

Holy Eucharist

27 November 2022 | 7.00 am, 11.00 am

Advent Sunday



Synod of the Diocese of West Malaysia

St Mary's Cathedral

Making disciples of Jesus Christ

Hymn: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Laurentius Laurenti, 1700

Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain
proclaim the Bridegroom near;
go forth, as he approaches,
with alleluias clear.

The marriage feast is waiting;
the gates wide open stand,
Arise, O heirs of glory;
the Bridegroom is at hand.

You saints, who here in patience
your cross and suff'rings bore,
shall live and reign forever
when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
the Lamb you shall behold,
in triumph lay before him
your shining crowns of gold.

Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for,
above this shadowed sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption
that sets your people free.

Public Domain

Introduction

Prayer of Preparation

(Please kneel or be seated)

**All: Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Minister: Our Lord Jesus Christ said:
The first commandment is this:
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.
You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.'
The second is this:
'Love your neighbour as yourself.'
There is no other commandment
greater than these.
On these two commandments
hang all the law and the prophets.

All: **Lord have mercy upon us and write your law
in our hearts by your Holy Spirit.**

Collect

Collect for Advent Sunday

All: Almighty God

**Give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light
now in the time of this mortal life
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility
so that on the last day,
when He shall come again
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal
through him who is alive
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and forever.
Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

(Please be seated)

¹ The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,

³ and many peoples shall come, and say:
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go forth the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

At the end of the reading the reader says

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading: Romans 13:11-14

(Please be seated)

¹¹ Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

At the end of the reading the reader says

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 24:36-44

After the reader announces the reading (the people all standing up), all shall say

Glory to Christ our Saviour

³⁶ “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷ For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴² Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

At the end of the reading the reader shall say

This is the Gospel of Christ

All shall respond

Praise to Christ our Lord

Sermon: The Coming Day Of Christ

Romans 13:11-14

[Main idea] Believers live for the Day Christ comes, not for this world of night.

- i) Expect the Night to end

- ii) Evangelize, because Night will end

- iii) Endure through the Night

- iv) Encourage each other to live for the Day

The Nicene Creed

(Please stand)

**All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
one in being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered, died and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in fulfilment of the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified,
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

(Please kneel or be seated)

Leader: In joyful expectation of his coming again,
we pray to Jesus, saying,
Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for the church throughout the world...

prayers for the church in other nations

prayers for churches in our province and diocese

prayers for our cathedral

Help us to live in the light of your coming
and give us a longing for your rule.

Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for the nations of the world...

prayers for the nations

prayers for our nation

Lord Jesus, King of Kings,
before you rulers will stand in silence.

For you come to judge the earth.

Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for those who are sick or in grief...

*prayers for the sick and suffering
prayers for those who mourn the death of loved ones
(and thanksgiving for their lives)*

Hasten the day when sickness and death
shall be no more,
and there shall be no more mourning,
or crying or pain,
when the old order of things is done away.
Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: Come to us from heaven,
to lift us up to meet you,
and to be with you in glory
where you live and reign,
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Leader: May the Lord, when he comes,
find us watching and waiting.

All: **Amen.**

The Peace

(Please stand)

The Greeting of Peace is introduced in these or other suitable words:

Minister: We are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

All may exchange a sign of peace (please avoid physical touch while doing so in this time.)

Hymn: The Advent Of Our King

Charles Coffin, 1676-1749

The advent of our King
our prayers must now employ,
and we must hymns of welcome sing
in strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son
incarnate deigns to be;
himself a servant's form puts on,
to set his servants free.

Daughter of Sion, rise
to meet thy lowly King;
nor let thy faithless heart despise
the peace he comes to bring.

As judge, on clouds of light,
he soon will come again,
and his true members all unite
with him in heaven to reign.

All glory to the Son
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever One,
through all eternity.

Public Domain

Prayer of Penitence and Confession

The minister may use this or another call to confession

Minister: Brothers and sisters: as we come together to share in the holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ, the Scriptures urge us to examine our lives and repent of our sins. As we do so, let us be thankful that God the Son humbled himself, becoming man, to die for us on the Cross. And by the shedding of his precious blood, he obtained for us forgiveness of sins, and life with him forever. In remembrance of his death, and as a pledge of his love, Jesus instituted this holy sacrament, to our great and endless comfort.

You, then, who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, seek to live in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from now on in his holy ways, draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort. But first, let us make our humble confession to almighty God.

(Please kneel or be seated)

All: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father

**We admit that we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
and deserve your just punishment.**

**We truly repent and are sorry
for what we have done.**

Have mercy on us, merciful Father.

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,**

forgive us all that is past,

**and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.**

Amen.

The minister declares God's forgiveness

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Then the minister shall say,

Hear these words of comfort in the Gospel:

God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that
whoever believes in him should not perish but have
eternal life.

(John 3:16)

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

(1 Timothy 1:15)

The Eucharist

(Please remain kneeling or seated)

Minister: The Lord is here.

