



# Friends Newsletter

St Francis' Choir Inc. 326 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000 Ph. (03) 9663 2495  
Vol. 27 No. 1 March 2018

## Director's Report



Dear Friends,

The choir's 2018 season is off to a good start and we are already busy preparing for Holy Week and Easter which are relatively early this year.

Last year was a year of significant beginnings and endings. It was a great joy to celebrate the ordination to the priesthood of Ben Ho, SSS in late November. Ben is the first member of the Australian province of the Blessed Sacrament Congregation to be ordained a priest in nearly twenty years.

The combined voices of the St Francis' Choir and the St Francis' Youth Choir together with Canzona Brass provided the festive music for the ceremony, thoughtfully presided over by Bishop Terry Curtin.



The following day, Ben presided over his first Mass at the 11.00am celebration for Christ the King. This was the choir's annual reunion Mass and the setting was Haydn's stirring *Mass in Time of War*.





*L-R: Tony Way, Margaret and Roger Heagney and Anthony Halliday.*

Apart from the uplifting music and the celebration of a new priestly ministry, the occasion was also a poignant one as Roger Heagney, the choir's director emeritus signalled this would be his last public performance at St Francis', bringing to a close half a century of devoted service to our church.

It was good to honour both Ben and Roger not only during the liturgy, but also at the lunch afterwards where so many present and former choristers, together with the friends of the choir were able to gather. Roger was presented with a crystal decanter to honour the occasion, but quite unexpectedly I was honoured with a special presentation when Roger gave me his baton. Thank you, Roger for such a moving gesture! We wish Roger and Margaret every blessing as they continue to enjoy life and the blessing of family and friends. Roger's musical legacy will continue to live on through his many compositions and also through the many musicians and choristers he has inspired over the years.

Looking forward, we are currently advertising choir scholarships. With the support of the choir foundation, we are able to offer a number of generous scholarships, which we hope will attract some additional talent to our ranks and provide an enjoyable and valuable musical and liturgical experience. Should you know anyone who might be interested in the scholarships, please encourage them to contact me.

## Future choristers?



*L-R: Larissa Cairns, Ruby, Gilbert and Paul Montgomery.*

Another pleasing aspect of choir life at the moment is the emergence of what we hope will be the next generation of choristers. Larissa, Dina, Feby and Aleksis are all proud parents and we hope that their young children will in due course become singers themselves!

The other form of new life we are about to celebrate is contained in the paschal mystery – the dying and rising of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit. We do hope you can join us during Holy Week and Easter for these moving rituals accompanied by glorious music.

The choir joins with me in wishing you every blessing over the coming months and thanks you for your ongoing support – we are very grateful!

*Tony Way  
Director of Music*



*L-R: Elinor, Aleksis, Theodore and Feby Hughes.*



## In Brief

Welcome back to all our Friends and to another busy and exciting year of wonderful Liturgical Music at St. Francis. As you can see from the music list, the coming Easter Celebrations

require a huge commitment from the Choir. Your ongoing support is greatly valued by the Choir as it not only helps financially, but is a tangible acknowledgment of your appreciation of all the effort that the Choir makes to maintain the quality of music at St. Francis.

**This being the first Newsletter for 2018 means that the Annual Subscriptions are now due.** Please fill in the form attached and return your subscription as soon as possible. If you are able to make a donation in addition to your subscription we would be most grateful.

In conclusion, on your behalf, congratulations to Father Ben Ho SSS whose ordination was indeed a joyous occasion, as Tony noted the first Blessed Sacrament ordination in many years.

*Marilyn Jamieson*

## Music program February – June 2018

The choir sings regularly at the 11.00am Sunday solemn Eucharist unless otherwise indicated. Occasionally, due to unforeseen circumstances, this program may be subject to change.

|                    |                                     |                                              |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| March 11<br>Lent 4 | O. de Lassus<br>G. P. da Palestrina | Missa quinti toni<br>Super flumina Babylonis |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|

|                    |                         |                                              |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| March 18<br>Lent 5 | W. Byrd<br>Q. Gasparini | Mass for four voices<br>Adoramus te, Christe |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------|

### HOLY WEEK & EASTER

|                                    |                                        |                                               |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| March 25<br>Passion/Palm<br>Sunday | C. Willcock<br>G. Malcolm<br>P. Casals | Trocaire<br>Ingrediente Domino<br>O vos omnes |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

|                                       |                                                            |                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 29<br>Holy Thursday<br>(6.00pm) | R. Heagney<br>M. Duruflé<br>J. Kuhnau<br>T. L. da Victoria | Missa Castanea<br>Ubi caritas<br>Tristis est anima mea<br>Tantum ergo |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                     |                                                                       |                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 30<br>Good Friday<br>(3.00pm) | P. Casals<br>G. P. da Palestrina<br>T. L. da Victoria<br>Q. Gasparini | O vos omnes<br>Popule meus<br>Eram quasi agnus<br>Adoramus te, Christe |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The office of Tenebrae will be celebrated at 8.00pm.

