

THE BICENTENNIAL
Christmas
CAROL SERVICE



13 DECEMBER 2019

ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL

*This event is organised by
the Diocese (Anglican Church) of Singapore
and the National Council of Churches of Singapore (NCCS)
in partnership with the Oxford and Cambridge Society of Singapore
to celebrate our Bicentennial and the Christmas season,
remembering God's blessings and favour
upon our beloved nation over the past 200 years.*

*The Service will be anchored by
The Choir of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge,
led by Dr David Skinner,
and The Combined Church Choir of Singapore,
led by Dr Peter Low.*



6.45 PM

ORGAN PRELUDES

Jack Wilson

Wachet auf – J. S. Bach

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella – Trad arr. K. Chapman

Hugh Rowlands

Herzlich tut mit erfreuen – Johannes Brahms

O Sapientia, O Clavis David, O Emmanuel from *Seven O*

Antiphon Preludes – Nico Muhly

Joanna Paul

Paeon on "Divinum Mysterium" – John Cook

Prelude on "Resonet In Laudibus" – Colin Mawby

7.15 PM - PROCESSIONAL CAROL

Once In Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city,
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all
His wondrous childhood,
He would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly mother,
In whose gentle arms He lay:
Christian children all must be,
Mild, obedient, good as He.

For He is our childhood's pattern,
Day by day like us He grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us He knew,
And He feeleth for our sadness,
And He shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above,
And He leads His children on,
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars
His children crowned,
All in white shall wait around.

OPENING WELCOME AND PRAYER

Opening Words - *Revd Canon Terry Wong*

In this Advent season, we prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels: in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture and sing carols of the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

We also gather to give thanks for two hundred years of His favour and blessings on our nation.

Let us make this Cathedral and our nation glad with our carols and songs of praise and prayer.

PART I: LESSONS & CAROLS

- *The Choir of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge*

This segment of Christmas carols and readings, marking the Bicentenary of Singapore, is structured around the traditional services commonly heard in Oxford and Cambridge during the season of Advent. The carols, both for choir and for congregation, include settings by such iconic English composers as William Byrd, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Herbert Howells and John Rutter.

■ Lesson 1: Isaiah 9: 6-7 - Dato' Paul Supramaniam

Vigilate (*William Byrd*)

Vigilate, nescitis enim quando dominus domus veniat,
sero, an media nocte, an gallicantu, an mane.
Vigilate ergo, ne cum venerit repente, inveniat vos
dormientes.

Quod autem dico vobis, omnibus dico: vigilate.

*Watch ye therefore (for you know
not when the lord of the house cometh,
at even, or at midnight, or at the cock crowing,
or in the morning):*

*Watch therefore, lest coming on a sudden,
he find you sleeping.*

And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch.

This Is The Truth Sent From Above

(*Ralph Vaughan Williams*)

This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love;
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all both rich and poor.

And at that season of the year
Our blest Redeemer did appear;
He here did live, and here did preach,
And may thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what he did say.

■ Lesson 2: Isaiah 11: 1- 2, 5 - Bishop Chong Chin Chung

A Spotless Rose (*Herbert Howells*)

A spotless Rose is blowing
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amid the cold, cold winter
And in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
For through our God's great love and might
The blessed babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear: *Congregational*

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
From heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;

And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring;
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing.

For lo!, the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years
Comes round the age of gold
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

■ **Lesson 3: Matthew 2: 1-2, 10-11** - *Dr Lily Neo*

Bethlehem Down (*Peter Warlock*)

"When He is King we will give Him the Kings' gifts,
Myrrh for its sweetness, and gold for a crown,
Beautiful robes," said the young girl to Joseph,
Fair with her firstborn on Bethlehem Down.

Bethlehem Down is full of the starlight,
Winds for the spices, and stars for the gold,
Mary for sleep, and for lullaby music
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

When He is King, they will clothe Him in gravesheets,
Myrrh for embalming, and wood for a crown,
He that lights now in the white arms of Mary
Sleeping so lightly on Bethlehem Down.

