ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

Solemn Mass with Investiture

of Lieutenant, Knights and Dames into the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem

Thirty second Sunday
of the Year

8 November 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** *Full Choir*
	1700	**Solemn Vespers and Benediction** *Lay Clerks*
Monday	1700	**Vespers** *Lay Clerks*
	1730	**Mass** *Boy Choristers & Lay Clerks*
Tuesday	1700	**Vespers** *Cathedral Scholars*
	1730	**Mass** *Boy & Girl Choristers*
Wednesday	1310	**Mass** *Cathedral Scholars*
	1700	**Vespers** *Lay Clerks*
	1730	**Mass** *Girl Choristers & Lay Clerks*
Thursday	1700	**Vespers** *Lay Clerks*
	1730	**Mass** *Lay Clerks*

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.

THE RITE OF INVESTITURE

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.**

The Bishop introduces the Rite of Investiture, saying

WITHIN this sacred context of the Liturgy, we now carry out the installation of our new Lieutenant, Alan Shearer, and the traditional ceremony of our Order: the Investiture of new Knights and Dames.

Participation in this evocative ceremony renews in all Knights and Dames a profound sense of belonging to the Order and a full sharing in ideals of faith and charity. May our common prayer, which we entrust to the Virgin Mary, Mother of the Risen Christ and Queen of Palestine, be of help to those who today embark on a new path as they become members of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

All are seated.

THE INVESTITURE OF A LIEUTENANT

The Knight Master of Ceremonies says

I present the new Lieutenant, Knight Alan Shearer, KGCHS, of the Lieutenancy for Australia New South Wales.

The Bishop greets the new lieutenant

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

The Knight Master of Ceremonies reads Article 26, §2 of the Constitution regarding the office of the Lieutenant. The Bishop then addresses the new Lieutenant on the office of Lieutenant as one of humble service after the example of Christ. He concludes

Do you accept this assignment in our Order for the glory of God and the Church?
I accept.

The Chancellor reads the decree of appointment. After which, the outgoing authority hands over the Standard of the Lieutenancy.

The Celebrant then blesses the new Lieutenant

The blessing of the Risen Lord be with you and accompany you: In the Name of the Father ✠ and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy ✠ Spirit.

℟. **Amen.**

The new Lieutenant stands and salutes the assembly.

THE INVESTITURE OF KNIGHTS AND DAMES

The Chancellor reads the decree of investiture. After which, the Knight Master of Ceremonies invites the Candidates for investiture, saying

Let the candidates for Investiture come forward.

The Bishop, standing with crozier in hand, questions the candidate.

My dear brothers and sisters, what do you ask of our Order?
I desire to be invested as a Knight/Dame of the Holy Sepulchre.

The Apostolic See, and in particular the Roman Pontiffs, have always had at heart the Holy Places in the Holy Land, and particularly the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem which recalls the mystery of the life and death of Our Lord and His glorious resurrection. The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem was established in the past to secure the custody of this Holy Place and for the care of the faithful in the Land of Our Lord and of pilgrims.

Becoming a Knight or Dame means dedicating your life with commitment in professing the faith of Christ through the witness, generosity and love of the Gospel. This means putting Jesus Christ at the centre of our existence and of every personal, family, and social purpose. It means believing in the redemptive power of the Cross and the resurrection to offer hope and peace to the world and particularly to the land of Jesus.

An ancient bond therefore binds us to the eternal memory of the places of the crucifixion, the deposition, and the resurrection of the Lord and to the pastoral charity of the Church in the Holy Land. Are you ready to accept this ideal in your life?
I am ready.

Everyone must follow their own conscience enlightened by faith and always strive for truth, justice, and honesty. Therefore a Knight and a Dame of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre must strive to achieve the perfection of the Christian life and show themselves worthy of the dignity which they receive in Baptism and with which they are clothed; they will have to exult in belonging to Christ and strive to uphold the good name of the Order.

