

ST FRANCIS' CHOIR
326 Lonsdale Street
MELBOURNE 3000
Tel./Fax: (03) 9639 4560
www.stfrancischoir.org.au



MUSIC PROGRAM
February – June 2026

*The choir sings regularly at the 11.30am Sunday solemn Eucharist unless otherwise indicated.
Occasionally, due to unforeseen circumstances, this program may be subject to change.*

February 6 Ordinary 5	R. Heagney C. Willcock	<i>Missa Castanea</i> <i>Prayer of St Francis</i>
February 13 Ordinary 6	L. Vierne M. Duruflé	<i>Messe solennelle</i> <i>Ubi caritas</i>
February 22 Lent 1	W. Byrd T. Morley	<i>Mass for four voices</i> <i>Nolo mortem peccatoris</i>
March 1 Lent 2	G. P. da Palestrina T. Tallis	<i>Missa Aeterna Christi munera</i> <i>O nata lux</i>
March 8 Lent 3	Plainsong H. Purcell	<i>Missa XVII 'Kyrie Salve'</i> <i>Thou knowest, Lord</i>
March 15 Lent 4	W. Byrd W. Byrd	<i>Mass for four voices</i> <i>Miserere</i>
March 22 Lent 5	G. P. da Palestrina A. Lotti	<i>Missa Aeterna Christi munera</i> <i>Adoramus te, Christe (No. 1)</i>

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

March 29 Passion/Palm Sunday	C. Willcock T. L. de Victoria P. Casals	<i>Trocaire</i> <i>Pueri Hebraeorum</i> <i>O vos omnes</i>
April 2 Holy Thursday (6.00pm)	R. Heagney M. Duruflé J. Kuhnau T. L. de Victoria	<i>Missa Castanea</i> <i>Ubi caritas</i> <i>Tristis est anima mea</i> <i>Tantum ergo</i>
April 3 Good Friday (3.00pm)	P. Casals A. Lotti O. Gibbons G. P. da Palestrina	<i>O vos omnes</i> <i>Adoramus te, Christe (No. 1)</i> <i>Drop, drop slow tears</i> <i>Popule meus</i>
8.00pm	Service of Tenebrae	
April 4 Easter Vigil (8.00pm)	R. Proulx J. Noyon A. Gabrieli <i>(with Canzona Brass)</i>	<i>Mass for the City</i> <i>Cantate Domino</i> <i>Maria Magdalene et altera Maria</i>
April 5 Easter Sunday	F. Schubert Chant arr. J. Revert W. A. Mozart G. F. Handel <i>(with the Symphonia of Melbourne)</i>	<i>Mass in G</i> <i>Victimae paschali laudes</i> <i>Alleluia (Exsultate, Jubilate), K. 165</i> <i>Hallelujah!</i>

THE SEASON OF EASTER

April 12 Easter 2	<i>St Francis' Young Adult Choir directed by Rhys Arrvidson</i>	
April 19 Easter 3	A. Dvořák W. Lloyd Webber C. V. Stanford	<i>Mass in D</i> <i>Fontes et omnia</i> <i>Ye choirs of new Jerusalem</i>
April 26 Easter 4	A. Gabrieli arr. Heagney T. L. de Victoria H. Goodall	<i>Missa brevis</i> <i>Vidi aquam</i> <i>Psalm 23</i>

THE SEASON OF EASTER cont'd

May 3 Easter 5	A. Gretchaninov D. Fellows R. Proulx	<i>Missa festiva</i> <i>Springs of water</i> <i>He is the way</i>
May 10 Easter 6	C. Willcock Chant arr. P. Ford L. van Beethoven	<i>Missa Magis</i> <i>Springs of water</i> <i>Hallelujah Chorus</i>
May 17 Ascension	C. Saint-Saëns T. Savoy P. Phillips	<i>Messe à quatre voix, Op. 4</i> <i>Springs of water</i> <i>Ascendit Deus</i>
May 24 Pentecost	W. A. Mozart R. Heagney W. A. Mozart <i>(with the Symphonia of Melbourne)</i>	<i>Spatzenmesse (K. 220)</i> <i>You will draw water joyfully</i> <i>Veni, Sancte Spiritus (K. 47)</i>

May 31 Trinity	J. Byrne R. Heagney	<i>Mass in honour of St Mary MacKillop</i> <i>As truly as God is our Father</i>
June 7 Corpus Christi	J. Haydn J. Haydn <i>(with the Symphonia of Melbourne)</i>	<i>Harmoniemesse</i> <i>The heavens are telling</i>
June 14 Ordinary 11	R. R. Terry G. F. Handel	<i>Mass in C (Mass of St Dominic)</i> <i>Since by man came death</i>
June 21 Ordinary 12	C. Willcock W. Byrd	<i>Trocaire</i> <i>Ave verum corpus</i>
June 28 Ordinary 13	G. P. da Palestrina G. P. da Palestrina	<i>Missa Aeterna Christi munera</i> <i>Tu es Petrus</i>

ST FRANCIS' CHOIR
(founded 1845)

St Francis' Choir gave its first performance on 23 October 1845 at the official opening of St Francis' Church, the first Catholic church of the infant colony and today, Melbourne's oldest building. The erection of the church, designed by Samuel Jackson, had been an ecumenical project that took six years to complete. St Francis' became the cathedral of Melbourne in 1848 and remained so until the new St Patrick's Cathedral was ready in 1869.

At the height of the Victorian era the choir was at the forefront of musical excellence in Melbourne with its own orchestra frequently combining with visiting opera companies and welcoming such famous artists as Anna Bishop, Amy Castles and Nellie Melba.

The choir was reformed as a mixed voice group in 1961 by a priest of the SSS Community. He was succeeded Director in 1967 by Roger Heagney and in 1998 by Tony Way. Orchestral Masses by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Gounod, Fauré and many others remain an important aspect of the choir's work. The choir has premiered works by many Australian composers and has undertaken two highly successful tours of Europe.

THE ST FRANCIS' CHOIR FOUNDATION

The St Francis' Choir Foundation needs your ongoing support.

Primarily established as a capital fund, the Foundation aims to support the ongoing work of the choir through the investment of a considerable capital sum.

To find out more, please contact the Music Office on (03) 9639 4560.

FRIENDS OF ST FRANCIS' CHOIR

One way to support St Francis' Choir is to become a friend of the choir. The Friends form a large and diverse group of people who give financial and practical support to the choir. To join the Friends write to:

The Secretary, St Francis' Choir, 326 Lonsdale St. MELBOURNE. 3000

ST FRANCIS' ONLINE

St Francis' Church: <http://www.stfrancismelbourne.com>

St Francis' Choir: <http://www.stfrancischoir.org.au>

E-mail: stfmusic@blessedsacrament.com.au