Here He has peace and a short while for dreaming,
Close huddles oxen to keep Him from cold,
Mary for love, and for lullaby music
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

Sir Christémas (*William Mathias*)

Nowell, nowell.
Who is there that singeth so, Nowell, nowell?
I am here, Sir Christémas.
Welcome, my lord Sir Christémas!
Welcome to all, both more and less!
Come near, come near, Nowell, nowell.

Dieu vous garde, beaux sieurs, tidings I you bring:
A maid hath borne a child full young,
Which causeth you to sing: Nowell, nowell.

Christ is now born of a pure maid;
In an ox-stall he is laid,
Wherefore sing we at abrayde: Nowell, nowell.

Buvez bien, buvez bien par toute la compagnie.
Make good cheer and be right merry,
And sing with us now joyfully: Nowell, nowell.
Nowell.

■ **Lesson 4: Luke 2: 1-7** - *Ms Swarna Esther Pavitra*

Shepherd's Pipe Carol (*John Rutter*)

Going through the hills on a night all starry
On the way to Bethlehem,
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping
On the way to Bethlehem.

Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King
Is come to bring us peace on earth,
And He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."

"Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily
On the way to Bethlehem,
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely
On the way to Bethlehem?"

Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
"Dance and sing for the joy that Christ the newborn King
Is come to bring peace on earth,
And He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."

"None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely
On the way to Bethlehem;
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies
When I get to Bethlehem."

Angels in the sky came down from on high,
Hovered over the manger where the babe was lying
Cradled in the arms of his mother Mary,
Sleeping now at Bethlehem.

"Where is the new King, shepherd boy piping merrily,
Is He there at Bethlehem?"
"I will find Him soon by the star shining brightly
In the sky o'vr Bethlehem."

Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the king of Kings
Is come to bring us peace on earth,
And He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."

"May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily,
Come with you to Bethlehem?
Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle,
Is it far to Bethlehem?"

Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King
Is born in the stable yonder, born for you and me."

■ **Lesson 5: John 1: 1-4, 9-14** (Christmas Gospel)
- Monsignor Philip Heng

O Come All Ye Faithful: *Congregational*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God, in the highest:
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.



Courtesy of Landmark Books

PART II: TELLING THE SINGAPORE STORY

- *The Singapore Combined Church Choir*

"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain." Psalm 127:1

The second part of tonight's programme traces the points of thanksgiving for the many blessings of God upon our nation.

Act 1: Early Beginnings

The influx of many immigrants laid the foundation for a multicultural Singapore: Arabs, Armenians, Baweanese, Bugis, Chinese, English, Gujaratis, Javanese, Jews, Minangs, Parsis, Scots...

Adiemus

Adiemus, by the Welsh composer Karl Jenkins, is a "glossolalia" of sounds that have no linguistic meaning but when put together judiciously creates a beautiful symphony of sound. Adiemus symbolically reflects the seemingly random influx of diverse cultures and languages which shaped Singapore.

European Carols

The influence of the Christian faith increased with the arrival of European traders and travellers like the Portuguese, Dutch and British in the 15th century onwards. The new sounds of European carols and chants were added to the native sounds of Singapura.

Puer Natus Est Nobis is a Gregorian chant and the title in Latin means "a boy is born for us."

Puer natus est nobis,
Et filius datus est nobis:
Cuius imperium super humerum eius:
Et vocabitur nomen eius, magni consilii angelus.
Cantate Domino canticum novum:
Quia mirabilia fecit.

*A child is born to us,
And a Son is given to us:
Whose government is upon His shoulder:
And His Name shall be called, the Angel of Great Counsel.
Sing ye to the Lord a new song for He has done wonderful things.*

Beijai O Menino is a popular traditional Portuguese song.

