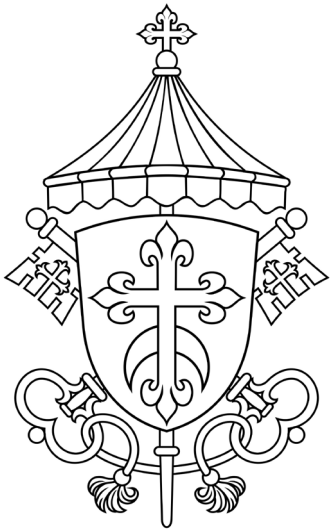
ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Mass

Thirty third Sunday
of the Year

15 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*

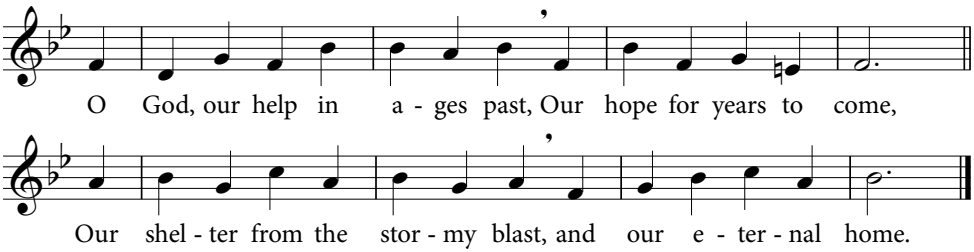
Download the weekly Music List at stmaryscathedral.org.au/music-list

TO MAINTAIN A SPIRIT OF REVERENCE AND SOLEMNITY, PLEASE TURN OFF AND REFRAIN FROM USING ALL MOBILE TELEPHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

ORDER OF MASS

At the sound of the Sacristy bell all stand and sing

THE HYMN



Under the shadow of thy throne,
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guide while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

St Anne
William Croft (1678–1727)

Psalm 90
Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

The Choir sings the Introit *Jeremiah 29:11,12,14; Psalm 84*

DICIT Dominus: Ego cogito cogitationes pacis, et non afflictionis: invocabitis me, et ego exaudiam vos: et reducam captivitatem vestram de cunctis locis. ℣. Benedixisti Domine terram tuam: avertisti captivitatem Iacob.

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place. ℣. O Lord, you once favoured your land: and revived the fortunes of Jacob.

All make the Sign of the Cross as the Archbishop 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 Archbishop 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 Trahe me post te — *Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548–1611)*

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 Archbishop says the Collect

℟ **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading — *Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31*

Responsorial Psalm — *Psalm 127:1-5* ℟ *v.1*



℟ **O blessèd are those who fear the Lord.**

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. ℟

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. ℟

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life! ℟

Second Reading — *1 Thessalonians 5:1-6*

The Choir sings the Alleluia ℣. *Psalm 129:1,2*

Alleluia.

℣. De profundis clamavi ad te, Domine: Domine exaudi vocem meam.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice.

Alleluia.

Gospel *Matthew 25:14-30*

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 *Anton Bruckner (1824–1896)*

OS iusti meditabitur sapientiam, et lingua eius loquetur iudicium. Lex Dei eius in corde ipsius: et non supplantabuntur gressus eius.

The mouth of the just one utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks of judgment. The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall fail.

The Archbishop says

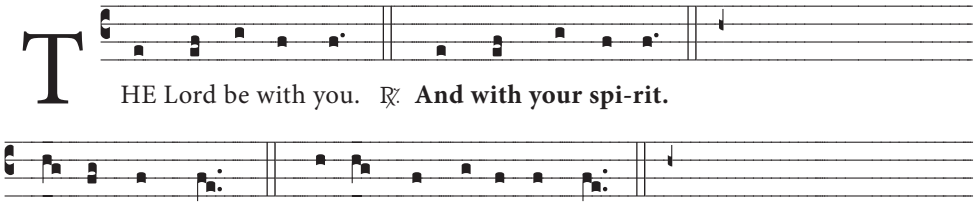
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

