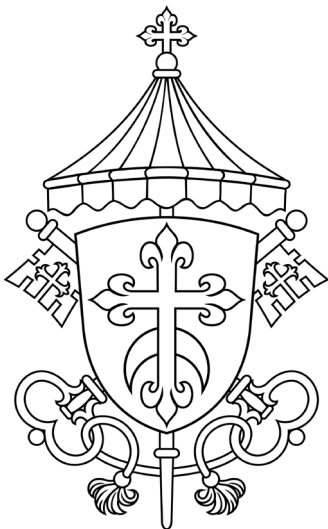


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Mass with Confirmations

Pentecost

24 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 has long been formed of men and boys, preserving the historical character of Catholic liturgical and musical heritage. In January 2025, St Mary's became the first Catholic cathedral in Australia to establish a girls' choir, marking a significant development in the Cathedral's musical life while continuing its commitment to the daily choral tradition of the Church. St Mary's remains the only Catholic cathedral in Australia to have an on-site Choir School, where the 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>

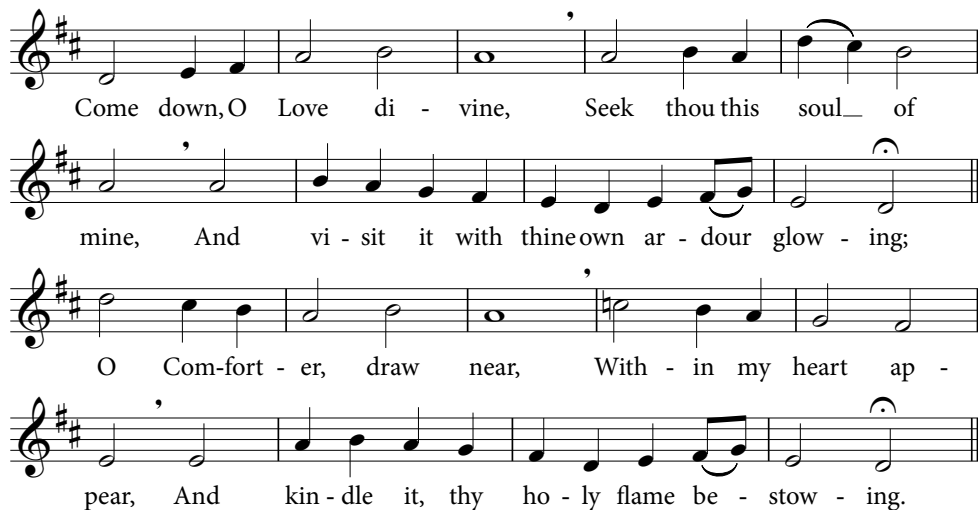
Download the weekly Music List at <http://musiclists.cathedralchoir.sydney>

**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



Come down, O Love di - vine, Seek thou this soul_ of
mine, And vi - sit it with thine own ar - dour glow - ing;
O Com - fort - er, draw near, With - in my heart ap -
pear, And kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.

**O let it freely burn,
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;
True lowliness of heart,
Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong,
With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess its grace,
Till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

The Choir sings the INTROIT

Wisdom 1:7; Psalm 67

SPIRITUS Domini replevit orbem terrarum, alleluia: et hoc quod continet omnia, scientiam habet vocis, alleluia. ☩ Exsurgat Deus, et dissipentur inimici eius: et fugiant, qui oderunt eum, a facie eius.

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia. ☩ Let God arise, let his foes be scattered. Let those who hate him flee before him.

All make the Sign of the Cross as the Bishop 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 Bishop gives the absolution, saying

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

☩ **Amen.**



K Y- ri- e e- lé- i-son. Ky- ri- e e- lé- i-son.
Lord, have mercy.



Chri- ste e- lé- i-son. Chri- ste e- lé- i-son.
Christ, have mercy.



Ky- ri- e e- lé- i- son. Ky-ri- e e- lé- i- son.
Lord, have mercy.

The Choir sings the GLORIA

from Missa Brevis in C (KV 259)

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.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

*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 Bishop says the COLLECT

℟. **Amen.**

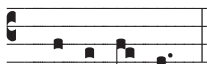
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103:1,24,29-31,34



Alleluia. Bless the Lord, my soul! **℟. Al-le- lú- ia.**



Lord God, how great you are. **℟. Al-le- lú- ia, al- le- lú- ia**

Alleluia. How many are your works, O Lord! **℟. Alleluia.**

The earth is full of your riches! **℟. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Alleluia. You take back your Spirit, they die. **℟. Alleluia.**

Returning to the dust from which they came. **℟. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Alleluia. You send forth your spirit, they are created. **℟. Alleluia.**

And you renew the face of the earth. **℟. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Alleluia. May the glory of the Lord last for ever! **℟. Alleluia.**

May the Lord rejoice in all his works! **℟. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Alleluia. May my thoughts be pleasing to him. **℟. Alleluia.**

I find my joy in the Lord. **℟. Alleluia, alleluia.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13

The Choir sings the SEQUENCE

Veni Sancte Spiritus, et emitte cælitus; lucis tuæ radium.	<i>Holy Spirit, Lord of Light, From the clear celestial height Thy pure beaming radiance give.</i>
--	--