Beijai o Menino,
Beijai o agora,
Beijai o Menino
De Nossa Senhora.

Beijai o Menino,
Beijai o no pé,
Beijai o Menino
Que de São José.

Todos os pastores
Vão a Belém
P'ra ver o Menino
Que a Senhora tem.

*Kiss the Holy Child,
Kiss Him now!
Kiss the Holy Child
Born from Our Lady.*

*Kiss the Holy Child,
Kiss Him on the foot!
Kiss the Holy Child
From Saint Joseph.*

*All shepherds
Go to Bethlehem
To see the boy
Who praises her.*

Hodie Christus Natus Est (*Jan Pieterzoon Sweelinck*) is a Dutch motet which celebrates the birth of Christ.

Hodie exultant justi, dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Alleluia, Noe.

*This day, just exult, saying:
Glory to God in the highest, Alleluia, Noe.*

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen is a well-loved English traditional carol.

God rest you merry, gentlemen
Let nothing you dismay,
Remember, Christ, our Saviour
Was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we had gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

In Bethlehem, in Jewry,
This blessed Babe was born,
And laid within a manger,
Upon this blessed morn,
And still His Mother Mary
Did nothing take in scorn.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Act 2 - A Growing City

The establishment of a free port by the British spurred an increased influx of many Asian migrants. Some were Christian leaders and missionaries who pioneered some of the early educational, medical and social work.

Dayong Sampan is a popular Indonesian folk song. "Sampan" is derived from the Chinese term "三板" (sān bǎn), which means "three boards" or "three planks", a reference to Chinese boats by Western travellers in the 17th Century. It later entered Southeast Asian vocabularies. These "sampans" were an iconic presence in our Singapore River. "Dayong" means "to row" and this song captures the sense of migrants arriving through the waters to the banks of the river.

Dayong sampan, dayong dayong sampan,
Barlaboh tentang bandar China,
Negri Singapura.

Dayong sampan, dayong dayong sampan,
Dayong mendayong sampan sampai Negri Singapura.
Hoi.

*Row the sampan, row row the sampan,
Anchored in the port in a Chinese town,
You have come to Singapore.*

*Row the sampan, row row the sampan,
An oar to row your sampan to Singapore. Hoi.*



All Things Bright And Beautiful is a traditional English children's hymn that is still sung in many churches today. It was sung by children in some Mission Schools with a Singaporean adaptation of some verses. One verse to be sung by the choir tonight will include lyrics which reflect the local scene. In this medley arrangement, the version by Monk subtly modulates into John Rutter's popular rendition.

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

The sparkling azure waters
That our li'l isle surround
The palm fringed sandy beaches
Where life and joy abound.

The red flame of the forest
The wild boars and the bees
The monkeys and the squirrels
That climb the trees with ease.

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

Act 3 - The War Years

Singapore was not immune to the turbulence of the world wars and economic depression of the first half of the 20th century. Finally, bombs fell on our city on the 8th of December 1941.

Silent Night

Japanese

きよし この夜	Kiyoshi kono yoru
星は 光り	Hoshi wa hikari
救いの御子は	Sukui no miko wa
み母の 胸に	Miha wa no mune ni
眠りたもう	Nemurita mou
夢安く	Yume yasuku

Silent night, holy night.
All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin,
Mother and Child
Holy infant,
So tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Pie Jesus - Andrew Lloyd Webber's requiem, is a prayer response to these tragic years of suffering.

Pie Jesu,
Qui tollis peccata mundi
Dona eis requiem.

Agnus Dei,
Qui tollis peccata mundi
Dona eis requiem.
Sempiternam Requiem.

*Merciful Jesus,
Who takes away the sins of the world,
Grant them rest.*

*Lamb of God,
Who takes away the sins of the world,
Grant them rest,
Everlasting rest.*

When the bombings started, the injured were carried into the Cathedral, turning the Nave into a hospital ward. On 15th of February 1942, just after the British surrendered, Bishop Leonard Wilson held an evensong service to give thanks for the end of the war. However, it was the beginning of Japanese occupation. Not knowing then what the future would hold, those at this solemn service entrusted their future into God's hands. The hymn, Praise my Soul the King of Heaven was sung.

