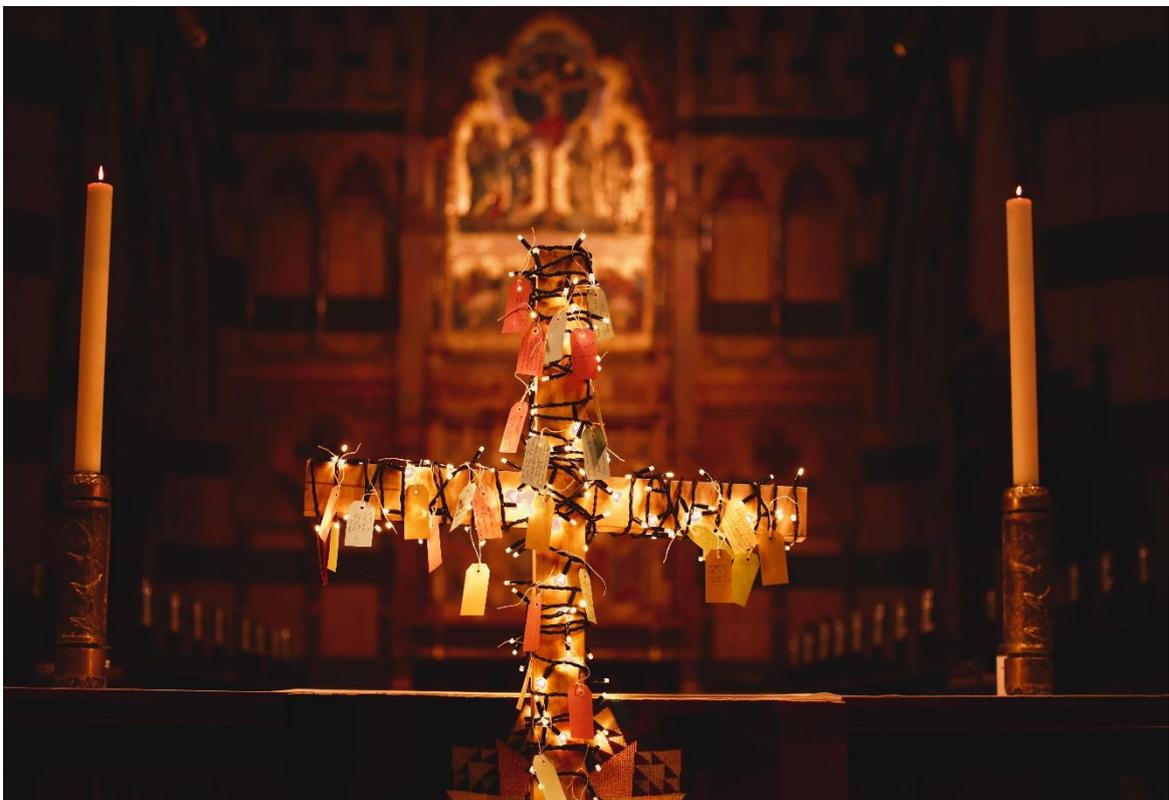


St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne

GATHER AT ST PAUL'S 6pm



Sunday 22 February 2026
The First Sunday in Lent

Welcome to Gather at St Paul's

Please stand as the clergy enter

The Greeting and Acknowledgement of Country

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,
whose mercy endures forever.

