

**CONFESSIONS AND MASSES VENUE CHANGE.** 14 December, 5.00pm Confessions and 5.30pm Mass to be held in the Cathedral Crypt. 15 December - all Confessions and Masses to be held in the Cathedral Crypt.

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL..** Come Celebrate Australia's largest Mass since World Youth Day 2008! - Saturday 9 December. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP invites you to attend Mass in the Domain on Saturday 9 December for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. This will be a joyous occasion! The Mass at 6.30pm will follow an afternoon of concerts and festivities beginning at 4pm and featuring Australian and international musicians and performers, including Matt Maher. The Archbishop also invites the people of Sydney to pray for the success this important event. Prayer cards have been distributed to parishes (see attached). For more information go to the ACYF website: [www.acyf.org.au](http://www.acyf.org.au). A special App is available with information about the Festival. Please download it for FREE here: [www.xt3.com/acyf2017/apps/](http://www.xt3.com/acyf2017/apps/).

**CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE SERVICE** - 17 DECEMBER 2017 at 7:30pm. All are welcome to join in at St Mary's Cathedral as we remember and pray for all those who have died and whose memory we cherish at this time. For more information please visit [www.catholiccemeteries.com.au/bereavement-support](http://www.catholiccemeteries.com.au/bereavement-support).

**ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE** can be found in the Archdiocese website at [www.sydneycatholic.org](http://www.sydneycatholic.org) under Our Parishes, Parish Mass Times on the right banner then St Mary's Cathedral.

**A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION 2017 - FRIDAY 15 DECEMBER 2017** Celebrate the beauty and wonder of Christmas with the St Mary's Cathedral Choir and the Orchestra of the Antipodes including congregational carols and music to lift your spirits in the joy of the season! For tickets and more information please visit [www.achristmascelebration.com.au](http://www.achristmascelebration.com.au).

**TELL YOUR MPs: HANDS OFF OUR FREEDOMS!** Take action to defend religious freedom and parental rights over the education their children receive. Contact your local federal MP today to demand your freedoms are protected in any legislation for same-sex marriage. For more information and to contact your MP got to: [www.marriagealliance.com.au](http://www.marriagealliance.com.au)

**CCR NSW Retreat** will be run from 26 to 28 January at the St Joseph's Retreat Centre, Baulkham Hills. The main presenter will be Br Lalith Perera of the Community of the Risen Lord. All are invited.

**TWILIGHT CAROLS.** Sat, 09 Dec 5.30pm at Mary, Mother of Mercy Chapel, Rookwood Catholic Cemetery, Barnet Ave Rookwood. Special visit by Santa and his helpers. Refreshments will be served. We hope you are able to join us.

### **EMBRACE, YOUNG ADULTS GROUP .**

Embrace is St Mary's group for young people of 18-35 years old from all cultures and backgrounds. **We meet every Sunday after the 6.00pm Mass** at St Mary's Cathedral House, adjacent to the Cathedral. Our activities and youth projects are designed to support spiritual development and encourage active practice of our faith. For **03 December**, Embrace will view and reflect on ***Bishop Barron's video presentation on The Communion of Saints***. You are welcome to join: please call/text Embrace Coordinator on **0404 000 595**.

**CATHOLICCARE** - Looking for parenting resources? CatholicCare's new online parenting resource provides information and tips to help build positive parent-child relationships. Visit [catholiccare.org](http://catholiccare.org) and look for the Parenting Hub icon For information call our CCareline Team on **13 18 19** or email [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org).

**EPIPHANY PILGRIMARGE. The journey of the Magi.** A 7 day, 110km walk through the Blue Mountains that coincides with the Feast of the Epiphany and the journey of the Magi. For more information visit [www.epiphanypilgrimage.org](http://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org).

### **TOURS OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL: FREE SUNDAY TOUR OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL.**

Our tour guides would love to take you through the history of the Mother Church for Australian Catholics with a free tour every Sunday after the 10:30am Solemn Choral Mass. Please look out for the tour guide next to the organ console after Mass. All are welcome. **Please Note:** The tour for 03 December excludes the Crypt.

**CLOSING SOON. ENCORE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PILGRIMAGE TO ROME** The Archdiocese of Sydney's Encore Rome Pilgrimages is offering a competitive land tour package to Rome at \$500 off the normal price. Starting from Rome on **18 January 2018**, the 7-night Encore Rome Pilgrimage which will be led by Father Tom Carroll, has been designed for people who may have been to Rome before and offers inclusions such as the Mamertine Prison, St Peter in Chains Church, Borghese Gardens, Scavi tour, Vatican Gardens, Castel Gandolfo and much more. Price starts from \$1,790 per person. Hurry, registrations must close soon so phone for a brochure on **1800 753 959** or go to [www.romepilgrimages.com](http://www.romepilgrimages.com)

**THE Xt3 ADVENT CALENDAR, first feature opens 03 Dec** is a website and a downloadable App containing a variety of videos, meditations and podcasts for the Christmas season. The free App is available on your iPhone, iPad and Android devices. Search for "Xt3 Advent" in the Google Play or App store.