

THE FIRST EUCHARIST OF

Christmas

II pm • 24 December 2024

Celebrant & Preacher
The Most Reverend Geoffrey Smith
Archbishop of Adelaide

Choir: The St Peter's Cathedral Choir Director of Music: Anthony Hunt Cathedral Organist: Andrew Georg

Acknowledgement of Country

St Peter's Cathedral resides on the lands of the Kaurna people. We give thanks for their ancestors and acknowledge the ongoing right and responsibility of their elders to care for this Country. We are committed to work and pray towards a more just settlement for all Indigenous people and pay our respect to First Nations people with us.

Our Mission

St Peter's Cathedral is a Christ-centred, sacramental, inclusive, thinking, mission-oriented faith community.

Welcome from the Dean

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9: 6)

For most people Christmas is a wonderful time of celebration and joy. However, there are many who at this time of year are mourning the loss of loved ones or are troubled by poor health or other issues. Added to this is that we live in a deeply troubled world. There is war in many places, and I'm sure many people join with me in praying for lasting peace in the Middle East. We pray the Prophet Isaiah's vision when 'God will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore (Isaiah 2: 4). At Christmas we proclaim that Jesus is the Prince of Peace. May we all seek to live in peace and do what we can to promote peace in our world.

The Anglican Church of Australia has set aside 2025 to focus on the Hope that is found in the Christian Gospel; the Hope that is very much part of the Christmas message. The Hope25 project will be supported across the Diocese of Adelaide and at St Peter's Cathedral. Look out for the various projects and celebrations that will occur next year. information Hope25 throughout on next can be year https://www.hope25.com.au, https://adelaideanglicans.com, https://www.stpetersand cathedral.org.au

On behalf of the clergy and staff of St Peter's Cathedral I wish you a blessed and peaceful Christmas, and a Holy New Year.

The Right Reverend Chris McLeod Dean

Please join us in saying the words in bold. All indications for sitting, kneeling, and standing are a guide only: please do whatever is most comfortable for you.

Please stand when the handbell rings.

The Choir enters in procession followed by the Altar party.

The baby Jesus is carried in procession and placed in the crib by the youngest chorister singing tonight.

All sing

- Hark! the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King,
 Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled.
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
 Join the triumph of the skies;
 With the angelic host proclaim,
 'Christ is born in Bethlehem'.
 Hark the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King.
- 2 Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb: Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate Deity, Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark the herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King.
- 3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
 Hail the Sun of righteousness!
 Light and life to all he brings,
 Risen with healing in his wings:
 Mild he lays his glory by,
 Born that man no more may die,
 Born to raise the sons of earth,
 Born to give them second birth.
 Hark the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King.

Music: MENDELSSOHN Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

Descant: David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Words: C. Wesley (1707-1788) and others

Reproduced from Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; for to us a child is born, to us a son is given.

ISAIAH 9:2, 6

Let us pray:

Please sit/kneel

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Choir sings

KYRIE Louis Vierne (1870-1937) Messe Solennelle

Kyrie eléison

Christe eléison

Kyrie eléison

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Christ the grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all.

Silence.

Let us bring our weaknesses and infirmities to the Lord, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu 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, Jesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu, in gloria Dei Patris. Amen. Louis Vierne (1870-1937) Messe Solennelle

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

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 COLLECT

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please sit for the first reading (read by Susan McLeod)

FIRST READING ISAIAH 9:2-7

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor,

you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Hear the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

The Choir sings

PSALM 96

O sing to the Lord a new song: sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord and bless his holy name: proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations: and his wonders among all peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised: he is more to be feared than all gods. As for all the gods of the nations, they are mere idols: it is the Lord who made the heavens. Majesty and glory are before him: beauty and power are in his sanctuary. Render to the Lord, you families of the nations: render to the Lord glory and might. Render to the Lord the honour due to his name: bring offerings and come into his courts. O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him. Say among the nations that the Lord is king: he has made the world so firm that it can never be moved; and he shall judge the peoples with equity. Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad: let the sea roar, and all that fills it:

Chant: Coby Mellor (b 1985)

Let the fields rejoice, and everything in them: then shall all the trees of the wood shout with joy before the Lord; For he comes, he comes to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

Please remain seated for the second reading (read by Lynn Smith)

SECOND READING
TITUS 2:11-14

A reading from the letter of Paul to Titus.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Hear the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing the hymn

- It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold: 'Through all the earth, goodwill and peace from heaven's all-gracious king!'