The Bishop was questioned a few years later, as to the apparent contradiction of the words of the hymn in the midst of war realities: "Father-like he tends and spares us...In his hands he gently bears us... How can that be true?", the Bishop was asked. He replied, "It means that God cares for us whatever our situation we may be in, His inward peace... courage...this is what we prayed for. That we will come through with honour."

He never knew then, as we do today, how God's grace has brought us through those war years.

Praise My Soul The King Of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
To His feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me His praise should sing?
Alleluia, alleluia,
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise Him, still the same for ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia,
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows.
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia,
Widely as His mercy flows.



Act 4 Post-War Years: Growth and Independence

Post war, independence from the British and finally, separation from Malaya created a deep sense of uncertainty. Faced with a diversity in culture, language, race and religion, the peaceful and rapid growth of Singapore into a confident nation caught everyone by surprise.

Mountain Climb - This Mandarin song by Matthew Leong expresses the uncertainties when Singapore was yet faced with another major uncertainty after separation from Malaya. It was an uphill climb...

上高山，上高山，谁跟我往上爬？
不怕累，不怕跌，
不怕草儿长，不怕山坡斜。
爬上山顶，开开眼界。

*Up the mountain, up the mountain,
who will climb with me?
Not afraid of fatigue, not afraid of falling,
Not afraid of tall grass, not afraid of steep slopes.
When we reach the mountain top, widen our horizons.*

Thaasare Itharaniyai Anbai is a popular Tamil song of praise to God, sung in many Tamil churches.

தாசரே இத்தரணியை அன்பாய்
இயேசுவுக்குச் சொந்தமாக்குவோம்

நேசமாய் இயேசுவைக் கூறுவோம்
அவரைக் காண்பிப்போம்
மாஇருள் நீக்குவோம்
வெளிச்சம் வீசுவோம்

வருத்தப்பட்டு பாரஞ் சுமந்தோரை
வருந்தியன்பாய் அழைத்திடுவோம்
உரித்தாய் இயேசு பாவ பாரத்தை
நமது துக்கத்தை நமது துன்பத்தை சுமந்து தீர்த்தாரே

பசியுற்றோர்க்கும் பிணியாளிகட்கும்
பட்சமாக உதவி செய்வோம்
உசித நன்மைகள் நிறைந்து
தமை மறந்து இயேசு கனிந்து திரிந்தனரே

*O servants of the Lord, let us make this world
A possession of our Lord Jesus.*

*Let us proclaim Jesus in love;
Let us show Him in our lives
Let us eliminate the huge darkness
Let us shine and show light.*

*Let us call with loving compulsion those who labour and
are heavy laden,
Jesus bore all our sins, burdens, sorrows and troubles.*

*Let us feed those who are hungry,
And help with love those suffering from pain, ailments
and illnesses.
Jesus forgot Himself, but was thinking of others
And doing good when He was living in this world.*

Act 5: 200 Years On

*Today, Singapore is a modern city and a home to many.
As we have been richly blessed, in turn, may we be a giving
nation and contribute richly to the nations around us
and to those who have come here from afar.*

Red Dot, It Is Not 'Apologia pro Patria mea' ("in defence of my country") is composed by Dr Peter Low for the Singapore Bicentennial.