All: **His Spirit is with us.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Minister: It is indeed right it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks
because you sent him to redeem us
from sin and death,
and to make us heirs of everlasting life;
that when he shall come again in power
and great triumph to judge the world,
we may, with joy, behold his appearing,
and in confidence may stand before him saying:

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Glory to you O Lord Most High.**

This Prayer of Humble Access may be said by all

**All: We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord,
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that we may evermore dwell in him
and he in us.
Amen.**

The Minister prays

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father,
who in your tender mercy gave your only Son
Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross
for our redemption;
who made there,
by his one oblation of himself once offered,
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world;
and who instituted, and in his holy gospel
commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death
until his coming again:
Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that we who receive
these gifts of your creation,
this bread and this wine,
according to your Son our Saviour
Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers, by faith,
of his most blessed body and blood:

who, in the night he was betrayed,
took bread, and when he had given you thanks,
he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying,
“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way, after supper,
he took the cup, and when he had given you thanks,
he gave it to them saying,
“Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins;
do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.”

All: **Amen.**

The Distribution

Minister:

Eat and drink this in remembrance that Christ died
for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith with
thanksgiving.

Hymn: Psalm 122

The Scottish Psalter

I joyed when to the house of God,
Go up, they said to me.
Jerusalem, within thy gates
our feet shall standing be.

Jerus'lem, as a city, is
compactly built together:
Unto that place the tribes go up,
the tribes of God go thither:

To Isr'el's testimony, there
to God's name thanks to pay.
For thrones of judgment, ev'n the thrones
of David's house, there stay.

Pray that Jerusalem may have
peace and felicity:
Let them that love thee and thy peace
have still prosperity.

Therefore I wish that peace may still
within thy walls remain,
And ever may thy palaces
prosperity retain.

Now, for my friends' and brethren's sakes,
Peace be in thee, I'll say.
And for the house of God our Lord,
I'll seek thy good alway.

© 2001 Music for the Church of God
Used by permission. CCLI License No. 332301

Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Latin Advent Antiphons, tr. J.M. Neale

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave:

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight:

O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery:

O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe:

Public Domain

Prayers of Response

(Please kneel or be seated)

**All: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever.
Amen.**

**All: Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food
of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out into the world
in the power of your Spirit,
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

Announcements

The Blessing

The gathering ends with a blessing.

Minister: Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from your path,
and make you ready to meet him
when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God Almighty:
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All: **Amen.**

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Hymn: Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
robbed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the Tree,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
Claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Public Domain

Connect with us

Thank you for joining our service. If you would like for us to get in touch with you, or have any feedback for us, please fill in our Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect

Giving

Online transfer

Bank name: **Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Bhd**

Account name: **St Mary's Cathedral**

Account number: **312 142 334 691**

Recipient reference: If giving a pledge, enter ***your 3-digit pledge number***.
Otherwise, enter **Online Service** or the service you normally attend.

For one-off giving, please email the bank-in slip or online transfer receipt to: **collections@stmaryscathedral.org.my**

E-wallet

Scan the following QR code using any e-wallet app (Touch n Go / GrabPay / Boost). Be sure to confirm "St Mary's Cathedral" is listed as the payee.



St Mary's Cathedral

Note: This method of giving is analogous to putting cash into the offertory bag/box. Your donation will go to the General Fund. You will not be given a receipt. Do not use this to give a pledge.

Details on our webpage: stmarys.my/give

Onsite & Online Services

Here are the details of our English onsite services on Sundays:

- Liturgical Services – 7.00 am, 9.00 am, 11.00 am
- Contemporary (SMACC) Services – 11.00 am, 5.00 pm

If you are joining us online on Sundays, the Liturgical service will be livestreamed at 9.00 am.

More information about our services can be found here:

stmarys.my/services

Carpark Booking

Please visit stmarys.my/booking to book a carpark on Sundays at the Royal Selangor Club or at the Cathedral, if you need to. There is also an option for you to indicate on the form that you would like to book a parking spot for 3 months. Your car plate number will then be given to the guards. Please note that you will only be allowed in if your car plate number is on the list given to the guards. If you are parking at the Dataran Merdeka Carpark, you do not need to book a carpark. Carparking is free.

Bookings for carparking will open at 2.00 pm on Sunday and close at noon on Friday.

Onsite Service Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help out at our onsite services. If you are a regular at St Mary's Cathedral and would like to volunteer, please fill in the form at stmarys.my/volunteer

Kids' Church

The Kids' Church classes run on Sunday mornings at 10.45 am. The different age groups meet at their respective classrooms on the ground floor of the Cathedral. Parents can pick up their children aged 5-12 at a time announced during the church service, while children aged 3-4 can be picked up after the 11.00 am church service ends.

For more information, you could speak to the Kids' Church teachers or email kidschurch@stmaryscathedral.org.my

A Service of Nine Lessons & Carols

We invite you to join us for a service of Christmas carols and readings from Scripture with a short Christmas message. This will be held on Sunday, 4 December 2022 at 7.30 pm. All are welcome to join us as we rejoice at the birth of Jesus Christ this Christmas season. Light refreshments will be served after the service. The service will also be livestreamed from the Cathedral.

