



Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament



CBS Music

**Cathedral of the
Blessed Sacrament Music**

Don Whelan *Musical Director*
2 Carruthers St, Christchurch 8041, NZ
phone 64 3 358 5873 mobile 027 458 5873
don.whelan@xtra.co.nz
www.cathedral.org.nz



Catholic Pro-Cathedral

Messiah

Handel's **Messiah** will be presented by CBS Music in St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, 373 Manchester St., on Sunday, December 7, 2025, at 1.30 pm.

Soprano soloist will be Rebecca Ryan, who created headlines singing Handel when she premiered a newly discovered **Gloria**, while a student at the Royal College of Music. Since then, she has performed many oratorios and operas in Europe and NZ. Alto soloist will be Anne Lamont-Low, who is presently based in Montana, U.S. Anne has performed widely in this country and abroad and was a former singer with CBS Music, including several international tours. Our regular **Messiah** soloists will be Wally Enright, Ken Joblin, and Chris Whelan. The Cathedral Orchestra will be led by Natalia M. Lomeiko, with continuo Janet Cubey and Peter Low. Don Whelan will direct. Admission is \$30 and \$25, with Eftpos available.

This annual performance has continued to attract a substantial audience. **Messiah** proved a popular choice on the group's first four European tours, and concerts throughout the Americas. While awaiting a future cathedral building, the spacious and resonant Catholic Pro-Cathedral is proving an excellent concert venue and temporary home for the regular cathedral music programme. The adjacent CBS Music Centre provides a substantial second auditorium, with very good acoustics and dedicated lighting, used for rehearsals and chamber music concerts.

At this year's Christmas Midnight Mass, the CBS Choir and Orchestra will perform Haydn's St Nicholas Mass, and the preceding vigil, beginning at 10.30 pm, will contain the usual congregational carols.

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 1.30 pm on Sunday, 6 December. On February 1 **Summertime Strings** will feature a Bach **Suite** and concertos by Vivaldi and Handel. Further concerts are planned for 1 March and 14 June. The annual Haydn concert will be on 6 September, and the Fauré **Requiem** will honour All Saints Day, 1 November.. The CBS musical year will conclude with a performance of Weber's **Jubilee Mass** at next year's Christmas Midnight Mass.

New members are welcome to join the cathedral choir, which rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 pm in the CBS Music Centre. Sight reading ability is expected. Those interested should contact the musical director, Don Whelan, *ph.* 358 5873.