

ST FRANCIS' CHOIR

326 Lonsdale Street

MELBOURNE 3000

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www.stfranciscoir.org.au

**MUSIC PROGRAM****July – December 2026**

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 5 Ordinary 14	R. Heagney C. Willcock	<i>Eymard Mass</i> <i>Come to me</i>
July 12 Ordinary 15	C. Willcock S. Marchant <i>(Mass for the conclusion of NAIDOC Week)</i>	<i>Trocaire</i> <i>Judge eternal</i>
July 19 Ordinary 16	R. Proulx F. Liszt	<i>Mass for the City</i> <i>Qui seminant in lacrimis</i>
July 26 Ordinary 17	W. Byrd W. Byrd	<i>Mass for four voices</i> <i>Ave verum corpus</i>
August 2 St Peter Julian	A. Gabrieli A. de Salazar <i>(With Canzona Brass)</i>	<i>Missa Brevis</i> <i>O sacrum convivium</i>
August 9 Ordinary 19	R. Heagney R. Proulx	<i>Missa Castanea</i> <i>Jesu, the very thought of thee</i>
August 16 Ordinary 20	H. L. Hassler E. Elgar	<i>Missa Dixit Maria</i> <i>Ave Maria</i>
August 23 Ordinary 21	G. P. da Palestrina G. P. da Palestrina	<i>Missa Aeterna Christi munera</i> <i>Tu es Petrus</i>
August 30 Ordinary 22	A. Pärt J. Ireland	<i>Berliner Messe</i> <i>Greater love</i>

September 6 Ordinary 23	C. Willcock W. Lloyd Webber	<i>Missa Magis</i> <i>Love divine</i>
September 13 Ordinary 24	A. Gretchaninov L. King	<i>Missa Festiva</i> <i>Let us love in deed and truth</i>
September 20 Ordinary 25	G. P. da Palestrina G. P. da Palestrina	<i>Missa brevis</i> <i>Sicut cervus</i>
September 27 Ordinary 26	R. Proulx L. Hoiby	<i>Mass for the City</i> <i>Let this mind be in you</i>
October 4 St Francis	E. Paladilhe C. Willcock <i>(Celebration of the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi with the Symphonia of Melbourne and St Francis' Young Adult Choir)</i>	<i>Messe de St François d'Assise</i> <i>Prayer of St Francis</i>
October 11 Ordinary 28	R. Heagney P. Stopford	<i>Missa Castanea</i> <i>Ave verum corpus</i>
October 18 Ordinary 29	W. Byrd P. Phillips	<i>Mass for four voices</i> <i>Ave verum corpus</i>
October 25 Ordinary 30	R. R. Terry M. Duruflé	<i>Mass in C (St Dominic)</i> <i>Ubi caritas</i>
November 1 All Saints	O. de Lassus W. Harris <i>(Annual commemoration of the deceased members and benefactors of St Francis' Choir with Canzona Brass)</i>	<i>Missa Vinum bonum</i> <i>Bring us, O Lord God</i>
November 8 Ordinary 32	C. Willcock J. S. Bach	<i>Trocaire</i> <i>Zion hears the watchmen's voices</i>
November 15 Ordinary 33	L. Vierne M. Dupré	<i>Messe solennelle</i> <i>Ave verum corpus</i>
November 22 Christ the King	J. Haydn J. Haydn <i>(With present and former members of St Francis' Choir and the Symphonia of Melbourne)</i>	<i>Nelson Mass</i> <i>Achieved is the glorious work</i>

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

November 29 Advent 1	J. Haydn R. Twynham	<i>Missa Rorate coeli</i> <i>Rorate coeli (Drop down, dew)</i>
December 6 Advent 2	Chant E. Bainton	<i>Mass XVII</i> <i>And I saw a new heaven</i>
December 13 Advent 3	H. Schroeder E. Elgar	<i>Missa Gregoriana</i> <i>The Spirit of the Lord</i>
December 18	<i>The annual Carol Festival will take place at 7.00pm.</i>	
December 20 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	G. Malcolm P. Yon <i>(With the Symphonia of Melbourne)</i>	<i>Missa ad Praesepe</i> <i>Gesù Bambino</i>
December 25 Christmas Day	<i>The music at the 11.00am solemn Eucharist will be led by organ and cantor.</i>	

St Francis' Choir will resume its ministry at the 11.00am Eucharist on Sunday, 7 February 2027. During the summer the music will be led by organist and cantor.

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 a priest of the Blessed Sacrament Congregation, who 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.

Brochures detailing the work of the Foundation are available in the porch of the church or by contacting the Music Office.

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: www.stfrancismelbourne.au
St Francis' Choir: www.stfrancischoir.org.au
E-mail: stfmusic@blessedsacrament.com.au