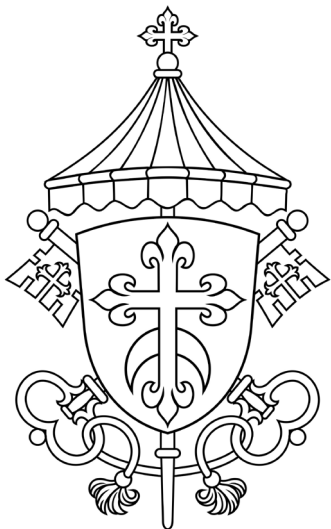


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Mass

Twenty fifth Sunday
of the Year

20 September 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	1310	Mass <i>Cathedral Scholars</i>
	1700	Vespers <i>Lay Clerks</i>
Thursday	1730	Mass <i>Girl Choristers & Lay Clerks</i>
	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



**O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
A second Adam to the fight,
And to the rescue came.**

**O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
Which did in Adam fail
Should strive afresh against the foe,
Should strive and should prevail.**

**And in the garden secretly,
And on the Cross on high,
Should teach his brethren, and inspire
To suffer and to die.**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise;
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.**

Richmond

Melody by Thomas Haweis (1734–1820)

Harmony by Samuel Webbe the younger (c1770–1843)

Saint John Henry Newman (1801–1890)

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

The Choir sings the INTROIT

cf. Psalm 36:39,40,28; V. Ps. 77

SALUS populi ego sum, dicit Dominus. De quacumque tribulatione clamaverint ad me, exaudiam eos: et ero illorum Dominus in perpetuum. ƿ. Attendite popule meus legem meam: inclinate aurem vestram in verba oris mei.

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever. ƿ. Give heed, my people, to my teaching; turn your ear to the words of my mouth.

All make the Sign of the Cross as the Celebrant says

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

℟: **Amen.**

The Lord 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 Celebrant gives the absolution, saying

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

℟: **Amen.**

The Choir sings the KYRIE and GLORIA

from Missa Brevis 'Sancti Ioannis de Deo'

Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)

Kyrie, eleison. Christe, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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 Celebrant says the COLLECT

℟: **Amen.**

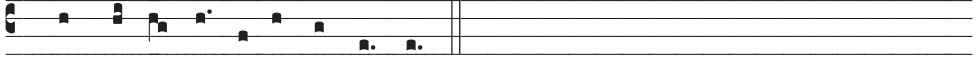
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:6-9

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 144:2-3,8-9,17-18 R. v.18



R. The Lord is close to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. The Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured. R.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. R.

The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts. R.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:20-24,27

The Choir sings the ALLELUIA

℣. Psalm 104:1

Alleluia.

℣. Confitemini Domino, et invocate nomen eius: annuntiate inter gentes opera eius.

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

The Lord be with you.

℣. **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

℣. **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

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525–1594)

SI ambulavero in medio tribulationis, vivificabis me, Domine: et super iram inimicorum meorum extends manum tuam, et salvum me fecit dextera tua.

Though I may walk in the midst of trouble, you will give me life, O Lord. You will raise your hand against the malice of my foes; your right hand will save me.

The Celebrant says

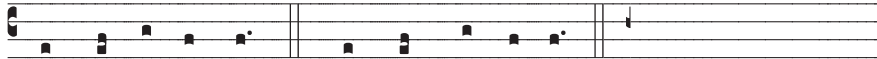
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

℟: **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 Celebrant says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

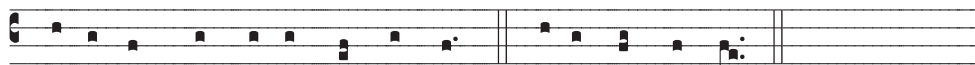
℟: **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

T HE Lord be with you. ℟: **And with your spi-rit.**

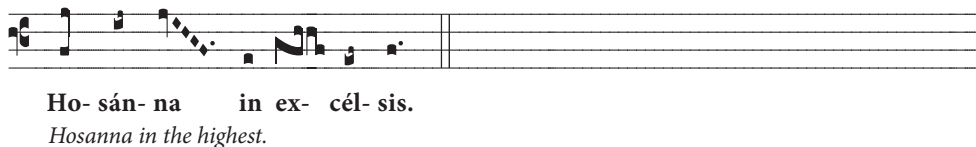
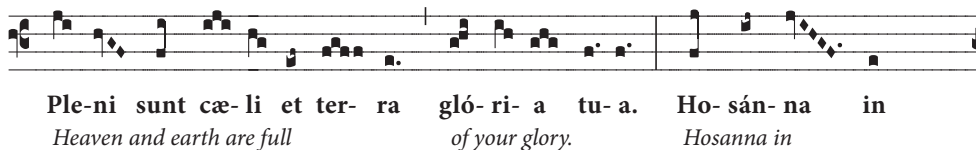


Lift up your hearts. ℟: **We lift them up to the Lord.**



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ℟: **It is right and just.**

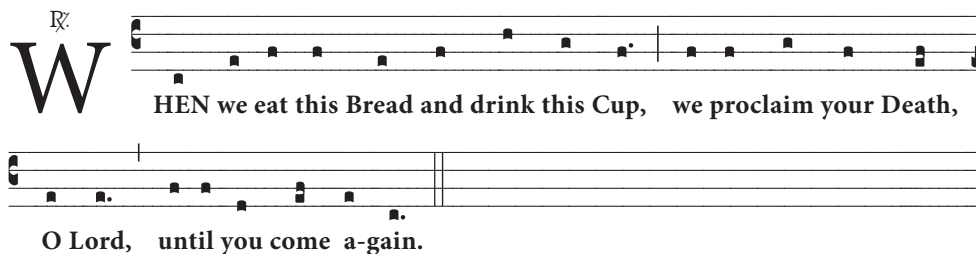
THE PREFACE



When the Celebrant sings

The mystery of faith.

