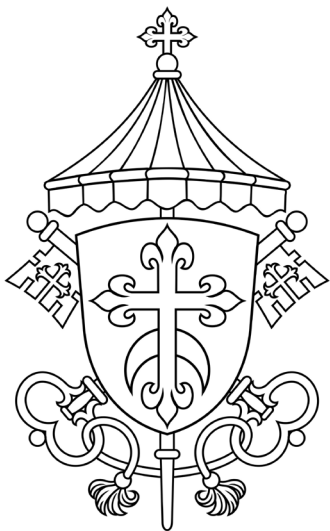


# ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



## Solemn Vespers and Benediction

The Office of Evening Prayer

CORPUS CHRISTI

7 June 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.

*O God, come to our aid.*

℟ Domine, ad adiuvandum me festina.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Gloria Patri et Filio  
et Spiritui Sancto.

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

Sicut erat in principio

*as it was in the beginning,*

et nunc et semper

*is now, and ever shall be,*

et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. Alleluia.

*world without end. Amen. Alleluia.*

## OFFICE HYMN

|                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pange, lingua, gloriosi<br>corporis mysterium,<br>sanguinisque pretiosi,<br>quem in mundi pretium<br>fructus ventris generosi<br>Rex effudit gentium. | <i>Of the glorious Body telling,<br/>O my tongue, its mysteries sing,<br/>And the Blood, all price excelling,<br/>Which the world's eternal King,<br/>In a noble womb once dwelling,<br/>Shed for this world's ransoming.</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nobis datus, nobis natus<br>ex intacta Virgine,<br>et in mundo conversatus,<br>sparso verbi semine,<br>sui moras incolatus<br>miro clausit ordine. | <i>Given for us, for us descending,<br/>Of a Virgin to proceed,<br/>Man with man in converse blending,<br/>Scattered he the Gospel seed,<br/>Till his sojourn drew to ending<br/>Which he closed in wondrous deed.</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| In supremæ nocte cenæ<br>recumbens cum fratribus,<br>observata lege plene<br>cibis in legalibus,<br>cibum turbæ duodenæ<br>se dat suis manibus. | <i>At the last great Supper lying<br/>Circled by his brethren's band,<br/>Meekly with the law complying,<br/>First he finished its command,<br/>Then, immortal Food supplying,<br/>Gave himself with his own hand.</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Verbum caro panem verum<br>verbo carnem efficit,<br>fitque sanguis Christi merum,<br>et, si sensus deficit,<br>ad firmandum cor sincerum<br>sola fides sufficit. | <i>Word made Flesh, by word he maketh<br/>Very bread his Flesh to be;<br/>Man in wine Christ's Blood partaketh:<br/>And if senses fail to see,<br/>Faith alone the true heart waketh<br/>To behold the mystery.</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tantum ergo sacramentum<br>veneremur cernui,<br>et antiquum documentum<br>novo cedat ritui;<br>præstet fides supplementum<br>sensuum defectui. | <i>Humbly we, before him bending,<br/>This great Sacrament revere;<br/>Types and shadows have their ending,<br/>For the newer rite is here;<br/>Faith, our outward sense befriending,<br/>Makes the inward vision clear.</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Genitori Genitoque<br>laus et iubilatio,<br>salus, honor, virtus quoque<br>sit et benedictio;<br>procedenti ab utroque<br>compar sit laudatio. Amen. | <i>Glory let us give, and blessing<br/>To the Father and the Son;<br/>Honour, might and praise addressing,<br/>While eternal ages run;<br/>Ever too his love confessing,<br/>Who, from both, with both is one.</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

# PSALMODY

## FIRST ANTIPHON

**S**ACERDOS in æternum Christus Dominus secundum  
ordinem Melchisedech, panem et vinum obtulit.

*Christ the Lord is a priest for ever. Like Melchizedek he  
made an offering of bread and wine.*

## 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 potentiæ tuæ 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 tuæ, *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 pænitebit 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

CALICEM salutaris accipiam et  
sacrificabo hostiam laudis.

