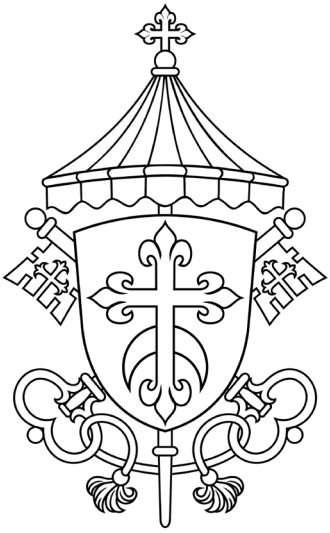
ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Vespers and Benediction

The Office of Evening Prayer

Thirty second Sunday
of the Year

WEEK IV

8 November 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 daily singing of 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 Hósti- a, * **Quae cæ-li pandis ós-ti-um, Bel-la præ-**
O Victim bringing saving grace, who open wide the gate of heaven: our foes assail



munt hostí-li- a, Da ro-bur, fer au-xí- li-um. U-ni tri-nó-que Dó-mino
and press us hard; give us your strength, bring us your aid. To you be everlasting praise and glory,



Sit sempi-térna glóri- a, Qui vitam si-ne tér-mino Nobis donet in pátri- a.
One and Triune Lord, who grant us life that knows no end, for ever in our heavenly home.



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 *Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
et Spiritui Sancto. *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

O lux, Beata Trinitas *O light, O blessed Trinity*
et principalis Unitas, *And princely might of Unity,*
iam sol recedit igneus: *the fiery sun now goes his way:*
infunde lumen cordibus. *shed thou within our hearts thy ray.*

Te mane laudum carmine, *To thee our morning song of praise,*
te deprecemur vespere; *to thee our evening prayer we raise;*
te nostra supplex gloria *In humble worship thee adore*
per cuncta laudet sæcula. *and glory for evermore.*

Christum rogamus et Patrem, *We pray the Father and the Son*
Christi Patrisque Spiritum; *who, with the Spirit reign as one;*
unum potens per omnia, *O Trinity, containing all,*
fove precantes, Trinitas. Amen. *console thy servants when they call. Amen.*

All sit.

PSALMODY

FIRST ANTIPHON

EX utero, ante luciferum genui te.

From the womb before the dawn I begot you.

Dixit Dominus Domino meo: «Sede a dextris meis,	*The Lord's revelation to my Master:* *'Sit on my right:*
donec ponam inimicos tuos: scabellum pedum tuorum».	*your foes I will put* *beneath your feet.'*
Virgam potentiæ tuæ emittet Dominus ex Sion: dominare in medio inimicorum tuorum.	*The Lord will wield from Zion your sceptre of power:* *rule in the midst of all your foes.*
Tecum principatus in die virtutis tuæ, in splendoribus sanctis: ex utero ante luciferum genui te.	*A prince from the day of your birth* *on the holy mountains;* *from the womb before the dawn I begot you.*
Iuravit Dominus et non pænitebit eum: «Tu es sacerdos in æternum secundum ordinem Melchisedech».	*The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.* *'You are a priest for ever,* *a priest like Melchizedek of old.'*
Dominus a dextris tuis: conquassabit in die iræ suæ reges.	*The Master standing at your right hand* *will shatter kings in the day of his wrath.*
De torrente in via bibet: propterea exaltabit caput.	*He shall drink from the stream by the wayside* *and therefore he shall lift up his head.*
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.*

The Antiphon is repeated.

SECOND ANTIPHON

IN mandatis eius cupit nimis.

He takes delight in all his commands.

PSALM 111 (112)

Beatus vir, qui timet Dominum:	*Happy the man who fears the Lord,*
in mandatis eius cupit nimis.	*who takes delight in all his commands.*
Potens in terra erit semen eius:	*His sons will be powerful on earth;*
generatio rectorum benedicetur.	*the children of the upright are blessed.*
Gloria et divitiæ in domo eius:	*Riches and wealth are in his house;*
et iustitia eius manet in sæculum sæculi.	*his justice stands firm for ever.*
Exortum est in tenebris lumen rectis:	*He is a light in the darkness for the upright:*
misericors et miserator et iustus.	*he is generous, merciful and just.*
Iucundus homo, qui miseretur et commodat,	*The good man takes pity and lends,*
disponet res suas in iudicio:	*he conducts his affairs with honour.*
quia in æternum non commovebitur.	*The just man will never waver:*
In memoria æterna erit iustus:	*he will be remembered for ever.*
auditione mala non timebit.	*He has no fear of evil news;*
Paretum cor eius, sperans in Domino,	*with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.*
confirmatum est cor eius, non timebit:	*With a steadfast heart he will not fear;*
donec despiciat inimicos suos.	*he will see the downfall of his foes.*
Distribuit, dedit pauperibus;	*Open-handed, he gives to the poor;*
iustitia eius manet in sæculum sæculi:	*his justice stands firm for ever.*
cornu eius exaltabitur in gloria.	*His head will be raised in glory.*
Peccator videbit et irascetur,	*The wicked man sees and is angry,*
dentibus suis fremet et tabescet:	*grinds his teeth and fades away;*
Desiderium peccatorum peribit.	*the desire of the wicked leads to doom.*
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

LAUDEM dicite Deo nostro, omnes servi eius, pusilli et magni, alleluia.

