

# Christmas Midnight Mass 2017

The usual greatly expanded CBS Orchestra will accompany favourite Christmas carols for all, and enable this year a rare performance of Schubert's beautiful **Mass in F Major**. Written aged 17, at while still a composition student of the maligned court composer, Anton Salieri, this was Schubert's first big success, performed in his local parish church, where he was hopelessly in love with the first soprano soloist. Understandably, our Midnight Mass soloist, Stephanie Waterhouse, has many starring moments!

Other attractions this year will include first performances of U.S. composer Morten Lauridsen's wonderful **O Magnum Mysterium**, and two new arrangements by John Rutter: **Christmas Lullaby**, and **Three Kings of Orient** (suitably orchestrated with middle Eastern effects!). Claim your seat from 11 pm on Christmas Eve.

## Musical Chairs

The unexpected departure of David O'Beirne earlier this year from his positions as CBS Administrator and tenor soloist has left quite a vacuum. Fortunately, Theo Moolenaar has been employed as soloist, following his vocal studies in Singapore, and the role of Administrator is presently being filled by the present Musical Director and Organist. It is planned that musical and administrative assistance will be provided through new appointments, so some great opportunities await the right combination of talents.

## CBS Music in 2018

Next year, CBS Music continues its popular **Lunch Plus Wednesday At One** recital series, the Bach **St John Passion at 8 pm** on Good Friday, and another Christmas **Messiah** at 2 pm on Sunday, 9 December. Musical activity will focus attention on the rebuilding of our damaged Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Haydn's **Vespers of the Blessed Sacrament** will be given its NZ premiere on Sunday, 24 June, (the Diocesan Feast Day) as part of a **Cathedral Music Festival**. A Lenten concert, featuring Pergolesi's **Stabat Mater** and Bach **Cantata 23**, will be presented on Sunday, March 18, and on 30 September, their Haydn concert will include his **Symphony 102** and **Theresienmesse**. The annual **Christchurch Choral Festival** is planned for 7 pm, Saturday, 25 August.