Are you ready to fully live our Christian faith and to behave everywhere and always in such a way as to uphold the ideals and commitments undertaken today in honour of Christ and of His Church?
I am ready.

Are you ready to promise – in word and in heart – to observe the Constitution of our Order?
I declare and promise, with the help of divine grace, and trusting in the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to observe the requirements of our Order. I am ready.

Be therefore a faithful and generous Knight of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre; know how to preserve the great riches of past values while living fully in the present, committing yourselves to the tasks of this day; look also towards the future, seeking to open new horizons of hope, so that society may have a more human face, and Christ be made the heart of our world.

THE INVESTITURE

The candidates are brought before the Bishop, and kneel on the cushion in front of him for the act of Investiture. The Bishop places the crozier on the shoulder of each, saying

By virtue of the mandate conferred on me, I constitute and proclaim you N. Knight/Dame of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The regalia is placed around the neck of the candidate as the Bishop says

Receive the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; it will protect you, being for you a sign of honour and a pledge of eternal glory.
Amen.

After the Cross has been placed around their neck, each Knight or Dame kisses the Celebrant's ring. The Knights and Dames are then robed by the Lieutenant with the cloak. Thereafter, the Lieutenant welcomes the new Knight. When the Knights return to the front of the altar, the Celebrant pronounces these words:

Now that you are a Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulchre, strive to emulate those who, with living faith, provided for the needs of the Lord's Body, keeping watch over it and later becoming privileged witnesses of Christ's Resurrection. After their example, seek to express in your works of faith the love of Jesus without end. May Mary, Mother of Our Lord and of the Church, assist you in your mission and grant that you may have at heart always the words and places of Christ's ministry of blessing and healing.

This is my desire. May the Divine Redeemer and the Virgin Mary grant me the necessary grace to fulfil it.

The Knights and Dames then bow to the bishop and return to their seat with their sponsor.

The Bishop concludes the Investiture in the following words:

O God, who have wished to save men by the Cross of Christ your Son, and poured out the Holy Spirit on the Church, grant that we who have known your mystery of love here on earth may enjoy in heaven the fruit of your redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

℟. **Amen.**

The Bishop then vests for Mass, incenses the altar, and returns to the chair.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

The choir sings the Introit *cf. Psalm 87:3,2*

INTRET oratio mea in conspectu tuo; inclina aurem tuam ad precem meam Domine. ℣. Domine Deus salutis meæ: in die clamavi, et nocte coram te.

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.
℣. Lord my God, I call for help by day; I cry at night before you.

The Choir sings the Gloria

from Missa Ecce sacerdos magnus — *Francisco Guerrero (1528–1599)*

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 Cardinal says the Collect

℟. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading — *Wisdom 6:12-16*

Responsorial Psalm — *Psalm 62:2-8* ℟. *v.2*



℟. **For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.**

O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. ℟.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. ℟.

So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. ℟.

On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. ℟.

Second Reading — *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

The Choir sings the Alleluia — ℣. *Matthew 25:4. 6*

Alleluia.

℣. Quinque prudentes virgines acceperunt oleum in vasis suis cum lampadibus: media autem nocte clamor factus est: Ecce sponsus venit: exite obviam Christo Domino.

The five wise virgins brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Then at midnight, the cry went up: Behold! the Bridegroom is coming, go out to meet Christ the Lord.

Alleluia.

Gospel — *Matthew 25:1-13*

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 *William Byrd (c.1540–1623)*

VIGILATE, nescitis enim quando Dominus domus veniat, sero, an media nocte, an galli cantu, an mane. Vigilate ergo, ne, cum venerit repente inveniat vos dormientes. Quod autem dico vobis, omnibus dico, Vigilate.

Be watchful, for you do not know the hour when the master of the house will come, in the evening, the middle of the night, at cock-crow, or in the morning. So be watchful, lest, when he comes suddenly he should find you asleep. What I say to you, then, I say to all: Be watchful.

