



Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament



CBS Music

**Cathedral of the
Blessed Sacrament Music**

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St Mary's Pro-Cathedral

2018 Christchurch Choral Festival

A Christchurch Choral Festival, lasting about one hour, will be held in St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, 373 Manchester Street, at 3 pm on Sunday, 19 August, 2018. The Catholic Pro-Cathedral offers ample space at the front, suitable for large choral forces, and seating is available for an audience of at least 500, although the performers will use a proportion of that during the concert.

This will be the eighth festival in a developing tradition for the city, intended to sustain and strengthen separate choirs, which have lost facilities and performing spaces since the earthquake.

As in past years, individual choirs will be grouped into convenient clusters, performing for up to 10 minutes, and choosing their own items, conductors and accompanists. John Linker will conduct Stanford and Vaughan Williams items from the combined inner-city churches, accompanied by Paul Ellis, and co-ordinated by the Royal School of Church Music. The Community Choirs of Christchurch will be led Sandra Norquay, accompanied by Lynn Good, singing some popular arrangements and music by John Rutter. Items will be heard from the Christchurch Boys' Choir, conducted by Harry Meehan, and the Christchurch Cathedral Choristers, conducted by John Linker. Concert choirs will sing **Alleluia**, by Jacob de Mantua, conducted by Felicity O'Brien, together with selections from Purcell's Dido and Aeneas, and the Mozart **Requiem**.

Admission will be free, and participants will pay nothing. There will be no interval, and the concert should last about one hour. All performers should be in place by 2.30 pm on the day, for rehearsal of the concluding combined item: Handel's **Hallelujah Chorus**. After the concert, it is hoped performers and audience will stay for some social time in the spacious narthex (front porch), and it would be helpful if they could bring a plate.

Please publicise this event as widely as possible.

Don Whelan Coordinator 2/7/2018