Carolling

We are happy to share the Christmas Message with our brothers and sisters during this Christmas season. If you wish for the Carollers to come over to your place, please let us know by filling in the form at stmarys.my/carolling

Please find the list of areas that we are covering below. If your area is not mentioned here, please drop us a note and we will try our best to accommodate.

- 10 Dec - Ampang / Setapak / Pandan Indah
- 11 Dec - PJ / Subang Jaya / Putra Heights
- 17 Dec - Bangsar / TTDI / Damansara Heights
- 18 Dec - Cheras / Kajang

Should you need any further clarification, please feel free to contact Joyce Yu on 012 225 5277 or the Cathedral Office on 03 2692 8672.

Music Ministry

If you are someone who is following Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, committed to serving Him in St Mary's and interested in serving either in the choir or as an organist at the Liturgical services, please fill in the Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect or let the Cathedral Office know on 03 2692 8672. You will be contacted and furnished with more details by those in charge from the Cathedral.

Ventilation Project

We are thankful to God for all who have contributed in different ways to the project to replace the current air conditioning in the Main Cathedral with air conditioning that pumps in fresh air. This enables our building to have enough ventilation to remain safe, limiting aerosol spread for our elderly and more vulnerable people, while at the same time enabling us to close the doors and turn on the air condition.

You can still give financially towards it. If you would like to do so online you can transfer funds as below:

Bank name: Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Bhd

Account name: St Mary's Cathedral

Account number: 312 142 334 691

Please make sure you put 'Building Fund' in the description.

If you would like to give a cheque, please put it in an envelope marked 'Building Fund' before putting it into the collection box in the Cathedral.

St Mary's Agape Mission School

St Mary's Agape Mission School is now in its 9th year of operation and currently has over 100 students. As such, the school is always on the lookout for volunteers who might be keen to teach the children. If you have a heart for seeing vulnerable children receive an education and would like to find out more about what is involved, please contact Mei Tan on 012 387 3408.

The school is located near Ampang, and the time for volunteering is 9.00 am – 12.00 pm and/or 1.00 – 3.00 pm from Mondays to Thursdays.

The Daily Office

We invite you to join us for the Daily Office – a short daily service with systematic Bible readings and set prayers. This will take place every day at 7.30 am by Zoom (except Sunday).

If you think this would be a helpful part of your daily routine, please join us by simply going to stmarys.my/dailyoffice at about 7.25 am each day for a 7.30 am start. That will take you directly to the Zoom room where the service takes place. The service will finish before 8.00 am.

Pastoral Needs

If you are a regular at St Mary's Cathedral and would like to make an appointment to talk to a pastor, please let us know by filling in a Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect or call the Cathedral Office on 03 2692 8672.

If you are a woman and there are pastoral matters you prefer to talk about with another woman, you can contact Mrs Christine Rajaratnam or Miss Danielle Cheng. If you would like one of them to contact you, please let us know in the same way – you can fill in a Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect or call the Cathedral Office on 03 2692 8672.

If there is a pastoral emergency, you can reach the pastoral team on our Emergency Pastoral Care Hotline: 011 5762 8524.

The Cathedral Electoral Roll

The Cathedral Electoral Roll is revised and updated in December each year.

We encourage all our baptised and confirmed members who come regularly to our church (whether online or onsite) to be on our Electoral Roll. Joining the Electoral Roll will enable you to vote at our Annual General Meetings (AGM).

If you would like to sign up to be on the roll, please fill in the form here: stmarys.my/electoralroll.enrolment

The electoral roll for 2023 will close on 31 December 2022.

Small Groups

Looking to connect with a Christian community? We encourage you to consider joining one of our online or in-person small groups. This is one of the important ways we grow together as a community of God's people as we gather under His Word and seek to encourage one another to persevere in following Jesus.

If you would like to join a small group, please fill in a form at stmarys.my/smallgroups and we'd be happy to help find you one.

Youth Fellowship

Our Youth Fellowship (ages 13-18) meets on Sundays at 2.00 pm. If you would like to join us, please sign up at stmarys.my/youth

Youth Confirmation Programme

If you would like to indicate interest in our Youth Confirmation Programme for your teenager aged 13-17, please let us know at stmarys.my/youthconfirmation and we will inform you when the next one starts.

Subscribe to our Mailing List

To receive emails about latest updates and important news about the Cathedral, fill in the form at stmarys.my/subscribe

Dataran Merdeka Underground Carpark

There is currently free parking at the Dataran Merdeka Underground Carpark until further notice. Please take note that this free parking is available to the public and therefore, no special pass from the Cathedral is needed to park there. If anyone requires you to pay for parking, please take a picture or video of the incident and forward it to office@stmaryscathedral.org.my.

Work Care Panel

We have a panel to help our Cathedral community look for work or advise about work and training opportunities. If you're looking for work and wouldn't mind a helping hand, fill in our Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect, indicating that you would like someone from the Work Care Panel to contact you.

Pastoral Staff Leave

Pastor Dinesh Natorajan is on leave from 27 November – 2 December.

Dean Andrew Cheah is on leave from 28 November – 3 December.