Praise God, all you his servants, both great and small, alleluia.

CANTICLE
Apocalypse 19:1-2. 5-7

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

WHAT you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant and a blood for purification which pleads more insistently than Abel's.

SHORT RESPONSORY

Magnus Dominus noster, Et magna virtus eius.	*Great is our Lord;* *great is his might.*
℣. Et sapientiæ eius non est numerus. ℟.	*His wisdom* *can never be measured.*
℣. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto. ℟.	*Glory be to the Father and to the Son* *and to the Holy Spirit.*

All stand.

MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

DUM autem irent emere, ecce sponsus venit; et quæ paratæ errant, intraverunt cum eo ad nuptias.

They had gone off to buy oil when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding.

MAGNIFICAT

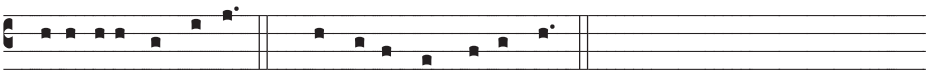
Primi toni — *Orlande de Lassus (1532–1594)*

Magnificat anima mea Dominum,	*My soul* *glorifies the Lord,*
et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo,	*my spirit rejoices* *in God, my Saviour.*
quia respexit humilitatem ancillæ suæ. Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes,	*He looks on his servant in her lowliness;* *henceforth all ages* *will call me blessed.*
quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est, et sanctum nomen eius,	*The Almighty works marvels for me.* *Holy his name!*
et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies timentibus eum.	*His mercy is from age to age,* *on those who fear him.*
Fecit potentiam in brachio suo, dispersit superbos mente cordis sui;	*He puts forth his arm in strength* *and scatters the proud-hearted.*
deposuit potentes de sede; et exaltavit humiles;	*He casts the mighty from their thrones* *and raises the lowly.*
esurientes implevit bonis et divites dimisit inanes.	*He fills the starving with good things,* *sends the rich away empty.*
Suscepit Israel puerum suum, recordatus misericordiæ suæ,	*He protects Israel, his servant,* *remembering his mercy,*
sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, Abraham et semini eius in sæcula.	*the mercy promised to our fathers,* *to Abraham and his sons 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.*

The Antiphon is repeated.

INTERCESSIONS

In the Church, God has made known to us his hidden purpose: to make all things one in Christ. Let us pray that his will may be done.



℣ Exaudíre di-gnéris. ℟ **Te, rogamus, audi nos.**

We give you thanks for the presence and power of your Spirit in the Church: give us the will to search for unity, and inspire us to pray and work together. ℟

We give you thanks for all those whose work proclaims your love: help us to serve the communities in whose life we share. ℟

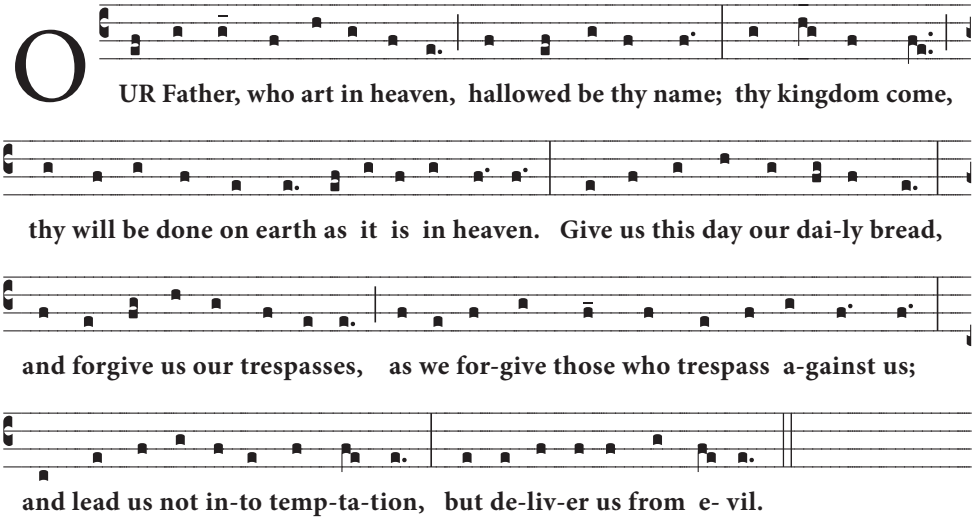
Father, care for all who serve in the Church as ministers of your word and sacraments: may they bring your whole family to the unity for which Christ prayed. ℟

Your people have known the ravages of war and hatred: grant that they may know the peace left by your Son. ℟

Fulfil the hopes of those who sleep in your peace: bring them to that final resurrection when you will be all in all. ℟