Veni pater pauperum, veni dator munerum, veni lumen cordium.	<i>Come, thou Father of the poor, Come with treasures which endure Come, thou light of all that live!</i>
--	---

Consolator optime, *Thou, of all consolers best,*
dulcis hospes animæ, *Thou, the soul's delightful guest,*
dulce refrigerium. *Dost refreshing peace bestow*

In labore requies, *Thou in toil art comfort sweet*
in æstu temperies, *Pleasant coolness in the heat*
in fletu solatium. *Solace in the midst of woe.*

O lux beatissima, *Light immortal, light divine,*
reple cordis intima, *Visit thou these hearts of thine,*
tuorum fidelium. *And our inmost being fill:*

Sine tuo numine, *If thou take thy grace away,*
nihil est in homine, *Nothing pure in man will stay*
nihil est innoxium. *All his good is turned to ill.*

Lava quod est sordidum, *Heal our wounds, our strength renew*
riga quod est aridum, *On our dryness pour thy dew*
sana quod est saucium. *Wash the stains of guilt away:*

Flecte quod est rigidum, *Bend the stubborn heart and will*
fove quod est frigidum, *Melt the frozen, warm the chill*
rege quod est devium. *Guide the steps that go astray.*

Da tuis fidelibus, *Thou, on us who evermore*
in te confidentibus, *Thee confess and thee adore,*
sacrum septenarium. *With thy sevenfold gifts descend:*

Da virtutis meritum, *Give us comfort when we die*
da salutis exitum, *Give us life with thee on high*
da perenne gaudium. *Give us joys that never end.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



℟̅ Al-le-lú- ia, al-le-lú- ia, al-le-lú- ia.

℣̅ Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love. ℟̅

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

HOMILY

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

After the Homily all stand and renew their Baptismal promises.

Do you renounce Satan,
and all his works and empty promises?

℟: **I do.**

Do you believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?

℟: **I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered death and was buried,
rose again from the dead
and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

℟: **I do.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who today through the Sacrament of Confirmation
is given to you in a special way
just as he was given to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost?

℟: **I do.**

Do you believe in the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting?

℟: **I do.**

This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church.
We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

℟. **Amen.**

LAYING ON OF HANDS

The Bishop says

DEARLY beloved, let us pray to God the almighty Father, for these, his adopted Sons and daughters, already born again to eternal life in Baptism, that he will graciously pour out the Holy Spirit upon them to confirm them with his abundant gifts, and through his anointing conform them more fully to Christ, the Son of God.

The Bishop extends his hands over those to be confirmed, saying

ALMIGHTY God, Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who brought these your servants to new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, freeing them from sin: send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete; give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge and piety; fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord. Through Christ our Lord.

℟. **Amen.**

ANOINTING WITH CHRISM

Each person to be confirmed is presented to the Bishop by their sponsor.

The Bishop anoints each candidate with Chrism and, making the Sign of the Cross on their forehead, says

N., be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The newly confirmed replies

℟. Amen.

Peace be with you.

℟. And with your spirit.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Choir sings the OFFERTORY MOTET

Grayston Ives (b. 1948)

LISTEN sweet dove unto my song, and spread thy golden wings in me; hatching my tender heart so long, till it get wing and flie away with thee. Such glorious gifts thou didst bestow that the earth did like a heaven appeare, the starres were coming down to know if they might mend their wages and serve here. The sunne which once did shine alone, hung down his head and wisht for night, when he behald twelve sunnes for one going about the world and giving light. Lord though we change thou art the same, the same sweet God of love and light: restore this day for thy great name, unto his ancient miraculous right.

Text: George Herbert (1593–1633)

The Bishop says

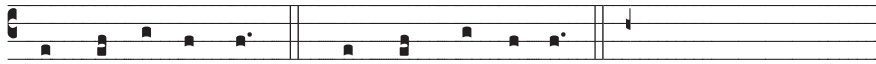
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.


℟: **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.**

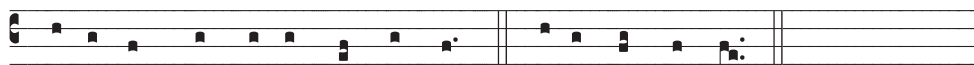
The Bishop says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

℟: **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- díctus qui
and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he

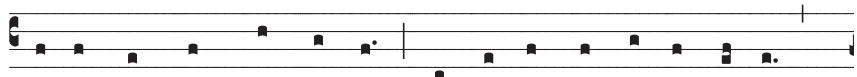


ve- nit in nó- mi- ne Dó- mi- ni. Ho- sánna in excél- sis.
who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

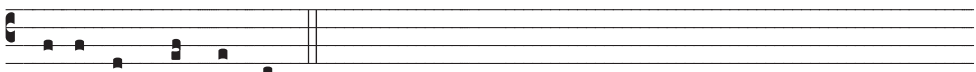
When the Bishop sings

The mystery of faith.