 The world in solemn stillness lay

 To hear the angels sing.
- 2 With sorrow brought by sin and strife the world has suffered long and, since the angels sang, have passed two thousand years of wrong: the nations, still at war, hear not the love-song which they bring: O hush the noise and cease the strife, to hear the angels sing!
- 3 And still the days are hastening on –
 by prophets seen of old –
 towards the fulness of the time
 when comes the age foretold:
 then earth and heaven renewed shall see
 the prince of peace, their king;
 and all the world repeat their song
 which now the angels sing.

Music: English traditional melody. Adapted by Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900)

Words: Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876) by Jubilate Hymns

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Please remain standing

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The choir sings the acclamation, which is repeated by the congregation



I bring you news of great joy: today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord.

After the verse, the acclamation is again sung by all

THE GOSPEL LUKE 2:1-20

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.



In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,



The organist plays as the procession returns to the altar. Please remain standing until invited to sit by the Preacher.

If you have any questions about the Christian faith which you would like to ask the Archbishop or other church leaders, please scan the QR code to be taken to a page where you may leave your details. We will be in touch soon.



Following the sermon, a brief period of silence may be kept to aid reflection.

The choir sings

ANTHEM - MY LORD HAS COME

Words and Music: Will Todd (b.1970)

Shepherds, called by angels, called by love and angels: No place for them but a stable. My Lord has come.

Sages, searching for stars, searching for love in heaven; No place for them but a stable. My Lord has come.

His love will hold me, his love will cherish me, love will cradle me. Lead me, lead me to see him, sages and shepherds and angels; No place for me but a stable.

My Lord has come.

Please stand

THE NICENE CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church.

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again 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.

We 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 worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please kneel/sit as the Reverend Canon Jenny Wilson leads

THE PRAYERS

Let us bring before God our needs and the needs of the world.

Silence may be kept to aid reflection and private prayer

Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness and into his own marvellous light.

Christ born for us, Son of God given for us: help us to know you, to worship and to serve you.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Wonderful counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom: help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love and fill her with the Spirit of truth.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: guide the leaders of all nations and bring in your kingdom of justice, righteousness and peace.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity: protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families and strengthen our communities.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

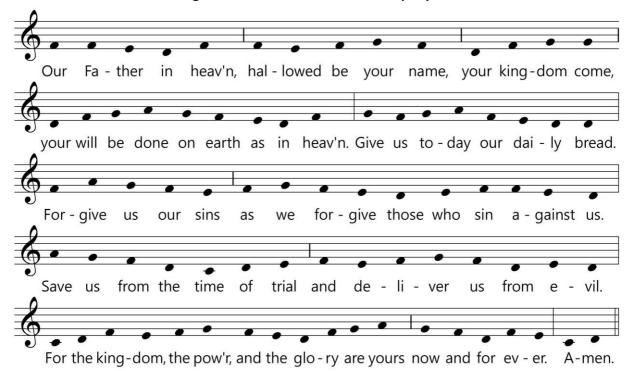
Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross: by your healing power give to all who suffer your gift of wholeness and peace.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, full of the Spirit, hear our prayer, receive our praises, fill our lives.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:



Please stand for the Greeting of Peace

A child has been born for us, a son given to us:

And his name is called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Please remain standing. During the following hymn, a Collection will be taken for the support of the ministry of the Cathedral. Cash and digital options are available.

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

- 2 O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth, And praises sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth; For Christ is born of Mary; And, gathered all above, While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.
- How silently, how silently,
 The wondrous gift is giv'n!

 So God imparts to human hearts
 The blessings of his heav'n.

 No ear may hear his coming;
 But in this world of sin,

 Where meek souls will receive him, still The dear Christ enters in.
- 4 Where children pure and happy,
 Pray to the blessèd Child;
 Where misery cries out to thee,
 Son of the mother mild;
 Where charity stands watching
 And faith holds wide the door:
 The dark night wakes, the glory breaks,,
 And Christmas comes once more.
- 5 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
 Descend to us, we pray;
 Cast out our sin, and enter in,
 Be born in us today.
 We hear the Christmas angels
 The great glad tidings tell:
 O come to us, abide with us,
 Our Lord Emmanuel.