*As the Lord surveyed the Earth He had made
A tiny emerald isle He did spy
With little to tell what lay ahead
But right it was in place and clime*

Like the waves that lapped its shores
Men came from near and from afar
For tasks of note or simpler chores
Some just to trade but some for war

Of native princes legends speak
Of fleets Iberian and Dutch as well
Who came this way to fortunes seek
As on this soil their traces tell

Pioneer fathers their homesteads left
In the lands of the dragon and the mammoth beast
In search of home for progeny unborn
And saw right here a real new dawn

Then Raffles came with the might of Britannia
Emboldened by vision great and sound
This yet unpolished gem he did claim
To enhance the realm of the British Crown

With dreams of fortunes to be made
Hordes of hopefuls then arrived
All walks of life, all skills and trades
Their numbers grew, the city thrived

But soon the sons of the Rising Sun
Surmounted 'Fortress' Singapore
And wrest this gem of the British crown
And then renamed it 'Syonanto'

But forces of freedom soon prevailed
As the rays of the rising sun receded
But tarnished now was Britannia's claim
For sons of the soil had seen her shame

Men to the forefront in vibrant white
With flag of red and white sans blue
Crescent and stars hailing vision new
For their island home - a future true

And so they toiled five decades long
With hearts undaunted and effort strong
To house, to school and upward move
And cynics silence, doubters disprove

And so now glistens this ruby bright
Born of spirit and vision right
And glorious strains heard near and far
'Majulah Singapura!'

Home - *This rendition of our popular national song was specially arranged for this Service by Phoon Yu, an organist and composer currently studying at The Juilliard School as a doctoral candidate. It is dedicated to our beloved Prime Minister.*

This is home truly, where I know I must be
Where my dreams wait for me,
where the river always flows
This is home surely, as my senses tell me
This is where I won't be alone,
for this is where I know it's home.

Whenever I am feeling low
I look around me and I know
There's a place that will stay within me
Wherever I may choose to go
I will always recall the city
Know every street and shore
Sail down the river which brings us life
Winding through my Singapore.

Light to the World is a composition by Peter Low and arranged by Eudenice Palaruan. It describes how our city is blessed to be a blessing to the world.

Tiny Bethlehem, 'neath Roman might,
City obscure yet from thee came the Light
Promised through the ages, the answer to all strife.
Gave new understanding and meaning to life.

Come then Lord Jesus and tarry no more.
We're tired of fighting and settling old scores.
Make peace that was promised a reality,
And all men live together in true harmony.

Tiny Singapore now you're living your right
In your own way, you're living the Light.
Diff'rent but equal, for we're the same.
Justice for all, one people, one name.

Lord, may we live this truth for others to see.
May this tiny little red dot Thy beacon be.
Upholding forever what the angels sang:
"Gloria in excelsis and peace to man."

A WORD OF THANKSGIVING - Bishop Terry Kee
Lutheran Church in Singapore
President, National Council of Churches of Singapore

A WORD FROM OUR PRIME MINISTER
- Mr Lee Hsien Loong

FINALE

From our archives: "At the Liberation Service held at the Cathedral soon after the liberation in September 1945, a 120 strong combined church choir sang the "Hallelujah Chorus" with such enthusiasm and joy that every internee present was deeply moved." May we tonight be just as moved as we reflect on His many blessings in our lives.

And The Glory Of The Lord (George Frideric Handel)
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
And all flesh shall see it together;
For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. (Isaiah 40:5)

Hallelujah Chorus (George Frideric Handel)
Hallelujah!
For the Lord God, omnipotent reigneth.
The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ:
And He shall reign forever.
King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
Hallelujah!

BENEDICTION - Bishop Rennis Ponniah
Diocese of Singapore (Anglican)

NATIONAL ANTHEM

ORGAN POSTLUDE
Lim Chin Kai
A Christmas Celebration - Don Phillips





The Choir of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge

Directed by Dr David Skinner

Hugh Rowlands & Jack Wilson, Organ Scholars

It is thought that a dedicated chapel choir at Sidney Sussex must have existed in some form since the foundation of the College on Valentine's Day 1596. Since the admission of women to the college in 1976, the Choir of Sidney Sussex has blossomed into one of the most esteemed choral groups in Oxbridge. In 2009, the American composer Eric Whitacre was appointed as Sidney Sussex's first Composer in Residence; in 2015, that mantle was assumed by British composer and Choir alumnus, Joanna Marsh.