|                                                              |                                                     |                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 31<br>Easter Vigil<br>(8.00pm)<br>(with Canzona Brass) | R. Heagney<br>S. Scheidt (arr. Way)<br>A. Scarlatti | Mass for a Jubilee<br>Surrexit Christus hodie<br>Exultate Deo |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                         |                                          |                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 1<br>Easter Sunday<br><br>(with the Chamber Strings of Melbourne) | J. Haydn<br>W. A. Mozart<br>G. F. Handel | Missa brevis S. Joannis de Deo<br>Laudate Dominum<br>Hallelujah! |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|

### THE SEASON OF EASTER

|                     |                                                                   |                                 |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| April 8<br>Easter 2 | K. Jenkins<br>(St Francis' Youth Choir directed by Rhys Arvidson) | The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|

|                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 15<br>Easter 3                                                | A. Dvořák<br>Chant/P. Ford<br>M. Shaw                                  | Mass in D<br>Springs of water<br>With a voice of singing               |
| April 22<br>Easter 4                                                | A. Gretchaninov<br>C.-M. Widor                                         | Missa festiva<br>Surrexit a mortuis                                    |
| April 29<br>Easter 5                                                | R. Proulx<br>D. Fellows<br>L. King                                     | Mass for the City<br>Springs of water<br>Let us love in deed and truth |
| May 6<br>Easter 6                                                   | C. Saint-Saëns<br>T. Savoy<br>J. Ireland                               | Messe à quatre voix, Op. 4<br>Springs of water<br>Greater love         |
| May 13<br>Ascension                                                 | A. Gabrieli (arr. Heagney)<br>T. L. da Victoria<br>R. Vaughan Williams | Missa brevis<br>Vidi aquam<br>O clap your hands                        |
| May 20<br>Pentecost<br>(with Canzona Brass)                         | O. de Lassus<br>A. Salieri                                             | Missa vinum bonum et suave<br>Veni Creator Spiritus                    |
| May 27<br>Trinity                                                   | R. Heagney<br>W. A. Mozart                                             | Eymard Mass<br>Benedictus sit Deus, K. 117                             |
| June 3<br>Corpus Christi<br>(with the Symphonia of Melbourne)       | F. Schubert<br>C. Mawby                                                | Mass in G<br>Ave verum corpus                                          |
| June 10<br>Ordinary 10                                              | R. R. Terry<br>W. Mathias                                              | Mass in C (Mass of St Dominic)<br>As truly as God is our father        |
| June 17<br>Ordinary 11                                              | C. Willcock<br>R. Vaughan Williams                                     | Missa Magis<br>O taste and see                                         |
| June 24<br>St John the Baptist<br>(with the Symphonia of Melbourne) | W. A. Mozart<br>W. A. Mozart                                           | Missa brevis, K. 194<br>Inter natos mulierum, K. 72                    |

## St Francis' Choir. A brief history.

*St Francis' Choir gave its first performance on 23 October 1845 at the official opening of St Francis' Church, the first Catholic church of the infant colony and today, Melbourne's oldest building. The erection of the church, designed by Samuel Jackson, had been an ecumenical project that took six years to complete. St Francis' became the cathedral of Melbourne in 1848 and remained so until the new St Patrick's Cathedral was ready in 1869.*

*At the height of the Victorian era the choir was at the forefront of musical excellence in Melbourne with its own orchestra frequently combining with visiting opera*

*companies and welcoming such famous artists as Anna Bishop, Amy Castles and Nellie Melba.*

*In 1961 the choir was reformed as a mixed voice group by Rev. Ernest Rayson, SSS. He was succeeded as Director in 1967 by Roger Heagney and in 1998 by Tony Way. Orchestral Masses by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Gounod, Fauré and many others remain an important aspect of the choir's work. The choir has premiered works by many Australian composers and has undertaken two highly successful tours of Europe.*

**St Francis' Church:** [www.stfrancismelbourne.org](http://www.stfrancismelbourne.org)  
**St Francis' Choir:** [www.stfranciscoir.org.au](http://www.stfranciscoir.org.au)  
**e-mail:** [stfmusic@blessedsacrament.com.au](mailto:stfmusic@blessedsacrament.com.au)

# The Friends of St Francis Choir

Become a Friend of the Choir. The Friends form a large and diverse group of people who give financial and practical support to the Choir.

As a member of the Friends, you will enjoy:

*a quarterly newsletter*

*choir concerts*

*a special Annual Friends' Luncheon*

*discounts when engaging the choir*

*invitations to attend the choir's social activities*

*and the company of some wonderful people.*

**For information**

Ph. (03) 9663 2495

St Francis' Church: [www.stfrancismelbourne.org](http://www.stfrancismelbourne.org)

St Francis' Choir: [www.stfrancischoir.org.au](http://www.stfrancischoir.org.au)

e-mail: [stfmusic@blessedsacrament.com.au](mailto:stfmusic@blessedsacrament.com.au)

**To join or renew the Friends complete the form below and send to:**

The Secretary

St Francis' Choir

326 Lonsdale Street

MELBOURNE VIC 3000



---

## Membership and Donations to the The Friends of St Francis' Choir Inc.

Please tick ✓ the appropriate boxes.

**Life Membership:** \$500

**Annual Subscriptions:** Individual \$25  Family \$50  Concession \$15

**Tax Deductible Donations:** \$25  \$50  \$100  \$500  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Method:** Cheque  Money Order  Mastercard  Visa

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Authorisation \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact details:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Work \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

---