All sing

W 

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

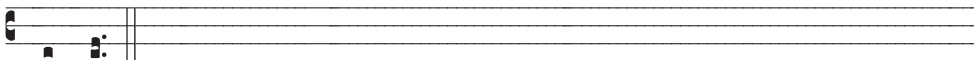


until you come a- gain.

When the Bishop 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

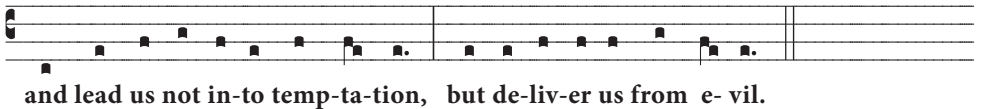
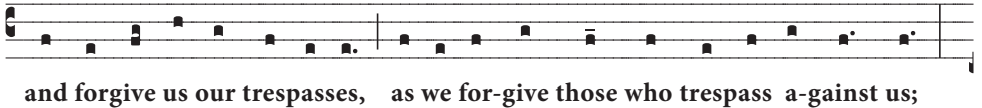
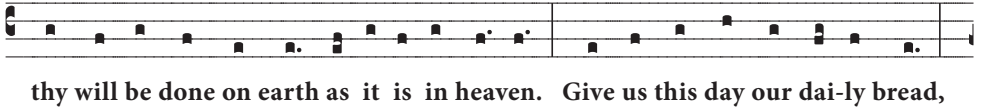
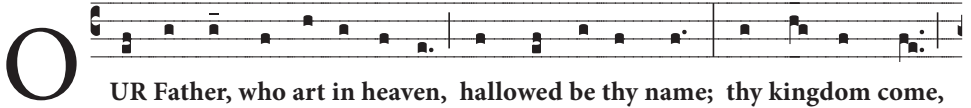


R: A- men.

COMMUNION RITE

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

All sing



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.

For **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

For **And with your spirit.**

The Choir sings the AGNUS DEI

from Missa Brevis in C (KV 259)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

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 Bishop 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

Acts 2:2, 4

FACTUS est repente de caelo sonus advenientis spiritus vehementis, ubi erant sedentes, alleluia: et repleti sunt omnes Spiritu Sancto, loquentes magnalia Dei, alleluia, alleluia.

Suddenly there came from heaven a sound like the rush of a violent wind where they were sitting, alleluia: and they were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the great deeds of God, alleluia, alleluia.

The Choir sings the COMMUNION MOTET

Colin Mawby KSG (1936–2019)

AVE verum corpus, natum de Maria Virgine, vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine cuius latus perforatum, fluxit aqua et sanguine: esto nobis praegustatum mortis in examine. O Iesu dulcis, O Iesu pie, O Iesu fili Mariae.

Hail, true body, born of the Virgin Mary; which truly suffered, offered on a cross for mankind; whose pierced side flowed with water and with blood: be for us a foretaste in the trial of death. O sweet, gracious Jesus, son of Mary.

All sing

THE HYMN



Ho - ly Spi - rit, come, con - firm us In the truth that Christ makes known;



we have faith and un - der - stand - ing Through your help - ing gifts a - lone.

Holy Spirit, come, console us,
Come as Advocate to plead,
Loving Spirit from the Father,
Grant in Christ the help we need.

Holy Spirit, come, renew us,
Come yourself to make us live:
Holy through your loving presence,
Holy through the gifts you give.

Holy Spirit, come, possess us,
You the Love of Three in One,
Holy Spirit of the Father,
Holy Spirit of the Son.

All for Jesus
Sir John Stainer (1840–1901)

Fr Brian Foley (1919–2000)

The Bishop 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, the Father of lights, who was pleased to enlighten the disciples' minds by the outpouring of the Spirit, the Paraclete, grant you gladness by his blessing and make you always abound with the gifts of the same Spirit.

℟: Amen.

May the wondrous flame that appeared above the disciples, powerfully cleanse your hearts from every evil and pervade them with its purifying light.

℟: **Amen.**

And may God, who has been pleased to unite many tongues in the profession of one faith, give you perseverance in that same faith and, by believing, may you journey from hope to clear vision.

℟: **Amen.**

May almighty God bless all of you who art gathered here, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit

℟: **Amen.**

G  O in peace, al-le-lú- ia, al-le- lú- ia.



℟: **Thanks be to God, al- le- lú- ia, al- le- lú- ia.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY:

Choral Varié sur 'Veni Creator' (Op. 4)

Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

LATER TODAY IN THE CATHEDRAL

Solemn Vespers and Benediction *sung by the full Choir
of St Mary's Cathedral*

5.00pm

St Mary's Cathedral

St Mary's Road
Sydney NSW 2000

www.stmaryscathedral.org.au



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ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL
CHOIR TOUR 2026
A PILGRIMAGE OF MUSIC
Rome • Edinburgh • London



HELP
US SHARE
AUSTRALIA'S
SACRED MUSIC
WITH THE WORLD!

You are invited to sponsor a
Chorister's place on this tour with a
gift of \$10,000.

Your generosity will directly support travel and
accommodation costs, and ensure that
participation is not limited by financial means.

*Please scan the QR code to make a tax-deductible
donation and help make this tour a reality today:*