*I will take the chalice of salvation and  
offer a thanksgiving sacrifice.*

### PSALM 115 (116B)

Credidi, etiam cum locutus sum: *I trusted even when I said:*  
«Ego humiliatus sum nimis». *'I am sorely afflicted,'*

Ego dixi in trepidatione mea: *and when I said in my alarm:*  
«Omnis homo mendax». *'No man can be trusted.'*

Quid retribuam Domino *How can I repay the Lord*  
pro omnibus, quæ retribuit mihi? *for his goodness to me?*

Calicem salutaris accipiam *The cup of salvation I will raise;*  
et nomen Domini invocabo. *I will call on the Lord's name.*

Vota mea Domino reddam *My vows to the Lord I will fulfil*  
coram omni populo eius. *before all his people.*

Pretiosa in conspectu Domini *O precious in the eyes of the Lord*  
mors sanctorum eius. *is the death of his faithful.*

O Domine, ego servus tuus, *Your servant, Lord, am I;*  
ego servus tuus et filius ancillæ tuæ. *your servant and the son of your handmaid.*  
Dirupisti vincula mea: *You have loosened my bonds.*

tibi sacrificabo hostiam laudis *A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:*  
et nomen Domini invocabo. *I will call on the Lord's name.*

Vota mea Domino reddam *My vows to the Lord I will fulfil*  
coram omni populo eius, *before all his people,*

in atriis domus Domini, *in the courts of the house of the Lord,*  
in medio tui, Ierusalem. *in your midst, O Jerusalem.*

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

**T**U es via, tu es veritas, tu es vita  
mundi, Domine.

*You are the Way, you are the Truth;  
you, Lord, are the life of the world.*

### CANTICLE

#### Apocalypse 19:1-2. 5-7

Salus et gloria et virtus Deo nostro: *Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,*  
Alleluia. *Alleluia.*  
quia vera et iusta iudicia eius. *his judgements are true and just.*  
Alleluia, alleluia. *Alleluia, alleluia.*

Laudem dicite Deo nostro, omnes servi eius: *Praise our God, all you his servants,*  
Alleluia. *Alleluia.*  
et qui timetis eum, pusilli et magni! *you who fear him, small and great.*  
Alleluia, alleluia. *Alleluia, alleluia.*

Quoniam regnavit Dominus, *The Lord our God,*  
Deus noster omnipotens: *the Almighty, reigns,*  
Alleluia. *Alleluia.*  
Gaudeamus et exultemus et demus gloriam ei. *let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.*  
Alleluia, alleluia. *Alleluia, alleluia.*

Quia venerunt nuptiæ Agni: *The marriage of the Lamb has come,*  
Alleluia. *Alleluia.*  
et uxor eius præparavit se. *and his bride has made herself ready.*  
Alleluia, alleluia. *Alleluia, alleluia.*

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

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

*The Antiphon is repeated.*

**T**HIS is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, ‘This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.’ In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.’

### SHORT RESPONSORY

Panem cæli dedit eis, *He gave them the bread of heaven to eat,*  
Alleluia, alleluia. *alleluia, alleluia.*

℣ Panem angelorum manducavit homo. ℞ *Man has tasted the food of angels.*

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

*All stand.*

### MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

**O**SACRUM convivium, in quo Christus sumitur: recolitur memoria passionis eius, mens impletur gratia et futuræ gloriæ nobis pignus datur, alleluia.