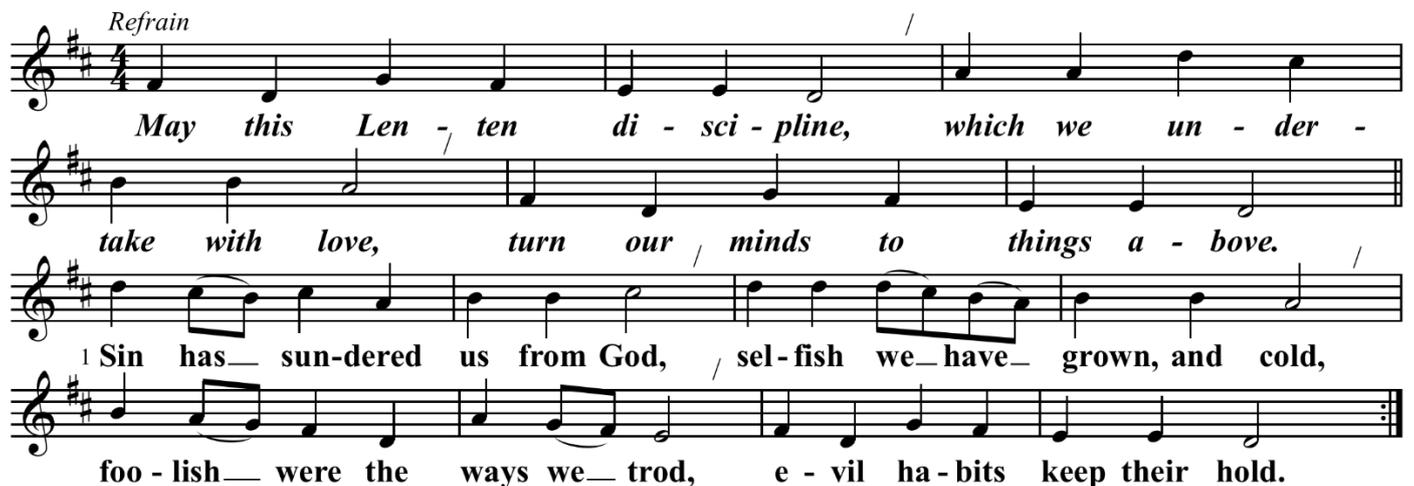
We meet this evening on lands that were taken, not ceded,
the sovereign country of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation.
We give thanks for their ancestors, acknowledge the ongoing right
and responsibility of their elders to care for this country,
and we pay our respects to all First Nations people with us this evening.

Let us pray,

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 Gathering Hymn – May this Lenten Discipline

Refrain



May this Len - ten di - sci - pline, which we un - der -
take with love, turn our / minds to things a - bove.
1 Sin has sun - dered us from God, sel - fish we have grown, and cold,
foo - lish were the ways we trod, e - vil ha - bits keep their hold.

*May this Lenten discipline,
which we undertake with love,
turn our minds to things above.*

²
Now we fast that we may feast
where the Lord of Life presides;
may our hunger be increased
for the bread which he provides.
May this Lenten discipline ...

³
As we keep this Lent with prayer
and from pleasures are withdrawn,
minds and bodies we prepare
for the joy of Easter dawn.
May this Lenten discipline ...

James Phillip McAuley (1917–1976)

Music: Richard Connolly (b. 1927)

Reproduced with kind permission of Richard Connolly

The Confession

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

Let us then ask for mercy, 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.

The Absolution

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.**

The Collect for the Day

Almighty God, whose Son fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet did not sin: give us grace to direct our lives in obedience to your will, that, as you know our weakness, so we may know your power to save; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

The Bible Reading

Romans 5.12-21

Read by Becky Sims

A reading from the Epistle of Paul to the Romans.

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings

justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. ²⁰But law came in, with the result that the trespass multiplied; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, ²¹so that, just as sin exercised dominion in death, so grace might also exercise dominion through justification leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 32

Please join in saying the verses printed in bold

Blessed are those whose sin is forgiven: whose iniquity is put away.

**Blessed are those to whom the Lord imputes no blame:
and in whose spirit there is no guile.**

For whilst I held my tongue: my bones wasted away with my daily complaining.

Your hand was heavy upon me day and night:

and my moisture was dried up like a drought in summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you: and my iniquity I did not hide;

I said 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord':

and so you forgave the wickedness of my sin.

For this cause shall everyone that is faithful

make their prayer to you in the day of trouble:

and in the time of the great water-flood, it shall not come near them.

You are a place to hide me in, you will preserve me from trouble:

you will surround me with deliverance on every side.

'I will instruct you, and direct you in the way that you should go:

I will fasten my eye upon you, and give you counsel.

'Be not like horse or mule, that have no understanding:

whose forward course must be curbed with bit and bridle.'

Great tribulations remain for the ungodly:

but whoever puts their trust in the Lord, mercy embraces them on every side.