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

All sing



COLLECT

DEFEND us, Lord, against every distress so that, unencumbered in body and soul, we may devote ourselves to your service in freedom and joy. 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

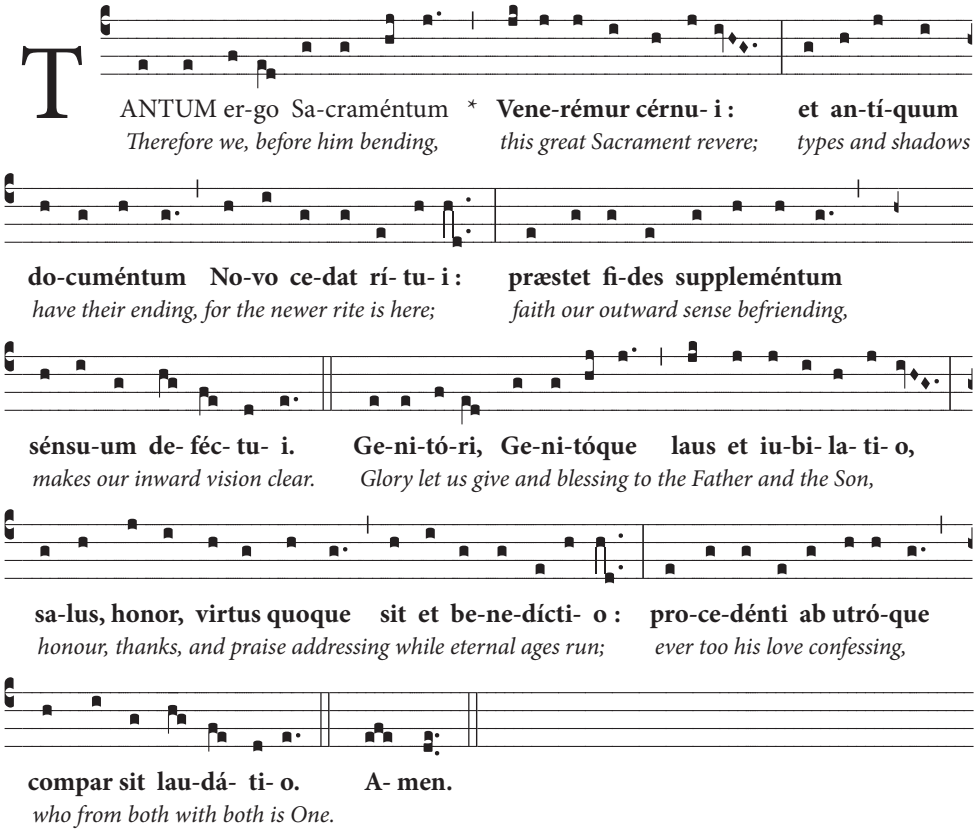
THE MOTET

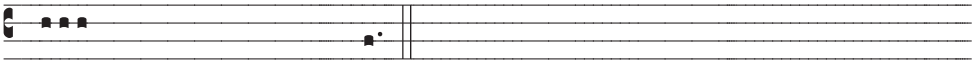
AUDIVI vocem de caelo dicentem mihi: Beati mortui qui in Domino moriuntur.

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me: Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.

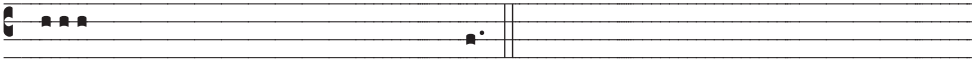
Duarte Lobo (c. 1565–1646)

All sing


TANTUM 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-tóque 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 præstitísti e- is.
You gave them bread from heaven.



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

Oremus.

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.

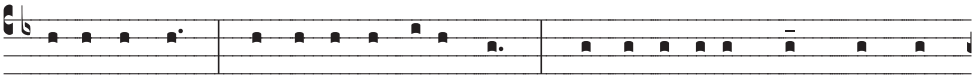
℟ **Amen.**

Let us pray.

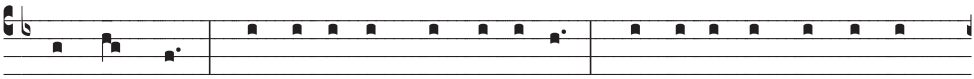
O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

BENEDICTION *is given.*

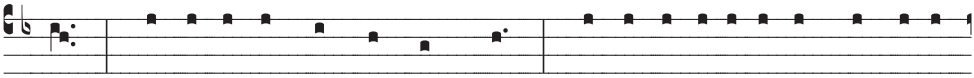
THE DIVINE PRAISES



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-rémus * **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 him, all you peoples!*
Quoniam confirmata est super nos misericordia eius: et veritas Domini manet in æternum.	*For his merciful love has* *prevailed over us;* *and the Lord's faithfulness endures forever.*
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-rémus * 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

Sei Lob und Ehr dem höchsten Gut — *Helmut Walcha (1907–1991)*

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