The Choir regularly performs at home and abroad, directed by Dr David Skinner, Fellow and Osborn Director of Music at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and artistic director of the early music ensemble Alamire (www.alamire.co.uk). Recent overseas engagements for the Choir have included tours to the USA, Dubai, Jordan, the Italian Riviera and Spain.

The Choir has made a niche in making professional recordings for specialist markets, including museums, art galleries, and national libraries. Their first recording with the new early music label Obsidian, Thomas Tomkins 'These Distracted Times', was awarded Editor's Choice and CD of the Month in the Gramophone, and they have since gone on to record and tour a number of innovative programmes. The Choir's disc of sacred music by contemporary Roman composer, Claudio Dall'Albero, 'Polyphonia in Excelsis' (Resonus Classics) received glowing

reviews upon its release in 2017: "David Skinner leads his young singers skilfully through these testing yet pleasing pieces that are both refreshingly new and comfortingly familiar." (The Observer)



Dr David Skinner – Director of Music, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge

David Skinner divides his time equally as a scholar and choral director. An engaging presenter he has worked extensively for BBC radio, appearing in and writing a variety of shows on Radio 3 and 4. He acted as music advisor for the Music and Monarchy series on BBC 2 with David Starkey, and was Music Consultant for the BBC4 documentary Evensong with Lucy Worsley.

He has published widely on music and musicians of early Tudor England, and his latest publications include an historical introduction for a facsimile publication of Royal College of Music, MS 1070 – The Anne Boleyn Music Book – as well as a collected edition of Tallis's Latin church music for Early English Church Music (Stainer & Bell).

David is Fellow and Osborn Director of Music at Sidney Sussex College in the University of Cambridge where he teaches historical and practical topics from the medieval and renaissance periods. He directs the Choir of Sidney Sussex College, with whom he has toured and made highly acclaimed recordings, and is frequently invited to lecture, lead workshops and coach choirs throughout Europe and the USA.

Sopranos

Cosima Ballance, Sophie Ellis, Kate Foxton, Saskia Frisby, Emma Grainger, Min Jee Kim

Altos

Charlotte Baily, Persephone Bell, Anna Behrens, Annika Maus, Tristan Selden

Tenors

David Cotter, Jonathan Jolly, Thomas Hillman, Carlos Rodriguez, Harry Vincent

Basses

Theodore Gill, Benjamin Porteous, Edward Stubbs, Mark Thornton, Calum Urquhart

The Singapore Combined Church Choir

Directed by Dr Peter Low
Alphonsus Chern, Organist

The members of this Choir are selected from established church choirs in Singapore. These choirs have played a huge role in the development of church music in our nation, often combining elements of traditional church music with our local and Southeast Asian culture.

The Choir members are from the Cathedral Choir of the Risen Christ, Bukit Batok Presbyterian Church, Fisherman of Christ Church, Crossroads International Church, Changi Bethany Church, Parish of Christ Church, Providence Presbyterian Church, St John's Chapel, St James' Church, Spiritual Grace Presbyterian Church, St George's Church, St Andrew's Cathedral, Wesley Methodist Church, Singapore Bible College Choir and the Christus Cantores.

Now 71, Peter was conferred the National Youth Service Award at the Istana (1979) for his significant contributions to the promotion of Choral Music Excellence in Singapore. He was awarded a full Singapore government scholarship to study Choral Conducting at the Royal Academy of Music (London). In 1996, Peter received the Bene Merenti Award from the Vatican in recognition of his services to the Catholic Church. COMPASS (Composers and Authors Society of Singapore) acknowledged his outstanding contributions in the field of music with the Meritorious Award in 2018. He was elected Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM) by the Governing body of the Academy this year.