The Cardinal says

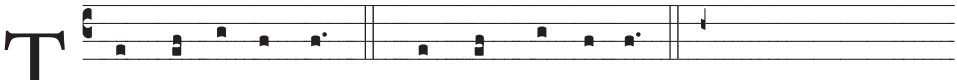
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

℟ **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.**

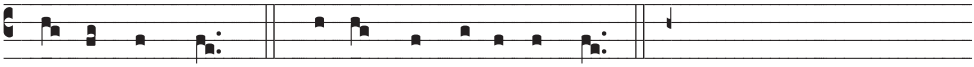
The Cardinal says the Prayer over the Offerings

℟ **Amen.**

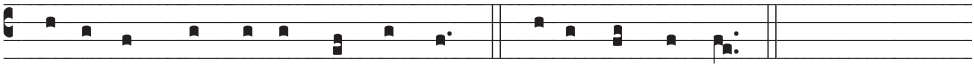
THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER



THE 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.**

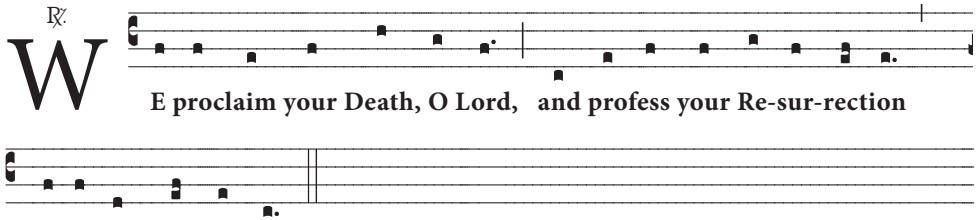
The Preface



When the Cardinal sings

The mystery of faith.

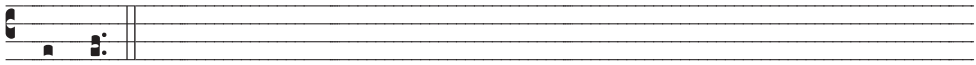
All sing



When the Cardinal 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.

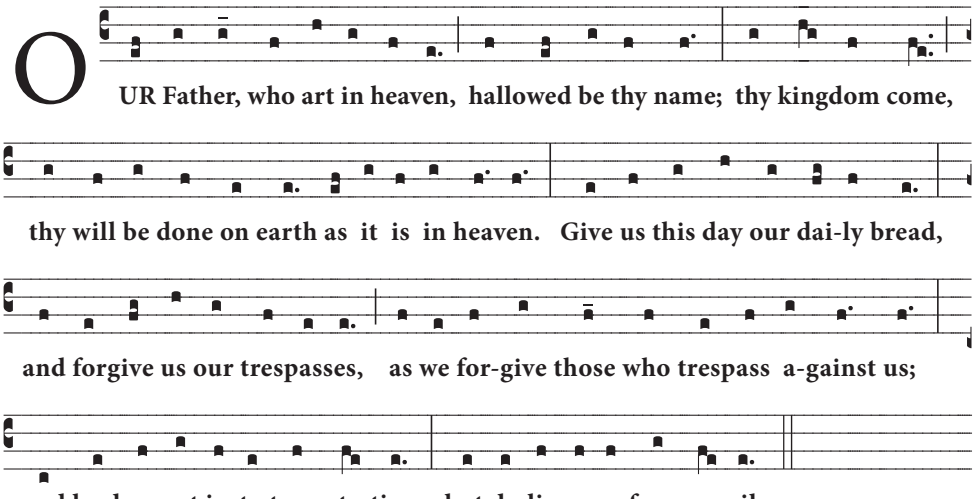
All respond



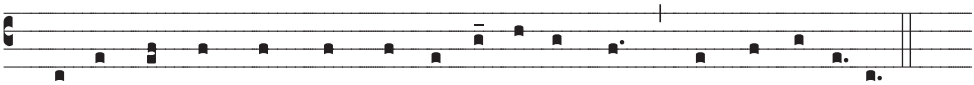
COMMUNION RITE

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.