*O sacred feast, in which we partake of Christ: his sufferings are remembered, our minds are filled with his grace and we receive a pledge of the glory that is to be ours, alleluia.*

## MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat quinti toni

*Hieronymus Prætorius (1560–1629)*

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

At the supper to which all are invited, Christ gives his body and blood for the life of the world. Earnestly we beseech him, saying:



## COLLECT

**L**ORD Jesus Christ,  
You gave your Church an admirable sacrament  
as the abiding memorial of your passion.  
Teach us so to worship the sacred mystery of your Body and Blood  
that its redeeming power may sanctify us always.  
Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

✠ **Amen.**

*The Choir sings*

## THE MOTET

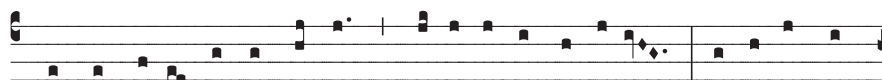
Lo, the full, final sacrifice on which all figures fix't their eyes. The ransomed Isaac, and his ram; the Manna, and the Paschal Lamb. Jesu Master, just and true! Our Food, and faithful Shepherd too! O let that love which thus makes thee mix with our low mortality, lift our lean souls, and set us up convictors of thine own full cup, coheirs of Saints. That so all may drink the same wine; and the same Way. Nor change the pasture, but the place to feed of thee in thine own Face. O dear Memorial of that Death which lives still, and allows us breath! Rich, Royal food! Bountiful Bread! Whose use denies us to the dead! Live ever Bread of loves, and be my life, my soul, my surer self to me. Help Lord, my Faith, my Hope increase; and fill my portion in thy peace. Give love for life; nor let my days grow, but in new powers to thy name and praise. Rise, Royal Sion! rise and sing thy soul's kind Shepherd, thy heart's King. Stretch all thy powers; call if you can harps of heaven to hands of man. This sovereign subject sits above the best ambition of thy love. Lo, the Bread of Life, this day's triumphant text provokes thy praise. The living and life-giving bread, to the great twelve distributed when Life, himself, at point to die of love, was his own Legacy. O soft self-wounding Pelican! Whose breast weeps balm for wounded man. All this way bend thy benign flood to a bleeding heart that gasps for blood. That blood, whose least drops sovereign be to wash my worlds of sins from me. Come love! Come Lord! and that long day for which I languish, come away. When this dry soul those eyes shall see, and drink the unseal'd source of thee. When Glory's sun faith's shades shall chase, and for thy veil give me thy Face. Amen.

*Richard Crashaw (1612/3–1649)  
after St Thomas Aquinas' 'Adoro te'  
and 'Lauda Sion Salvatorem'*

*Gerald Finzi (1901–1956)*

*All sing*

**T**



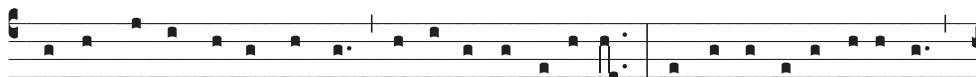
ANTUM er-go Sa-craméntum \* Vene-rémur cégnu-i : et an-tí-quum  
*Therefore we, before him bending, this great Sacrament revere; types and shadows*



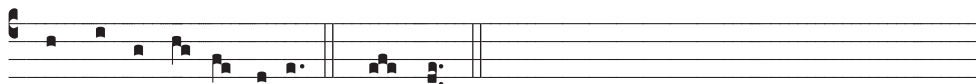
do-cuméntum No-vo ce-dat rí-tu-i : præstet fi-des suppleméntum  
*have their ending, for the newer rite is here; faith our outward sense befriending,*



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,*

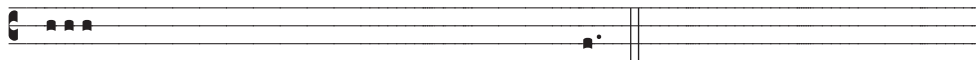


compar sit lau-dá-ti-o. A- men.  
*who from both with both is One.*



∇ Panem de cælo præstitisti eis, allelú- ia.

*You gave them bread from heaven.*



℟ Omne delectaméntum in se habéntem, allelú- ia.

*Containing in itself all sweetness.*

Oremus.

Let us pray.

**D**EUS, 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 this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption; who lives and reigns for ever and ever.*

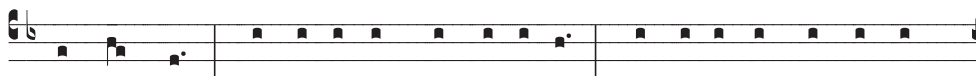
℟ Amen.