For his numerous efforts at fund raising for charitable causes and promoting international goodwill through choral concerts since 1973 he was made a Knight Commander with Star of the Order of St. Gregory by Pope John Paul II in 2003. Similarly, Italy conferred the Ufficiale della Ordine Stella d'Italia in 2014. Peter renders his services pro bono.

He is the Executive Director of his company which has provided services in the areas of Strategic Planning, Creativity and Innovation since 1992.

Sopranos

Vanessa Cheng, Chew Hoon, Maria Chia, Rita Chye, Susan Goh Qiu Hui, Ho Kee Ching, Miana Aprilia Husada, Katherine Jie, Adeline Kwan, Michelle Lee, Lee Wan Ling Cheryl, Li Zhao Feng, Lorraine Low, Jessica Marsha, Angelina Pui, Arasi Santhana, Susan Sengalrayan-Siaw, Wendy Sim, Marilyn Tang, Wendy Wong, Cheryl Zhang

Altos

Yarny Chang, Chee Huijie Angeline, Natalie Chin, Eileen Chiu, Audrie Goh, Elaine Guoh, Belinda Kuek, Lisa Kwok, Justina Lim Lee Khin, Evangeline Lin, Karen Mong, Genevieve Oon, Fiona Pereira, Cindy Dorcas Tan, Michelle Tan, Ann Vargese, Wee Geok Neo Winifred, Yu Chin Yen

Tenors

Michael Francis Chow Ee Lunn, Joseph Frois, Paul Isaac, Mharhomo Kithan, Jonathan Lim, Vincent Loh, Enoch Long Jizhong, Sheila Ong, Adrian Prathama, Christopher Sim, Tan Too Kiang Edward, Wang Xiao Yun, Stevan Lorens Widyasmoro, Wong Chee Kuong, Simon Wong



**Dr Peter Low - Founder & Choral Director,
Cathedral Choir of the Risen Christ**

Since 1956, Peter has served the Catholic Church as a chorister and from 1970 as Founder Director of the Risen Christ Choir which he currently directs at the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd.

Basses

Daniel Ang, Cheng Zhong Yi, Ernest Chew, Sebastian Chew Shoon Shi, Brian Gabriel Chin, Ivan Chin, Mark Chin Yew Wei, Vincent Chiu, Dennis Ng Eng Tat, Samuel Harrison, Enoch Lee, William Moore, Mhathung Odyuo, Rudianto Sugiyarto, Ernest Tan Kay Leng, Joseph Tan Chye Liang, Nicholas Tan Yao Hui, Thomas Tan Eng Tat, Yeoh Hui Hin Charles

Children/Youth

Chow Ming Rui Luke, Philip Paul, Samantha Ho, Sophie Ho, Shanita John, Sarah-Kei Lauw, Kaelyn Ng, Haeley Ng, Maegan Ng, Cadence Nithila, Deborah Obonor, Ashley Oo, Lauren Oo, Celine Octora Sugiyarto, Raeanne Wong

Musicians

Nicolo John Davis, James Felix, Gary Kiewitz, Angela Lim, Lynette Low, Pradyumna Vasant Mahajan, Christopher Sim, Edward Tan, Zhang Boyi

Organists

Joanna Paul (Prelude)

Joanna was a regular Deputy Organist at St Pauls Cathedral and St. Vedast Church in London. She gave Organ & Song recitals in the UK, Canada, Europe & Malaysia. She performed in the presence of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands and Lady Margaret Thatcher. She played with the Singapore Symphony and Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestras. She was soloist in Saint Saens Organ Symphony with The Orchestra of the Music Makers. She sings regularly at the Queen's Birthday Celebrations hosted by the British High Commission and for the Lieder festivals at the Arts House, and as soloist for Celebration Chorus. Joanna recorded a classical organ CD and mentioned in a book called 'City of London Churches' for raising funds for countless charities through her work with children. Joanna is now Organist and Music Director at St. George's Church Singapore.

