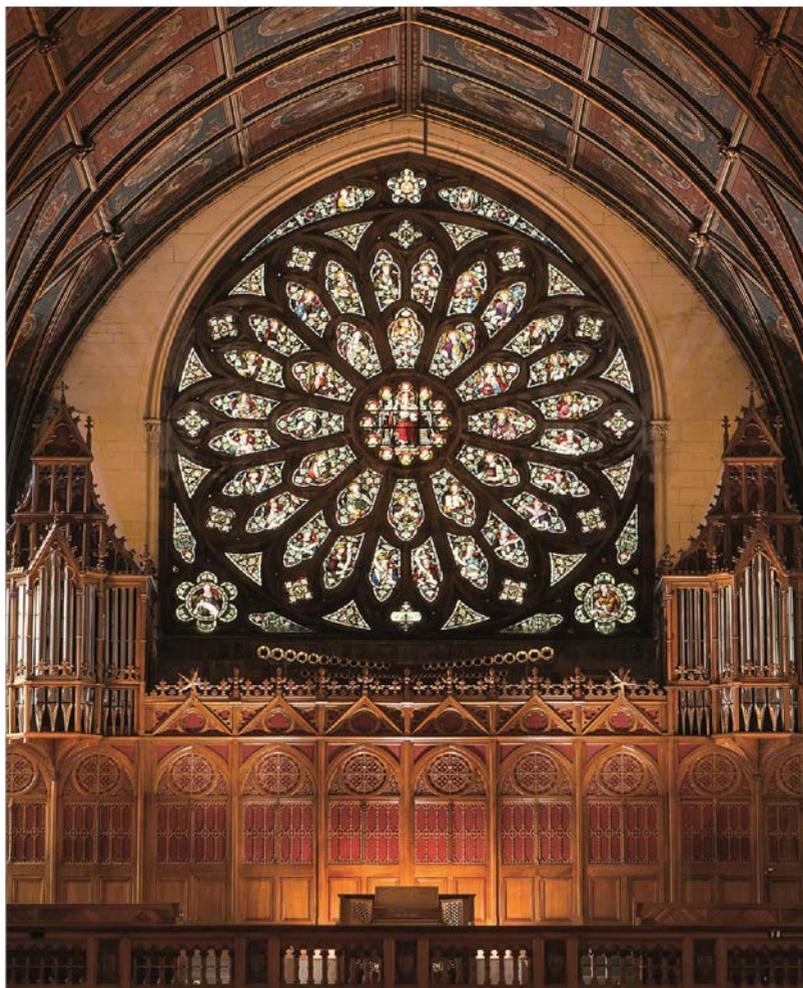


St Patrick's College, Maynooth
and
Maynooth University



The Restored College Chapel Organ (Fratelli Ruffatti, Padua)

Seminary Choir: *Le Coinnle na nAingeal* *Máire Mhac an tSaoi*

Combined Choirs: *Once in Royal David's City* *Gauntlett, arr. Willcocks*

Opening Prayer and Reflection

Rev Professor Michael Mullaney

Combined Choirs and Soloists: *In the bleak mid-winter*

Darke

First Reading

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

'Console my people, console them,' says your God.

'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and cry to her
that her period of service is ended,

that her guilt has been atoned for,

that, from the hand of the Lord,

she has received double punishment for all her sins.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the desert a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God across the wastelands.

Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be levelled,

every cliff become a plateau, every escarpment a plain;

then the glory of the Lord will be revealed and all humanity will see it
together,

for the mouth of the Lord spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, messenger of Zion. Shout as loud as you can,

messenger of Jerusalem! Shout fearlessly; say to the towns of Judah, 'Here
is your God.'

Here is Lord coming with power,

his arm maintains his authority,
his reward is with him and his prize precedes him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The Word of the Lord.

Schola Gregoriana: *Dum medium silentium*

Plainchant

Seminary Choir: *A Noble Flower of Judah*

Trad. Arr. O'Keeffe

MU Chamber Choir: *Jouluhymni*

Trad. Finnish

Combined Choirs: *The Holly and the Ivy*

Arr. Conway

Second Reading

A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah 33:7-9, 14-16

I will restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, and build them again as they were before. I will cleanse them from every sin they have committed against me; the sins by which they offended me and apostatised from me, all these I will forgive. And Jerusalem shall be my theme of joy, my honour and my boast, before all the nations of the earth: these when they hear of all the prosperity that I shall grant, will be seized with fear and trembling at the prosperity and peace that I provide for it.

See the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

‘In those days at that time,
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,
Who shall practice and integrity in the land.
In those days Judah shall be saved
and Israel shall dwell in confidence.
And this is the name the city will be called:
The Lord-our-integrity.’

The Word of the Lord

Schola Gregoriana: *Salve virginale*

Schola and Seminary Choir: *Ave Maria*

Biebl

MU Chamber Choir: *Mary Had a Baby*

Arr. Courtney

Third Reading

A reading from the book of the Prophet Zephaniah 3:14-18.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.
When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear,
do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.
He will exult with joy over you,
he will renew you by his love;
he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

The Word of the Lord

Schola and Seminary Choir: *Cuireadh oileánach do Mhuire* *McDonagh*

MU Chamber Choir: *O Magnum Mysterium* *Busto*

Combined Choirs: *Oíche Chiúin/Jouluyö/Silent Night* *Mohr/Gruber*

Gospel Reading

From the Holy Gospel According to John (1:1-18)

The Word Became Flesh

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came into being, and not one thing came into being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of all people. A

that light shines in the darkness, a light the darkness could not overpower. A man came, sent from God. His name was John. He came as a witness, a witness to speak to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believed in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord

Combined Choirs: *O Holy Night*

Adam

Prayer of Intercession

Our Father

Concluding Prayer

Blessing

Combined Choirs: *Adeste fideles*

Traditional arr. Willcocks

Organ Voluntary 'In dulci jubilo' BWV 729

J. S. Bach

The President and the Rector wish to express their sincere thanks and appreciation to all concerned with the preparation and organisation of this service.