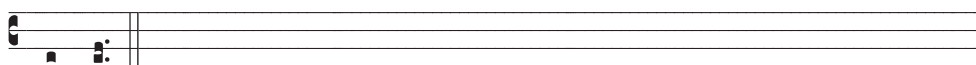
All sing



When the Celebrant 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

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.

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.

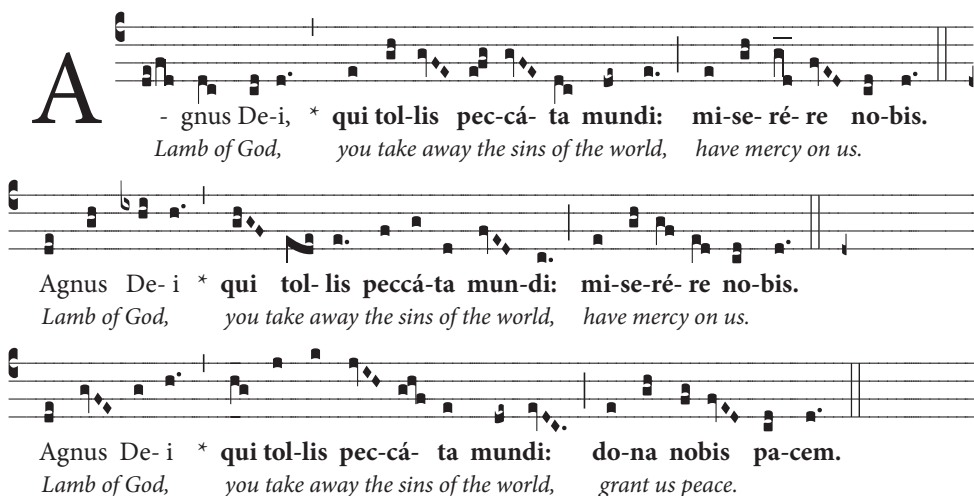
℟: For the kingdom, the power and the glo-ry are yours now and for ev-er.

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 mundi: 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 peccá-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 mundi: do-na nobis pa-cem.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

The Celebrant 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.

R: 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

Psalm 118:4,5

Tu mandasti mandata tua custodiri nimis: ut utinam dirigantur viæ meæ, ad custodiendas iustificationes tuas.

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

During Holy Communion the Choir sings AGNUS DEI II

from Missa Brevis 'Sancti Ioannis de Deo'

Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)

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.

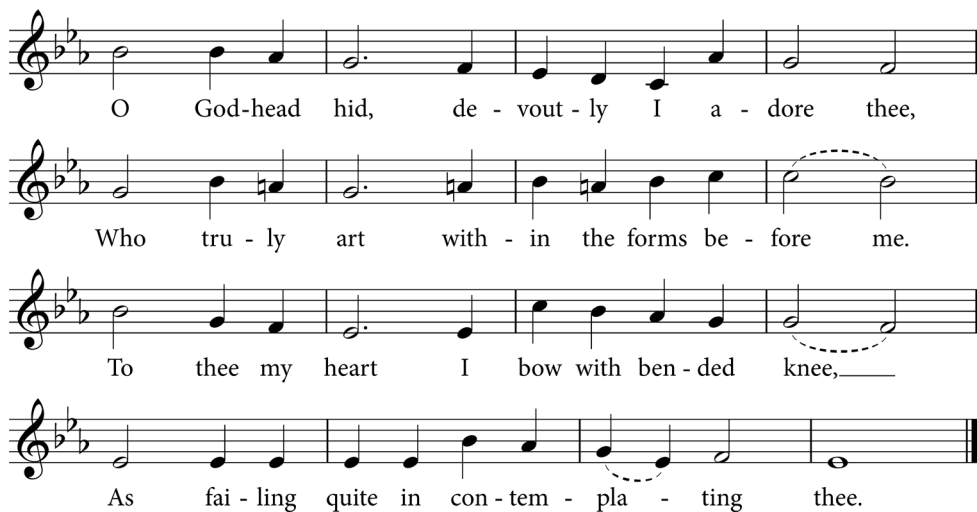
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

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.

All sing

THE HYMN



2

Sight, touch and taste
in thee are each deceived,
the ear alone most safely is believed:
I believe all the Son of God has spoken;
than truth's own word
there is no truer token.

3

God only on the cross
lay hid from view;
but here lies hid at once the manhood too:
and I, in both professing my belief,
make the same prayer
as the repentant thief.

4

Thy wounds, as Thomas saw,
I do not see;
yet thee confess my Lord and God to be;
make me believe thee
ever more and more,
in thee my hope,
in thee my love to store.

5

O thou memorial
of our Lord's own dying!
O bread that living art and vivifying!
Make ever thou my soul on thee to live:
ever a taste
of heavenly sweetness give.

6

O loving Pelican! O Jesus, Lord!
Unclean I am,
but cleanse me in thy blood;
of which a single drop, for sinners spilt,
is ransom for
a world's entire guilt.

7

Jesus, whom for
the present veiled I see,
what I so thirst for, oh, vouchsafe to me:
that I may see
thy countenance unfolding,
and may be blest
thy glory in beholding.

The Celebrant says the PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

R: **Amen.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

R: **And with your spirit.**

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

R: **Amen.**

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R: **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Motet: Deus, tibi laus et honor (adapted from KV 345)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791) arr. E. J. Hopkins (1818–1901)

LATER TODAY IN THE CATHEDRAL

Solemn Vespers and Benediction *sung by the 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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