Alphonsus Chern (The Singapore Combined Church Choir)

Alphonsus began his journey as a church musician at the age of ten at a parish in Toa Payoh. He joined the Risen Christ Choir in 1991 under Dr Peter Low, and became organist at the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd in 2002, where he now plays three services every weekend. He works as a photojournalist with The Straits Times while continuing to serve in the 2nd People's Defence Force, directing the Cathedral Choir of

St Gregory the Great and the Cathedral Organ Scholar Programme, and maintaining a fleet of nearly a hundred church organs in Singapore and the region.

Lim Chin Kai (Postlude)

Lim Chin Kai is the music director of St Andrew's Cathedral since 1992. He also teaches part-time at the Singapore Bible College and the National Institute of Education. He received his Bachelor in Church Music from Singapore Bible College and his Master of Music from University of Louisville, Kentucky, USA.

Hugh Rowlands - Senior Organ Scholar

Hugh Rowlands is the Senior Organ Scholar at Sidney. He began his musical training as a chorister at Westminster Abbey where he sang at numerous special services and state occasions, including the 2011 Royal Wedding and at St Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel in Rome. He then went on to be a music and academic scholar at The King's School, Canterbury. During his gap year he was Organ Scholar at Royal Hospital Chelsea. He appears on two recordings as accompanist to Royal Hospital Choir of previously unrecorded choral works by Ralph Vaughan Williams on Albion and a recording of music for Remembrance on SOMM. He takes a keen interest in new music and has appeared with the London Contemporary Orchestra at London's Union Chapel, the Paris Philharmonie and London's Barbican Centre.

Jack Wilson - Graduate Organ Scholar

Jack Wilson is the Graduate Organ Scholar at Sidney, having previously been Organ Scholar and Acting Assistant Organist at Belfast Cathedral. Jack graduated with an honours degree in music from the Queen's University of Belfast in July 2019, and is currently studying for his Masters degree in music. Jack is also one of the accompanists for the St John's Voices, who sing Evensong each Monday in the St John's Chapel.

Special Thanks:

Susan Siaw, Dr Margaret Chen, Loraine Muthiah, Mabel Lim and Jowenna Quek, *programming & administration*
Matthew Peter & team, *audio visual*
ILLUMINATE Production, *lights*
Pei Lee and Keith Tan, *narration*
Joyce Ho and Daniel Ng, *design*
Bell Ringers of St Andrew's Cathedral
...and the rest of the staff of St Andrew's Cathedral

The Organisers

The National Council of Churches of Singapore is a fellowship of churches embracing all denominations and church traditions, including many independent churches. Established in 1948, it promotes Christian unity in Singapore as well as represents churches in the public square.

The Anglican Diocese of Singapore was established in 1909 to serve the needs of a growing Anglican community. It has been active in the fields of education, medical work and community service. As of 2019, the Diocese consists of 27 local parishes and exercises ecclesiastical jurisdiction over six deaneries in Asia, namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam.

The Oxford and Cambridge Society of Singapore represents the 3,000 plus alumni of both Cambridge and Oxford Universities resident here. Oxbridge alumni have been active in leadership roles in Singapore since the 1800s. The Society promotes professional, intellectual, cultural and sporting activities, signature Fireside Chats with thought leaders and supports causes of benefit to Singapore.

The Host and Venue

St Andrew's Cathedral is located on land allocated by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1822. As a national monument, she has played important roles through the different seasons in the life of this city, providing a gateway into the living history of what was once a fishing-trading port. Being the seat of the Bishop of Singapore, she is at the heart of the work of the Anglican Church here. She is also home to a thriving multi-racial and multi-ethnic Christian community which worships weekly in different languages. Her ministry extends beyond our shores to countries in the region.

Photo by Edwin Arokiyam





The Esplanade from Scandal Point by John Turnbull Thomson, 1851, currently on display at the National Museum of Singapore's Singapore History Gallery. Courtesy of the National Museum of Singapore