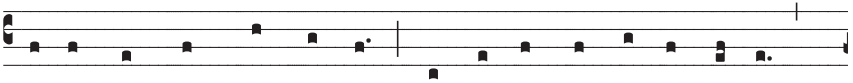
In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice, gave you thanks and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT, FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT, WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS. DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

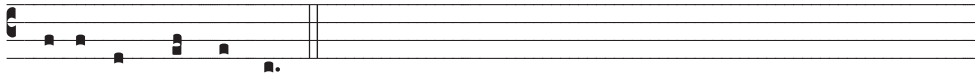
The mystery of faith.

All sing

℞
W



E proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Re-sur-rection



until you come a-gain.

Therefore, holy Father, as we celebrate the memorial of Christ your Son, our Saviour, whom you led through his Passion and Death on the Cross to the glory of the Resurrection, and whom you have seated at your right hand, we proclaim the work of your love until he comes again and we offer you the Bread of life and the Chalice of blessing.

Look with favour on the oblation of your Church, in which we show forth the paschal Sacrifice of Christ that has been handed on to us, and grant that, by the power of the Spirit of your love, we may be counted now and until the day of eternity among the members of your Son, in whose Body and Blood we have communion.

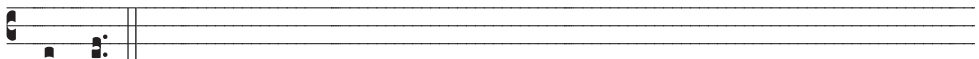
Lord, renew your Church which is in Sydney by the light of the Gospel. Strengthen the bond of unity between the faithful and the pastors of your people, together with N. our Pope, N. our Bishop, and the whole Order of Bishops, that in a world torn by strife your people may shine forth as a prophetic sign of unity and concord.

Remember our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the peace of your Christ, and all the dead, whose faith you alone have known. Admit them to rejoice in the light of your face, and in the resurrection give them the fullness of life. Grant also to us, when our earthly pilgrimage is done, that we may come to an eternal dwelling place and live with you for ever; there, in communion with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with the Apostles and Martyrs, (with Saint N.) and with all the Saints, we shall praise and exalt you through Jesus Christ, your Son.

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.**

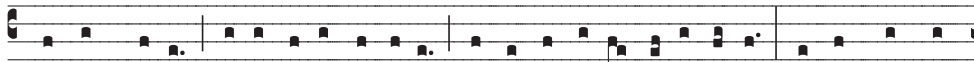
COMMUNION RITE

All sing

P



A-ter noster, qui es in cælis: sancti-fi-cé-tur nomen tu-um; ad-vé-ni-at
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy



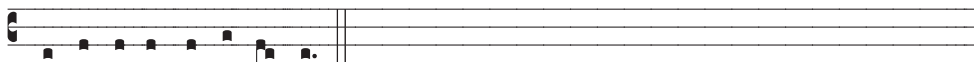
regnum tuum; fi-at volúntas tu-a, si-cut in cæ-lo, et in terra. Panem nostrum
kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day



co-ti-di- á-num da nobis hódi- e; et dimít-te nobis dé-bi-ta nostra, si-cut et nos
our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we



dimít-timus de-bi-tó-ri-bus nostris; et ne nos indúcas in tenta-ti- ó-nem;
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,



sed lí-be-ra nos a ma-lo.
but deliver us from evil.

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.

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.


℟: Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.


℟: And with your spirit.



A - gnus De-i, * **qui tol-lis pec-cá- ta mun-di: mi-se-ré- re no-bis.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.



Agnus De- i * **qui tol-lis pec-cá- ta mun-di: mi-se-ré- re no- bis.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.



Agnus De- i * **qui tol-lis pec-cá- ta mun-di: do-na no- bis pa- cem.**
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 ANTIPHON

John 14:9

Tanto tempore vobiscum sum, et non cognovistis me? Philippe, qui videt me, videt et Patrem, alleluia: non credis quia ego in Patre, et Pater in me est? alleluia, alleluia.