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and be glad:

and shout for joy, all you that are true of heart.

Please stand

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 4.1-11

Read by Flyck Clift

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; ⁹and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

For the Gospel of the Lord: **praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Sermon

Please be seated

The Revd Simon Li, Assistant Curate

The Affirmation of Faith

Please stand

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Reflective Prayer

Please sit

The Peace

Please stand

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of God's peace with the people next to you and remain standing for

The Offertory Hymn – And Can It Be

A collection is received. We rely entirely on your gift. Please be generous.
If the ushers can't reach you, please use the donation towers around the Cathedral, donate online via our website www.cathedral.org.au/donate using the QR code, or by EFT BSB: 083-088, Account: 53-728-8315



1 And can it be that I—should gain an in - terest in the—
Sa-viour's blood? Died he for me,— who caused his pain— for me, who
him— to death pur - sued? A - ma-zing love! how— can— it—
be— that thou,— my God,— shouldst die— for me! A - ma - zing
love! how can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

2
'Tis mystery all! The immortal dies:
who can explore this strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
let angel minds inquire no more.

3
He left his Father's throne above
(so free, so infinite his grace!),
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free:
for, O my God, it found out me.

4
Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night:
thine eye diffused a quickening ray –
I woke; the dungeon flamed with light!
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

5
No condemnation now I dread:
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown,
through Christ, my own.

Charles Wesley (1707-88) alt.
Together in Song 209

The Prayer over the Gifts

To you we come, Father of lights, with angels and saints,
where heaven and earth unite.

May Jesus meet us in the breaking of the bread.

Blessed be God forever.

The Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline
we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of
your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is
given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

In faith we acclaim you, O Christ:

Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.

You are the Saviour of the world.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you, Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Being made one by the power of the Spirit, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray, each in our own language,

**Notre Père..., Padre nuestro..., Vater unser..., 我們在天上的父 ...,
हे हमारे स्वरगिक पिता..., Bapa kami..., E to matou Matua..., 天の父よ ...,
Ama namin..., Our Father who art ..., ،...، باپ ہمارے اے...، ،...، الذي أبانا...**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking and Sharing of the Bread

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 Invitation to Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

The Prayer after Communion

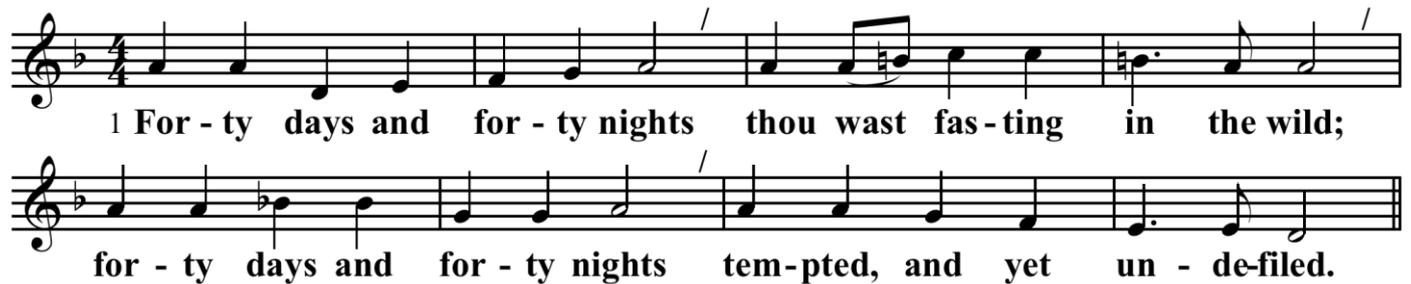
Please stand

God of mercy, may we who have shared in this holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

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. Amen.

The Notices

The Dismissal Hymn – Forty Days



1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fas - ting in the wild;
for - ty days and for - ty nights tem - pted, and yet un - de - filed.

2
Sunbeams scorching all the day;
chilly dew-drops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about thy way;
stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

3
Shall not we thy sorrows share,
and from earthly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer,
glad with thee to suffer pain?