℟ **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.**
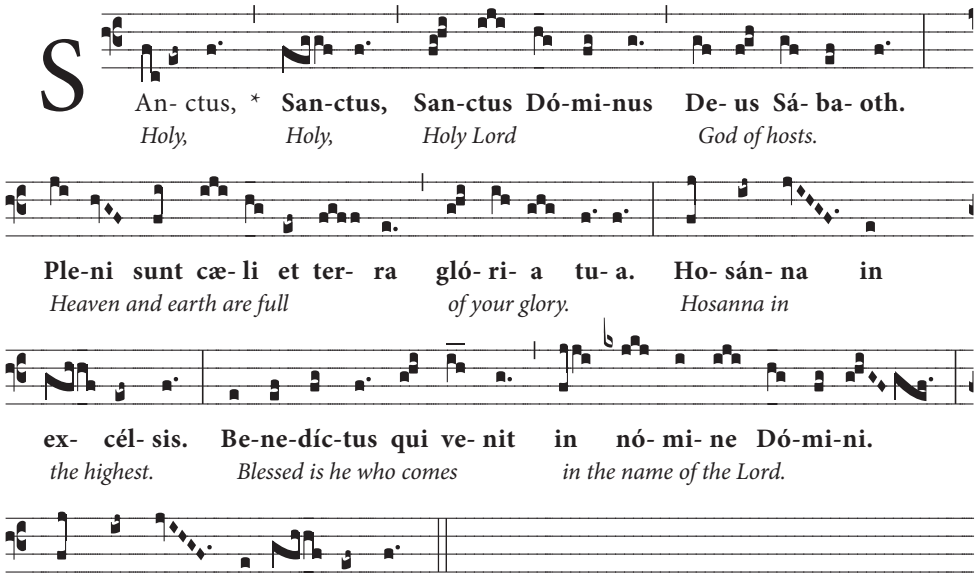
The Archbishop says the Prayer over the Offerings

℟ **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER



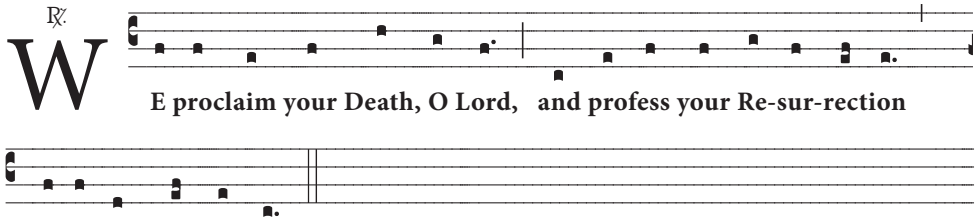
The Preface



When the Archbishop sings

The mystery of faith.

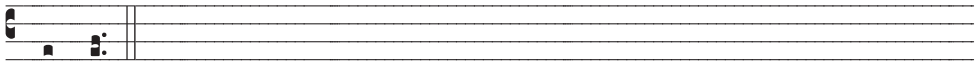
All sing



When the Archbishop 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.

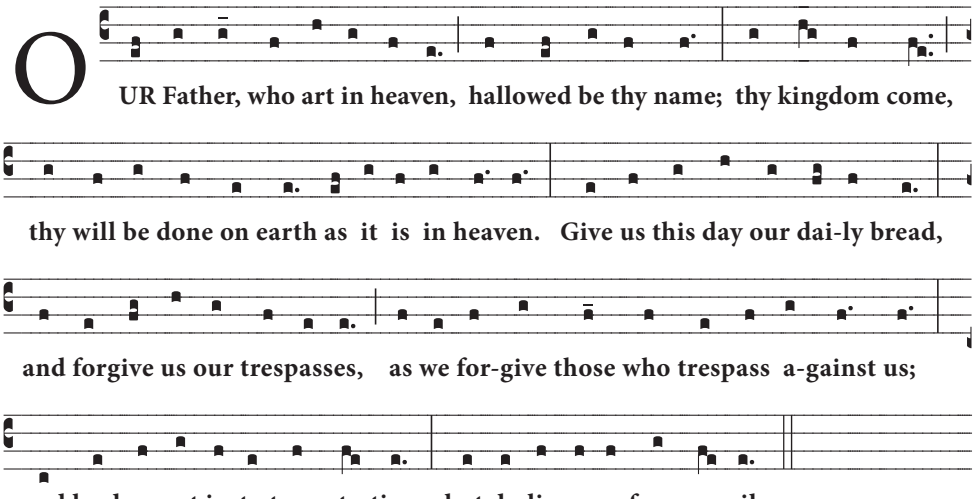
All respond



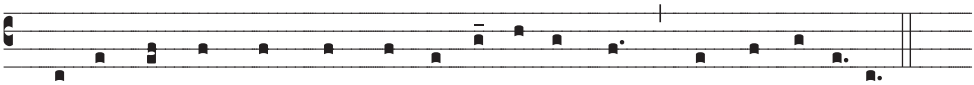
COMMUNION RITE

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 Trahe me post te — *Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548–1611)*

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 Archbishop 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 25:20-21*

DOMINE, quinque talenta tradidisti mihi: ecce alia quinque superlucratus sum. Euge serve fidelis, quia in pauca fuisti fidelis, supra multa te constituam, intra in gaudium Domini tui.

Lord, you gave me five talents: see, I have made five more. Well done, good and faithful servant: because you have faithful in few things, I will put you in charge of many. Enter into the joy of your Lord.

