

JUBILATE SINGERS
PRESENTS

Jubilate
SINGERS
JOY IN SINGING

four funerals and a wedding

“music to die for”



Conductor:

Philip Norman

Saturday
2 May
7.30pm

Knox Church
28 Bealey Avenue

\$35 Adults \$20 Students
(Free programme &
supper included)

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/nz/BCET
or cash at the door



Pub
Charity.
Limited

www.jubilate.org.nz



four funerals

and a

wedding

“music to die for”

**Jubilate Singers conducted by Philip Norman,
accompanied by Daniel Cooper, Knox Church,
2 May 2026, 7.30pm.**

Some of the most uplifting music throughout history has been composed in memory of a departed soul. In this concert the Jubilate Singers have found the perfect excuse for a programme of ‘music to die for’ presented under the fun title ‘Four Funerals and a Wedding’.

The first ‘funeral’ is a celebration of the living, of the talents of Christchurch composer Richard Oswin, hale and hearty and singing in our bass section. His ‘Mass’ composed 20 years ago was for no body in particular, or at least none that has been found, and, judging from the exuberance of the well-liked Sanctus, neither has it been missed.

The second funeral features the first movements of the closing work of Spanish composer Tomas Victoria’s output, written in 1605 for the Dowager Empress Maria of Spain. Victoria’s ‘Officium Defunctorum’ is widely regarded as one of the top ten requiem masses of all time.

The third funeral is for peace and decency, written in anguish by Sir Malcolm Tippett after the sinister Kristallnacht of 1938 that heralded World War II. We are singing the five spirituals arranged by Tippett for his secular oratorio ‘A Child of Our Time’.

‘Funeral 4’ is for three deceased composers – decomposers if you like – featuring music written in honour of their work. A motet by William Byrd for his teacher Thomas Tallis precedes a ‘Libera Me’ by Verdi composed for Rossini (later re-used by Verdi in his magisterial *Requiem*), and, simplicity personified, a slither of a requiem by Puccini to mark the fourth anniversary of Verdi’s departure.

The music for the wedding is under wraps, like the traditionally blushing bride, awaiting unveiling at the appropriate hour.