4
And if Satan, vexing sore,
Flesh or spirit should assail,
thou, his vanquisher before,
grant we may not faint nor fail.

5
So shall we have peace divine:
holier gladness ours shall be;
round us, too, shall angels shine,
such as ministered to thee.

6
Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by thy side;
that with thee we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.

George Hunt Smyttan (1822–70) and Francis Pott (1832–1909)
Hymns Ancient and Modern New Standard 56i

The Blessing and Dismissal

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sin forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

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PRAY WITH US

FOR THE WORLD We continue to pray for all places of war, civil unrest and terrorism, especially Ukraine, Eastern Europe, Israel, Palestine, and the wider Middle East, Iran, Sudan and South Sudan, and Myanmar. During this Lenten season of reconciliation with God and neighbour, we pray for improved international diplomacy and peace negotiations, the work of the United Nations and humanitarian agencies, grassroots peacebuilders and faith leaders and truth-telling and reconciliation movements. We pray that there might be a spirit of repentance amongst the nations that all may turn away from violence to mercy.

FOR THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION The Church of Ireland (Bp John McDowell).

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN ANGLICAN CHURCH The Diocese of Wangaratta (Bp Clarence Bester, Clergy & People).

FOR THE DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE The Parish of St David's Doncaster East (Judith Frost).

FOR OUR CATHEDRAL The Revd Canon Robert Vun, our Bible study & Discipleship Groups; the Revd Peter MacPherson, Canon for Preaching and Teaching; the Revd Canon Christopher Carolane and the students and teachers of our English Conversation Classes.

FOR THOSE IN SICKNESS OR NEED Stephen Ames, Cynthia Balderstone, Chris Carolane, Jessica Carr, Cecilia Cheng, Ken and Robyn Dusting, Helen Dwyer, Reynaldo Ferreccio, Cecilia Francis, Greg Hurworth, Gaye Loughrey, Esme Mitchell, Mavis Payne, Alyssa Sigamoney, Skipper family, Vinson family, Lesley and Ray Way, Simon Way, Whittaker family and those struggling with mental health challenges, addictions, loneliness, and despair that they would find hope, support, and the healing love of Christ.

FOR THOSE WHOSE YEAR'S MIND OCCURS THIS WEEK

- 22 Florence Irene McKoy (Congregation) 1982
Sir Charles Sladen (Benefactor) 1884
- 23 William Butterfield (1st Architect of the Cathedral) 1900
- 26 Robert Anthony Dwyer (Congregation, Server, Benefactor) 2003
- 27 Winifred Walton Anderson (Congregation) 1981
Colin Archibald Campbell Ross (3rd Cathedral Organist, 1947-1951) 1993

NOTICES

We are delighted you have joined our service If you have any questions and would like to speak to a staff member, please phone the Cathedral office 9653 4333. If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please fill out a Welcome Card available from the back of the Cathedral, so we can keep in touch with you.

Lent Study You are invited to participate in the Cathedral's Lent Bible Studies. You can choose to come at either 9.15am or 11.45am on Sundays. We meet in the David Penman Room. There is a core of regulars but we very much welcome newcomers, even if you can only come for one Sunday. This Lent we will be going through "Called to Care" by Jo Knight, CEO of Anglican Overseas Aid. Copies are available from the Cathedral shop for the discounted price of \$22. Jo herself has kindly offered to lead both studies this week, Sunday Feb 22. If you are new to the Cathedral, please feel free to come along and introduce yourself.

Lunchtime Concert 1pm 25 February: Duo Calore (Violin and Piano) Violinist Rollin Zhao and pianist Chai Jie Low (Duo Calore) will present a program featuring 'The Infinite Heartbeat' by Australian composer Stuart Greenbaum, inspired by the silence of outer space, and Schumann's turbulent first violin sonata.

Thursdays at Two The first meeting of Thursdays at Two for 2026 will be held at 2.00pm in the Barbara Darling Room on Thursday 26 February. Our speaker will be the Cathedral's new curate, the Revd Simon Li who will share his story leading up to his recent ordination. Simon has a fascinating story to tell, and it should be a most interesting presentation. As always, everyone is welcome to attend, irrespective of age.