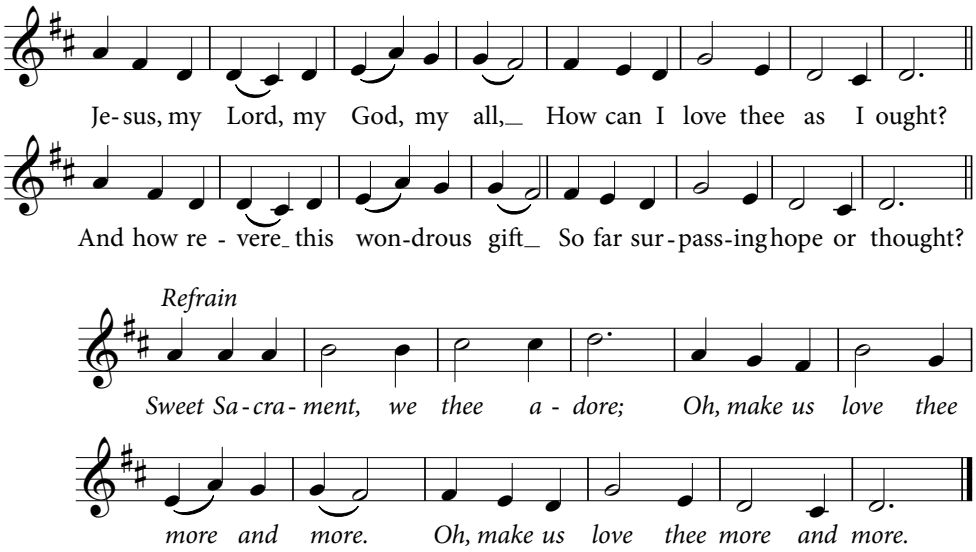
The Choir sings the Communion Motet — *Charles Wood (1866–1926)*

OCULI omnium in te sperant Domine: et tu das escam illorum in tempore opportuno. Gloria tibi, Domine. Amen.

The eyes of all creatures look to you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due time. Glory to you, O Lord.

All sing

THE HYMN



Had I but Mary's sinless heart
To love thee with, my dearest King,
Oh, with what bursts of fervent praise
Thy goodness, Jesus, would I sing!

Sweet Sacrament, we thee adore;
Oh, make us love thee more and more.

Ah, see! within a creature's hand
The vast Creator deigns to be
Reposing, infant-like, as though
On Joseph's arm, or Mary's knee.

Thy body, soul, and Godhead, all;
O mystery of love divine!
I cannot compass all I have,
For all thou hast and art are mine.

Sound, sound his praises higher still,
And come, ye angels, to our aid;
'Tis God, 'tis God, the very God,
Whose power both man and angels made.

Eucharist
German melody (1852)

Rev Frederick William Faber (1814–1863)

The Archbishop says the Prayer after Communion

℟ **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

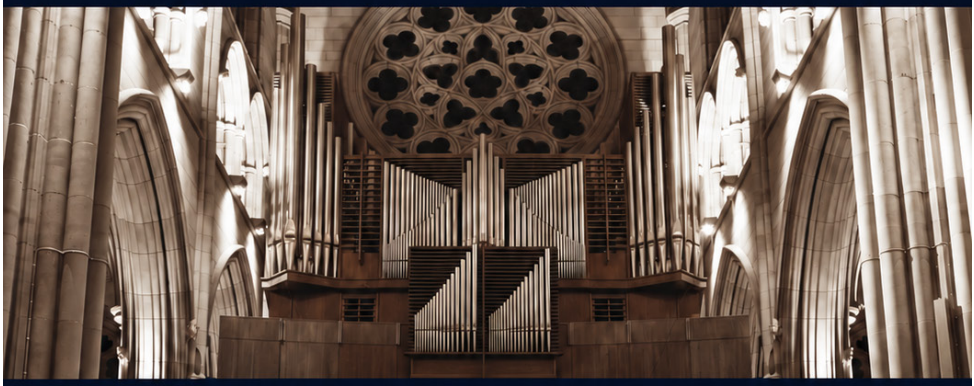
Toccata (24 Pièces de fantaisie Op.53) *Louis Vierne (1870–1937)*

LATER TODAY IN THE CATHEDRAL

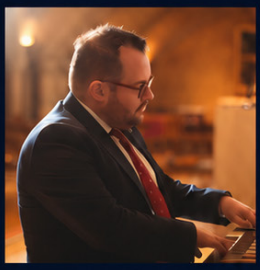
Solemn Vespers and Benediction	*sung by the Boys & Lay Clerks of St Mary's Cathedral Choir*	**5.00pm**

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

ORGAN CONCERTS 2026



Echoes of the Masters



Daniel Justin

Director of Music
St Mary's Cathedral

WEAVER
Passacaglia on a theme by Dunstable

KARG-ELERT
Partita in E major

TAMBLING
Flourish for the Flutes

HENDRIE
Toccata and Fugue
(Le Tombeau de Marcel Dupré)

Wednesday 18 November 2026 · 7pm

ADMISSION FREE • RETIRING COLLECTION

St Mary's Cathedral
St Mary's Road
Sydney NSW 2000
www.stmaryscathedral.org.au

General enquiries
Tel: (02) 9220 0400
Fax: (02) 9223 5208
Email: **info@stmaryscathedral.org.au**