SAINT FIN BARRE'S
CATHEDRAL · CORK

Sunday 22nd November 2026
Christ the King
Choral Evensong - 3.30pm
Sung by the Cathedral Choir

Choral Evensong is essentially a service of reflection, leaving ourselves open so that God may speak to us through the psalms, readings and canticles, which are the core of the service. In the Anglican tradition the music finds its natural setting in the office of Evensong, a combination of the ancient monastic offices of Vespers and Compline.

There are no announcements during the service. Please join in all spoken parts (in bold print) and in the singing of the hymns (from the green hymn book) and follow the rubrics (in red print) which direct you when to sit and stand.

Stand for the
HYMN OF THE PROCESSION - 433

GREETING
The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

PENITENCE
The Invitation to Penitence is read, after which all kneel and say
Almighty and most merciful Father; **We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

THE ABSOLUTION
Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

THE LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father, **who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE PRECES

Martin Neary (b. 1940)

Cantor: O Lord, open thou our lips
Choir: and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Cantor: O God, make speed to save us.
Choir: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Stand

Cantor: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
Choir: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Cantor: Praise ye the Lord.
Choir: The Lord's name be praised.

All sing

THE OFFICE HYMN - 129

Sit

PSALM 93

1. The Lord is King, and hath put on glorious apparel :
the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength.
2. He hath made the round world so sure :
that it cannot be moved.
3. Ever since the world began hath thy seat been prepared :
thou art from everlasting:
4. The floods are risen, O Lord, the floods have lift up their voice :
the floods lift up their waves.
5. The waves of the sea are mighty, and rage horribly :
but yet the Lord, who dwelleth on high, is mightier.
6. Thy testimonies, O Lord, are very sure :
holiness becometh thine house for ever.

Gloria

THE FIRST LESSON - 2 Samuel 23: 1-7

Stand

Magnificat *George Dyson (1883 - 1964) in F*

The Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his hand-maiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessèd. For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever. *Gloria.*

Sit

THE SECOND LESSON - Matthew 28: 16-20

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *George Dyson (1883 - 1964) in F*

The Song of Simeon

Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel. *Gloria.*

All say

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, **the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE LESSER LITANY *Martin Neary (b. 1940)*

Cantor: The Lord be with you
Choir: and with thy Spirit.

Cantor: Let us pray. *Kneel*

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Choir sings the LORD'S PRAYER followed by the VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

Cantor: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us
Choir: and grant us thy salvation.

Cantor: O Lord, guide and defend our rulers
Choir: and mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Cantor: Endue thy ministers with righteousness
Choir: and make thy chosen people joyful.

Cantor: O Lord, save thy people
Choir: and bless thine inheritance.

Cantor: Give peace in our time, O Lord,
Choir: because there is none other that fighteth for us but only thou, O God.

Cantor: O God, make clean our hearts within us
Choir: and take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect of the Day
Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Peace
O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels and all just works do proceed; give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

For Aid Against All Perils
Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord: and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Anthem *Sit.*
O God, thou art my God: early will I seek thee. My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee: in a barren and dry land where no water is. Thus have I looked for thee in holiness: that I might behold thy power and glory. For thy loving-kindness is better than the life itself: my lips shall praise thee. As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner: and lift up my hands in thy Name. Because thou hast been my helper: therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice. Hallelujah.

Words: Psalm 63: 1-5, 8; Music: Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

The Prayers *Kneel*

Hymn 345 *Stand*

Closing Prayer *and* **Blessing**

Organ Voluntary Fugue in C, BWV 545 – *J. S. Bach (1685-1750)*

Please remain seated in silence until the Organ Voluntary has ended.

Sunday Afternoon Service Arrangements - November/December 2026

Sunday 29th November - 3.30pm:	First Sunday of Advent - Advent Carols in Procession
Sunday 6th December - 3.30pm:	Second Sunday of Advent - Choral Evensong
Sunday 13th December - 3.30pm:	Third Sunday of Advent - Choral Evensong
Sunday 20th December - 4.00pm:	Fourth Sunday of Advent - Nine Lessons and Carols