Music: FOREST GREEN, English Traditional. Words: Bishop P. Brooks (1835–1893)

Harmony: R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Descant: David Hill (b.1957)

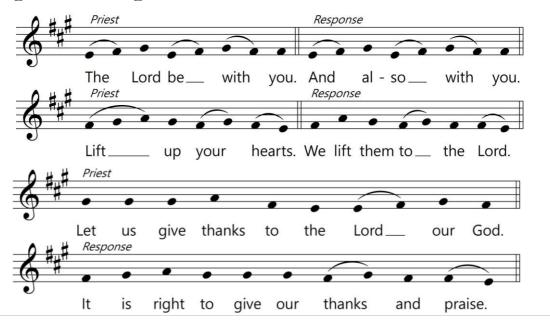
Please remain standing

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

The following is said or sung



All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

In your Word made flesh you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

The Choir sings

SANCTUS

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth, pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

Louis Vierne (1870-1937) Messe Solennelle

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat.
This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:



Bless-ing and hon-our and glo-ry and power are yours for ev-er and ev-er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

The Gifts of God for the people of God.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Please kneel/sit as the Choir sings

AGNUS DEI

Louis Vierne (1870-1937) Messe Solennelle

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:

miserere nobis.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,

have mercy on us.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:

dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,

grant us peace.

Baptised and communicant Christians of all denominations are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Please follow the guidance of stewards and servers.

Gluten free bread is available at the Altar.

If you do not wish to receive Holy Communion, you may like to come forward and receive a blessing (simply bow your head as a signal).

During Communion the Choir will sing a selection of Christmas Carols.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Please kneel/sit

God of heaven, dwelling among us, we thank you for feeding us with this holy food. By your grace keep us ever faithful to your Word made flesh that as his body in the world we may bring your presence to all people.

Father,

we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Please stand to sing

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

- 2 God of God,
 Light of Light,
 Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
 Very God,
 Begotten, not created:
- See how the shepherds,
 Summoned to his cradle,
 Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
 We too will thither
 bend our joyful footsteps
- Sing, choirs of angels,
 Sing in exultation,
 Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
 Glory to God
 in the highest:
- Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Music: ADESTE FIDELES att. J.F. Wade 1711–1786. Descant: David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Words: Latin 18th Century trans. F. Oakely, W.T. Brooke and others

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Please remain standing

BLESSING

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

2 111101

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please remain standing as the Choir and Clergy depart in procession. After this, you are invited to sit and listen to the organ postlude played by Anthony Hunt.

Louis Vierne (1870-1937) Finale from Symphony No. 1

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

The life and work of this Cathedral is made possible through the generosity of individuals like you.



Your gift helps us to maintain this iconic building for all people to enjoy, to continue a strong music and liturgy tradition, and to support the mission of the Church. You can donate in these ways:

- Envelopes and/or cash in the Collection plates or the Donation Boxes around the Cathedral.
- ♦ Electronic Funds Transfer: BSB 705-077 Account Number 00040056 (include your name as reference)
- Use the Tap & Go machine to make an instant donation.
- Debit/Credit card: Scan the QR code to be taken directly to our online donation page.



The St Peter's Cathedral Music Foundation has for over 25 years supported excellence in sacred music at St Peter's Cathedral.

The St Peter's Cathedral Music Foundation provides choral, organ, and conducting scholarships for young musicians and young professionals; contributes to the costs of long term provision and care for musical instruments (especially the organ); assists with the purchase of new choral music; commissions new works by Australian and South Australian composers; supports the recruitment of new choristers through the Cathedral Choir Winter School; makes a substantial annual contribution towards the music budget of the Cathedral; and supports an annual Concert Series which features national and international guest performers alongside our own musicians.

The St Peter's Cathedral Music Foundation relies on donations to continue to build this program, and ensure its longevity into the future. If you are interested in supporting any of the particular areas above, or something else, please contact the Music Foundation directly, or speak to the Director of Music, Anthony Hunt.





SCHOLA CANTORUM (UK) FESTIVAL STATESMEN CHORUS FAURÉ REQUIEM





British boys choir Schola Cantorum join with the Festival Statesmen Chorus for a spectacular, one-night-only evening of the finest choral music, featuring Gabriel Fauré's sublime Requiem.

Adults \$40 / Concession \$35 Thursday February 20th 7.00pm

www.musicfoundation.org.au



Wishing you a blessed, holy, and happy Christmas.

The Cathedral is open for visiting and private prayer

Monday 10:30 am - 1 pm Tuesday to Friday 10:30 am - 3:30 pm

Sunday Worship in January 2025

8 am Eucharist (BCP)
10:30 am Sung Eucharist
6 pm Night Prayer

Weekday Worship (from 26 December – 31 January)

Wednesday 7:30 am* & 10 am Eucharist Friday 7:30 am Eucharist

* No 7:30 am Eucharist on I January

Cathedral Office

Monday – Friday* 9 am – 5 pm

* excluding Public Holidays

www.stpeters-cathedral.org.au office@stpeters-cathedral.org.au 08 8267 455 I