

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



MUSIC PROGRAM
 July – December 2025

ST FRANCIS' CHOIR CELEBRATING 180 YEARS

*The choir sings regularly at the 11.00am Sunday solemn Eucharist unless otherwise indicated.
 Occasionally, due to unforeseen circumstances, this program may be subject to change.*

July 6 Ordinary 14	R. Heagney R. Reboud	<i>Eymard Mass</i> <i>I was overjoyed</i>
July 13 Ordinary 15	C. Willcock L. King <i>(Mass for the conclusion of NAIDOC Week)</i>	<i>Trocaire</i> <i>Let us love in deed and truth</i>
July 20 Ordinary 16	R. Proulx C. Willcock	<i>Mass for the City</i> <i>For Service</i>
July 27 Ordinary 17	R. R. Terry M. Duruflé	<i>Mass in C (Mass of St Dominic)</i> <i>Notre père</i>
August 3 St Peter Julian	W. A. Mozart G. Fauré <i>(with the Symphonia of Melbourne)</i>	<i>Mass in D, K. 194</i> <i>Cantique de Jean Racine</i>
August 10 Ordinary 19	H. L. Hassler J. Rutter	<i>Missa Dixit Maria</i> <i>Thy perfect love</i>
August 17 Ordinary 20	J. Byrne P. Stopford	<i>Mass in honour of St Mary MacKillop</i> <i>Ave Maria</i>

August 24 Ordinary 21	R. Heagney F. A. G. Ouseley	<i>Missa Castanea</i> <i>From the rising of the sun</i>
August 31 Ordinary 22	T. L. da Victoria T. L. da Victoria	<i>Missa O quam gloriosum</i> <i>O quam gloriosum</i>
September 7 Ordinary 23	C. Willcock R. Heagney	<i>Missa Magis</i> <i>As truly as God is our Father</i>
September 14 Exaltation of the Cross	A. Dvořák G. P. da Palestrina	<i>Mass in D</i> <i>Sanctum crucem subiit</i>
September 21 Ordinary 25	W. Bryd W. Bryd	<i>Mass for four voices</i> <i>Ave verum corpus</i>
September 28 Ordinary 26	R. Proulx E. Elgar	<i>Mass for the City</i> <i>Ave verum corpus</i>

October 5 St Francis	C. Gounod C. Willcock J. Haydn	<i>St Cecilia Mass</i> <i>Prayer of St Francis</i> <i>Te Deum (Hob. XXIIIc:2)</i>
<i>(180th anniversary of the opening of St Francis' Church and the founding of St Francis' Choir with present and former choristers and the Symphonia of Melbourne)</i>		

October 12 Ordinary 28	A. Gretchaninov F. Mendelssohn	<i>Missa Festiva</i> <i>Grant us thy peace</i>
October 19 Ordinary 29	G. P. da Palestrina P. Philips	<i>Missa brevis</i> <i>Ave verum corpus</i>
October 26 Ordinary 30	R. Heagney A. Scarlatti	<i>Missa Castanea</i> <i>Exultate Deo</i>
November 2 All Souls	G. Fauré	<i>Requiem</i>

*(Annual Commemoration of the deceased members and benefactors of St Francis' Choir
with St Francis' Choir, the St Francis' Young Adult Choir and the Symphonia of Melbourne)*

November 9 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	A. Gabrieli (arr. Heagney) T. L. da Victoria A. Bruckner	<i>Missa brevis</i> <i>Vidi aquam</i> <i>Locus iste</i>
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November 16 Ordinary 33	L. Vierne J. Haydn	<i>Messe solennelle</i> <i>Insane et vanae curae</i>
November 23 Christ the King	G. O. Rutter J. Haydn <i>(with the Symphonia of Melbourne)</i>	<i>Mass in D</i> <i>The heavens are telling</i>

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

November 30 Advent 1	Chant J. S. Bach	<i>Missa XVII 'Kyrie Salve'</i> <i>Zion hears the watchmen's voices</i>
December 7 Advent 2	H. Schroeder M. Praetorius	<i>Missa Gregoriana</i> <i>Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen</i>
December 14 Advent 3	H. L. Hassler R. Twynham	<i>Missa Dixit Maria</i> <i>Rorate coeli (Drop down dew)</i>
December 19	<i>The annual Carol Festival will take place at 7.00pm.</i>	
December 21 Advent 4	A. Halliday A. Halliday <i>(Merlyn Quaipe AM, soloist)</i>	<i>Missa Camino de Santiago</i> <i>Ave Maria</i>
December 24 Christmas Midnight	M-A. Charpentier A. Adam <i>(with the Symphonia of Melbourne)</i>	<i>Messe de minuit</i> <i>O holy night</i>
December 25 Christmas Day	<i>Organist and cantor will lead the music at the 11.00am solemn Eucharist.</i>	

St Francis' Choir will resume its music ministry at the 11.00am Eucharist on Sunday, 8 February 2026. During the summer the music will be led by organist and cantor.

St Francis' Choir welcomes new singers in all voice parts. The choir sings each Sunday at the 11.00am Mass and at other special occasions throughout the year. For more information, please contact Tony Way, Director of Music.

Tel.: (03) 9639 4560

Email: stfmusic@blessedsacrament.com.au

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.

In 1961 the choir was reformed as a mixed voice group by Rev. Ernest Rayson, SSS. He was succeeded as 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.

For more information about the Foundation, please visit our website.

Donations can be made by EFT: BSB 033-068, Account 235931.

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.stfrancismelbournre.com>

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E-mail:

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