



Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament



CBS Music

**Cathedral of the  
Blessed Sacrament Music**

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Catholic Pro-Cathedral

# J.S. Bach

# St John Passion

J.S. Bach's **St John Passion** will be performed at 8 pm on Good Friday, April 3, 2026, in the Catholic Pro-Cathedral, Manchester Street. Written for Good Friday, 1724, the Passion is a compact and intensely dramatic setting of St John's description of Christ's last hours.

Soloists will be Emily-Jane Stockman, Hannah Ashford-Beck, Ken Joblin, Wally Enright, and Chris Whelan, with Adrian Lowe as Evangelist. The orchestra will be led by Natalia M. Lomeiko, Continuo will be provided by Janet Cubey, cello, and the performance will be directed by Don Whelan. Programme admission is \$30 and \$25, with Eftpos available at the door. The Easter Sunday morning 11 a.m. Solemn Mass will include Handel's **Worthy Is The Lamb & Amen** chorus, the Byrd motet **Haec Dies**, and Mozart's **Coronation Mass**.

This year, the CBS Orchestra and Choir continue a series of Bach cantata performances, including BWV 147, **Herz und Mund**, and BWV 106 **Actus Tragicus**. On Sunday, June 14 at 2 pm they remember their Cathedral with the spectacular John Rutter anthem **Behold, The Tabernacle of God**, Mozart's gorgeous **Litany of the Blessed Sacrament** and his **Symphony 39**. On 1 November, the Feast of All Saints, they will present at 2 pm the beloved Fauré **Requiem**.

Another **Christchurch Choral Festival** is planned for August 9, at 2 pm. The annual Haydn presentation on 21 September, will include his **Salve Regina**, **Symphony 98**, and **Heiligmesse**. The traditional CBS **Messiah** will be at 1.30 pm on Sunday, December 6, and Christmas Midnight Mass will acknowledge the Weber bicentennial year with his beautiful **Jubilee Mass**.

The weekly Wednesday at One Pro-Cathedral concert series attracts a large and supportive audience, and presents a variety of soloists, ensembles and orchestras. Performers through March to June include advanced performers from the University School of Music, Renaissance Consort, composer Chris Adams, pianists Anna Maksymova Knap, Amelia Lin and Anya Fang, violin soloist Mark Menzies, singers Alexandra Hope Watson and Hannah Ashford-Beck, and talented students from St Andrew's College and Christ's College.

The cathedral musicians maintain an extensive repertoire of masses and motets, sung each Sunday at the 11 a.m. Solemn Choral Mass. New members are welcome to the 7.30 pm Wednesday evening rehearsal at the Catholic Pro-Cathedral. Sight reading ability is expected. Those interested are invited to contact the CBS Musical Director, Don Whelan, phone 358-5873.