



Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament



CBS Music

**Cathedral of the**

**Blessed Sacrament Music**

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Catholic Pro-Cathedral

# Festival Celebration

**“Be Joyful”** is the theme of a concert in the Catholic Pro-Cathedral on Sunday, June 12, at 2 pm, when the CBS Choir and Orchestra present two major works inspired by festival celebrations.

Bach’s **Cantata 30** is suitably titled **“Be Joyful”** (*Freue dich*). It is a mature, large-scale work, with delectable solo arias framed by jubilant opening and closing choruses. He wrote it for performance in Leipzig on St John’s Day, a public holiday still observed in several countries on June 24 as a Feast Day, originally intended to supplant pagan rites celebrating the June solstice.

As in Bach’s time, the soloists will be drawn from the choir. They include Olivia Webb, Louisa Pilkington, Wally Enright, and Matthew Harris. Iselta Allison leads the orchestra, with continuo played by Janet Cubey and Grant Bartley. The musical director is Don Whelan.

Mozart’s **“Haffner” Symphony No. 35** has been popular with audiences since its first performance in Vienna, when the applause was led by a delighted emperor. It takes its name from a Salzburg family which commissioned instrumental music to serenade the ascent to nobility of the son of a former mayor who had helped finance the Mozart’s early European tours. He had already commissioned incidental music, now known as the Haffner Serenade, for a sister’s wedding. Those festivities inspire a country dance minuet and an elegant, melodious andante, but the symphony begins and ends with Mozart’s happiest and most energetic fast movements, which he instructed to be played “as fast as possible”.

The concert will end with peals of Alleluias in Mozart’s **Regina Coeli**, an exuberant work for choir and orchestra originally written for the festive season of Easter

Another *Christchurch Choral Festival* is planned for August 14, at 3 pm.

In place of the usual Haydn symphony and Mass, the CBS choir, orchestra and soloists intend to perform his oratorio **The Creation** at 2 pm on Sunday 2 October, to mark the beginning of a new chapter for their cathedral music in Christchurch. They also hope to tour to Kaikoura, Blenheim and Nelson over Show Weekend, but all musical planning will continue to be conditional on the public health situation.

Handel’s **Messiah** will be performed at 1.30 pm on Sunday, 11 December.

CBS concludes their year with Weber’s **“Jubilee” Mass in G Major** at Christmas Midnight Mass.