℟. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

℟. **And with your spirit.**

The Choir sings the Agnus Dei

from Missa Ecce sacerdos magnus — *Francisco Guerrero*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

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.

The Cardinal 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 — *Matthew 25:4. 6*

Quinque prudentes virgines acceperunt oleum in vasis suis cum lampadibus: media autem nocte clamor factus est: Ecce sponsus venit: exite obviam Christo Domino.

The five wise virgins brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Then at midnight, the cry went up: Behold! the Bridegroom is coming, go out to meet Christ the Lord.

During Holy Communion the Choir sings Agnus Dei II

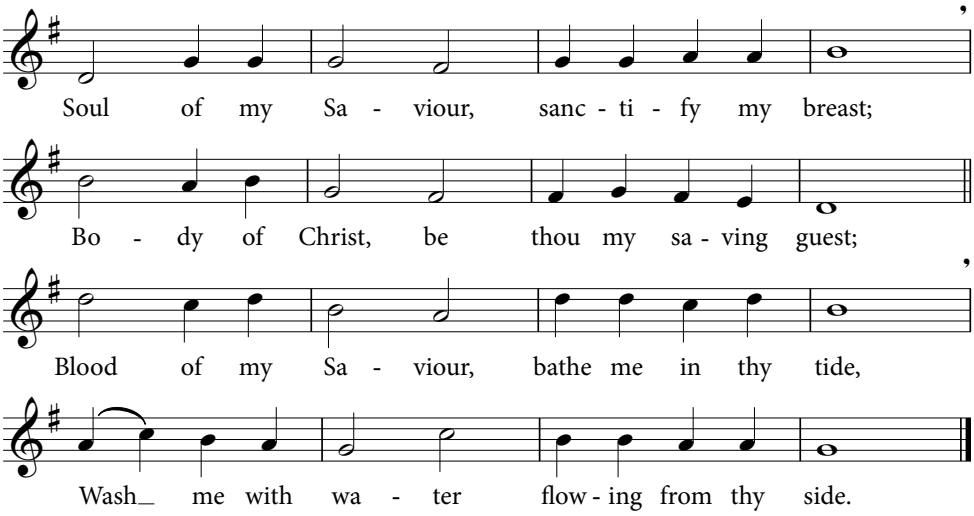
from Missa Ecce sacerdos magnus — *Francisco Guerrero*

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

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

All sing

THE HYMN



Strength and protection may thy Passion be;
O blessèd Jesus, hear and answer me;
Deep in thy wounds, Lord, hide and shelter me;
So shall I never, never part from thee.

Guard and defend me from the foe malign;
In death's dread moments make me only thine;
Call me, and bid me come to thee on high,
When I may praise thee with thy saints for aye.

Anima Christi
William Maher (1823–1877)

Latin, 14th century
tr. Anonymous

The Cardinal says the Prayer after Communion

℟. **Amen.**

The Master of Ceremonies says

I invite the members of the Order to recite together the Five Wounds Prayer.

The Lieutenant leads the Knights and Dames in prayer

LORD Jesus Christ,
by Your five wounds that we carry on our insignia,
we pray to You:

Give us the strength to love all whom Your Father has created,
most especially our enemies.

Free our minds and hearts from sin,
from partiality, from selfishness, and from cowardice,
so that we may be worthy of Your sacrifice.

Let Your Spirit come upon us all,
Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulchre,
so that we may be rendered sincere ambassadors of peace and love
among our brothers and sisters,
and especially among all those who do not believe in You.
Give us faith to face all the problems of everyday life
and to deserve one day to approach humbly and without fear,
your presence.
Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

℟ **And with your spirit.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

℟ **Now and for ever.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

℟ **Who made heaven and earth.**

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

℟ **Amen.**

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

℟ **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Toccata (Le Tombeau de Marcel Dupré) *Gerald Hendrie (b. 1935)*

LATER TODAY IN THE CATHEDRAL

Solemn Vespers and Benediction *sung by the Lay Clerks of St Mary's Cathedral Choir* **5.00pm**

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