Have I been with you all this time, and you still do not know me? Philip, the one who sees me, sees my Father also, alleluia. Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in me? Alleluia, alleluia.

The Choir sings the AGNUS DEI II

from Mass for the Mystery of Faith

Ghislaine Reece Trapp

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

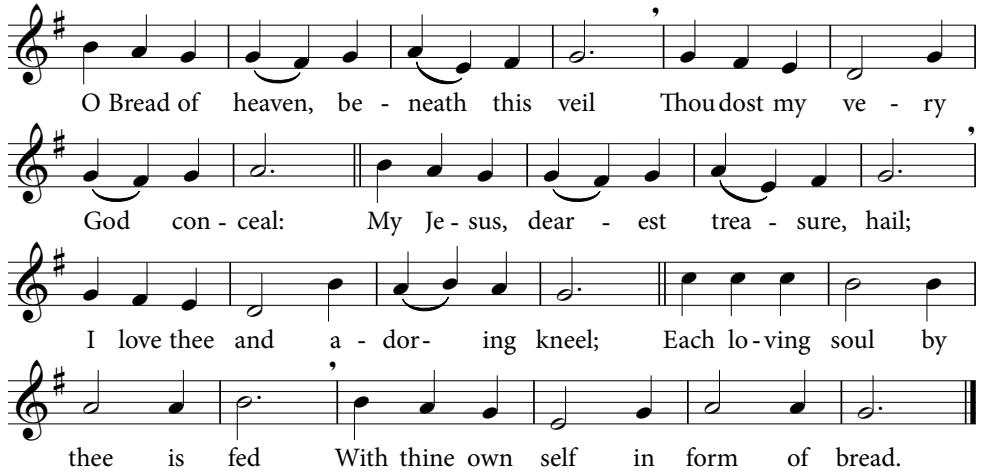
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona nobis pacem.

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: grant us peace.

All sing

THE HYMN



O Bread of heaven, be - neath this veil Thou dost my ve - ry,
God con - ceal: My Je - sus, dear - est trea - sure, hail;
I love thee and a - dor - ing kneel; Each lo - ving soul by
thee is fed With thine own self in form of bread.

2

O Food of life, thou who dost give
The pledge of immortality;
I live; no 'tis not I that live;
God gives me life, God lives in me:
He feeds my soul, he guides my ways,
And every grief with joy repays.

4

O mighty Fire! thou that dost burn
To kindle every mind and heart!
For Thee my frozen soul doth yearn;
Come, Lord of Love, thy warmth impart.
If thus to speak too bold appear,
'Tis love like thine has banished fear.

3

O Bond of love, that dost unite
The servant to his living Lord;
Could I dare live, and not requite
Such love—then death were meet reward:
I cannot live unless to prove
Some love for such unmeasured love.

5

O sweetest Dart of Love Divine!
If I have sinned, then vengeance take:
Come, pierce this guilty heart of mine,
And let it die for his dear sake
Who once expired on Calvary,
His Heart pierced through for love of me.

6

Beloved Lord! in Heaven above,
There, Jesus, thou awaitest me!
To gaze on thee with changeless love.
Yes, thus I hope, thus shall it be:
For how can he deny me heaven,
Who here on earth himself hath given?

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.

May God, who by the Resurrection of his Only Begotten Son was pleased to confer on you the gift of redemption and of adoption, give you gladness by his blessing.

℟: **Amen.**

May he, by whose redeeming work you have received the gift of everlasting freedom, make you heirs to an eternal inheritance.

℟: **Amen.**

And may you, who have already risen with Christ in Baptism through faith, by living in a right manner on this earth, be united with him in the homeland of heaven.

℟: **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.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Carillon on 'Orientis Partibus'

Arthur Wills (1926–2020)

LATER TODAY IN THE CATHEDRAL

Solemn Vespers and Benediction *sung by the Boy 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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