BENEDICTION *is given.*

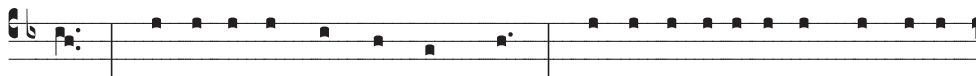
## THE DIVINE PRAISES



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



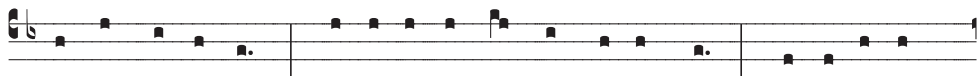
Heart. Blessèd be his Most Precious Blood. Blessèd be Jesus in the Most Holy



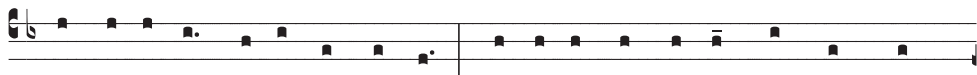
Sacrament of the Al-tar. Blessèd be the Holy Spi-rit, the Pa-raclete. Blessèd be



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

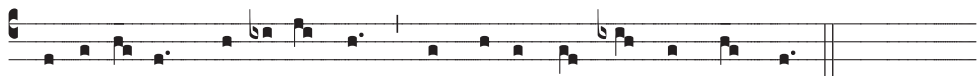


name of Ma-ry, Virgin and Mother. Blessèd be Saint Joseph, her most chaste



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:  
laudate eum omnes populi.

*O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim his all you peoples!*

Quoniam confirmata est super nos  
misericordia eius:  
et veritas Domini manet in æternum.

*Strong is his  
love for us;  
he is faithful for ever.*

Gloria Patri, et Filio:  
et Spiritui Sancto,

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

sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper:  
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.

*as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.*

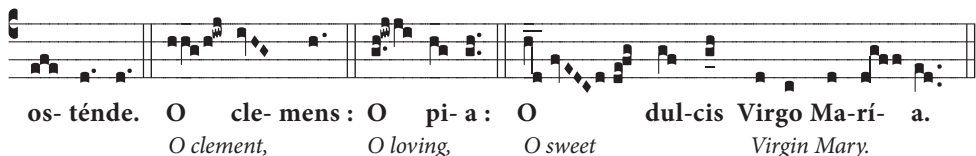
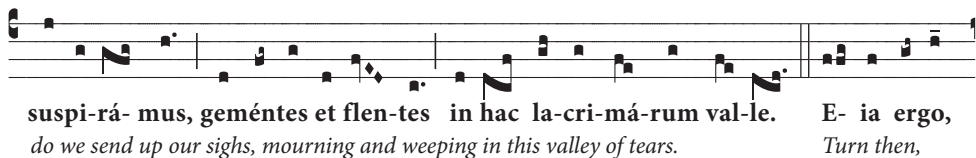
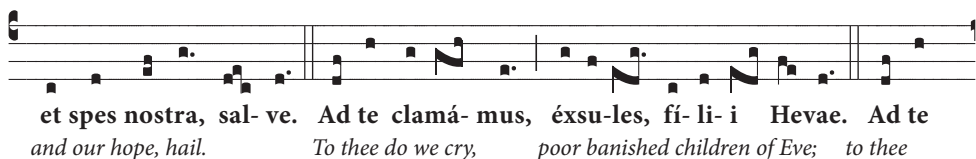


A-do-ré-mus \* in æ-tér-num Sanc-tís-si-mum Sa-cra-mén-tum.

*Let us adore for ever the most Holy Sacrament.*

All sing

## THE ANTIPHON TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Pange Lingua: Præludium

Zoltán Kodály (1882–1967)

**St Mary's Cathedral**

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Sydney NSW 2000

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