King's Singers Wed 4 March 7pm The King's Singers have set the gold standard in a cappella singing for over 50 years. This Grammy Award winning ensemble returns to Melbourne for one performance only on 4 March 2026 at 7pm. The Cathedral is delighted to host the King's Singers for a Lenten programme of Renaissance sacred music, specially chosen for this performance. We're also pleased to inform you that the promoters of this concert, Classical Music Australia, are offering tickets on a **Pay What You Can** basis to ensure the widest possible access, allowing concert-goers to choose a price that suits their circumstances. Tickets are accessible on the web via the QR code: simply select the amount you are able to pay when booking.



Hadyn's *The Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross* 7 March 4pm Queen's College is proud to present a performance of Joseph Haydn's *The Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross* at St Paul's Cathedral. Join us for this rare and wonderful work. The Choir of Queen's College, directed by our former conducting scholar Will Fellows, will present a reflective choral journey between the movements of Haydn's extraordinary Lenten work in the heart of Melbourne.



Book Launch Thursday 5 March 6pm You are warmly invited to the launch of Cathedral congregation member and chorister Peter Sherlock's new book *The Monuments of Westminster Abbey: Power and Memory in Early Modern Britain* at 6pm on Thursday 5 March 2026 at St Paul's Cathedral, after Evensong at 5.10pm. This is the first critical history of the Abbey's 16th and 17th century monuments in which Professor Sherlock reflects on what it means to remember the dead in the sacred space of one of the world's most famous buildings. The book will be launched by Professor Catherine Kovesi (University of Melbourne) and copies will be available for sale for \$60 on the night (or direct from Peter). Please register here: <http://bit.ly/4kJJty3>

READ THE BIBLE WITH US

You may like to use these readings, which the Cathedral Clergy and staff use for daily prayer, as part of your personal devotions throughout the week.

Mon: Pss 124, 125, 126; Hebrews 3.1-15

Tues: Pss 130, 131, 133; Hebrews 3.16-4.10

Wed: Ps 135; Hebrews 4.11-5.6

Thurs: Pss 137.1-6, 138; Hebrews 5.7-6.8

Fri: Ps 140; Hebrews 6.9-18

Sat: Pss 143, 146; Hebrews 6.19-7.10

Next Sunday: Genesis 12.1-5a; Ps 121; Romans 4.1-17; John 3.1-17

THIS WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL

Monday	12.15pm Holy Communion 2.30pm English Conversation Class 5.10pm Evening Prayer in Simple English
Tuesday	12.15pm Holy Communion 5.10pm Choral Evensong
Wednesday	12.15pm Holy Communion 1pm Lunchtime Concert: Duo Calore (Violin and Piano) 5.10pm Choral Evensong
Thursday	12.15pm Holy Communion 2pm Thursdays at Two: The Revd Simon Li – <i>My Story</i> 5.10pm Choral Evensong 7pm Trinity Grammar Induction Service (<i>Open to school community</i>)
Friday	12.15pm Holy Communion 5.10pm Choral Evensong
Saturday	12.15pm Holy Communion 1pm Farsi Fellowship کلیسای جامع پولس رسول ملبورن پذیرای فارسی زبانان عزیز می باشد و جلسات پرستشی به زبان فارسی، هر هفته شنبه ها ساعت ۱۲:۱۵ ظهر برگزار می شود 5pm Welsh Church Service
Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer</i>) <i>Preacher: The Very Revd Dr Andreas Loewe, Dean of Melbourne</i> 10.00am Choral Eucharist <i>Preacher: The Very Revd Dr Andreas Loewe, Dean of Melbourne</i> 1.00pm Mandarin Service 圣保罗大座堂有一个中文群体在每个星期日下午一点正崇拜 <i>Preacher: The Revd Canon Robert Vun</i> 4.00pm Choral Evensong <i>Preacher: The Revd Canon Dr Tim Watson, Precentor</i> 6.00pm Gather at St Paul's Sung Eucharist <i>Preacher: The Revd Josephine Quinlan</i>

CATHEDRAL OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-5pm, Sundays during Services

LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

Sunday 8am & 10am

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