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#### Sunday, 17 June 2018 Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B



Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

Whatever changes may or may not be made in civil law, priests will not reveal what is said in Confession. No matter what parliament or journalists may demand. No matter what the consequence.

When he celebrates the sacrament of Penance, the priest is fulfilling the ministry of Christ, the Good Shepherd who seeks the lost sheep, of the Good Samaritan who binds up wounds, of the Father who awaits the prodigal son and welcomes him on his return, and of the just and impartial judge who is both just and merciful. The priest is the sign and the instrument of God's merciful love for the sinner.

The priest in Confession is not the master of God's forgiveness, but its servant. The priest in Confession is not a citizen of any earthly city; he is not an agent of civil justice or a police informant.

Given the delicacy and greatness of this ministry and the respect due to persons, the Church declares that every priest who hears confessions is bound under very sever penalties to keep absolute secrecy regarding the sins that his penitents have confessed to him. He can make no use of knowledge that confession gives him about penitent's lives. This secret, which admits of no exceptions, is called the "sacramental seal," because what the penitent has made known to the priest remains "sealed" by the sacrament. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1467) The priest who hears confessions is supposed to unite himself to the intention and the charity of Christ. The priest should pray and do penance for his penitent, entrusting the penitent to the Lord's mercy.

Of course a priest hearing confessions will do whatever is possible to prevent any further harm to anyone, but the "possible" does not include revealing to others what has been confessed to him in confession.

While there have been some priests over the centuries who may have disclosed what was said to them in confession, for various reasons, such a thing is always gravely wrong, and offense against God himself.

Even in the interest of protecting its citizens, the State does not have the right to interfere with the Sacrament of Confession. "So the Church considers itself above the law, does it?" a journalist asked on radio the other night. Well, certainly the sacraments are above the law, beyond the authority of parliament and the police.

Through the intercession of St John Nepomucene (Bohemia 1393), St. Mateo Correa Magallanes (Mexico 1927), St Felipe Císcar Puig and Bl. Fernando Olmedo Reguera (Spain 1936), martyred for keeping the seal of Confession, may we be preserved from government interference in the sacraments.

Outside of confession, of course, is quite a different matter, and we must do whatever we can to bring offenders to justice and help prevent crimes, especially against the innocent.

May God be with you all in the week ahead,

#### Fr Don Richardson, Dean



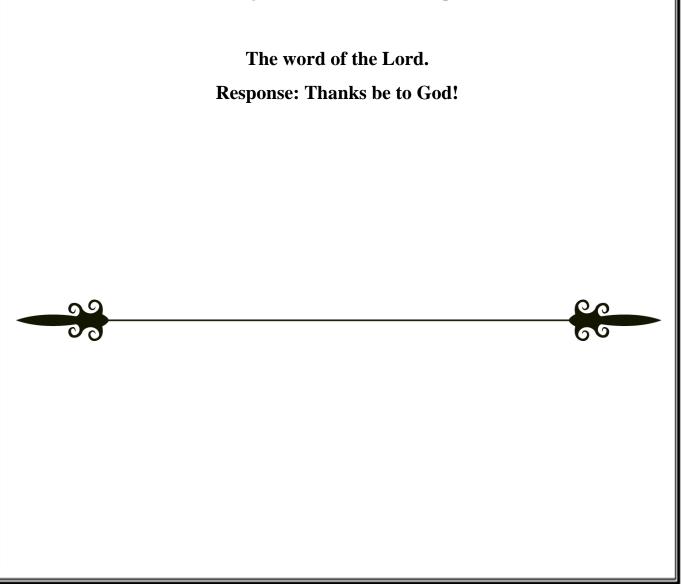
Liturgy...

### First Reading Ez 17:22-24

#### A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

#### I have made the small tree great.

The Lord says this: 'From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'



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Liturgy...
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## Responsorial Psalm Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. v.2

# (R) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. (R)

2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R)

3. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R)



# Second Reading 2 Cor 5:6-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

# Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing the Lord.

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

The word of the Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God!** 



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Liturgy...

## Gospel Acclamation Jn 12:31. 32

#### Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

# Alleluia!

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Gospel Mk 4:26-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

# The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

# The Gospel of the Lord Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



#### **CATHEDRAL CLERGY**

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP Father Donald Richardson, Dean Father Brendan Purcell Father Emmanuel Yoon Jae Seo Father Pierluigi Passoni

#### CATHEDRAL STAFF

Chris Backhouse- Cathedral Sacristan Thomas Wilson – Director of Music Helen Morassut – General Manager, St Marys Cathedral Precinct



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# A COPY OF THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY CAN BE PURCHASED FOR \$2

Weekend Mass	Saturday Vigil:	6.00pm
	Sunday:	7.00am, 9.00am, 10.30am (Solemn High Mass);
		12noon Latin Mass in the extraordinary form; 6.00pm Mass
Weekday Mass	Monday to Friday:	6.45am, 1.10pm & 5.30pm; Saturday: 9.00am & 12noon
		Public Holidays: 9am (or as advertised)
Reconciliation	Monday-Friday:	12noon -1.00pm & 5.00pm to 5.25pm Saturday 11.30am-
		11.55am, 4.30-5.30pm
Vespers	Monday to Thursday:	5.00pm; Saturday 5.30pm; Sunday 5.00pm (with
(Evening Prayer)		Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament)



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\*\*COELIACS: Special Provision is made for Coeliacs at the Cathedral. Those who are gluten intolerant may receive communion either from the Chalice or with a gluten low host. Application should be made to the Sacristan before Mass.



CATHEDRAL NOTICES .....

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL NSW Invites you to a Formation Day with the inspired preacher Fr. Roni George of the Divine Retreat Centre, Somersby on June 30, from 10 am to 4 pm. Theme; "Three Major Weapons in His Vineyard". Venue; St. Joseph's Church Hall, Gordon St. Rozelle. Please register by June 27 at CCR Centre 9810 2499 or e-mail; email@ccrnsw.org.au. Cost by donation. Lunch provided

**NO CATHEDRAL TOUR** Please note there will no public tour of the Cathedral on **17 June 2018** as the Eastern Deanery Confirmations will be celebrated at the Cathedral on this day. We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience.

#### ST. PETER'S SURRY HILLS CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

Join us at some special events! Beginning on the 30th of June with a Sung Mass where Haydn's Missa Sancti Nicolai will be presented by St Peter's Choir and soloists with a guest orchestra. This will be followed by a parish dinner the same evening.

On the **01 July at 3pm** there will be a concert in partnership with Artes Christi with St Peter's choir and guests and friends, soloists and orchestra in thanksgiving featuring Charpentier's famous "Te Deum" and musical offerings in honour of St Peter." 30 June Sung Mass (featuring Missa Sancti Nicolai by Haydn with Orchestra) 4pm 30 June: Centenary Parish Dinner 6.30pm 01 July: 3pm Centenary Concert featuring Charpentier's Te Deum and selected Petrine works. St Peter's Choir and Soloists Christi with Artes and orchestra.https://www.trybooking.com/book/ev ent?eid=387811& All events at St Peter's Parish Church, 235 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills 2010.

CHANGE - ST MARYS CATHEDRAL SERVICES please note that the Latin Mass on 17 June 2018 will be celebrated at the Cathedral Crypt as the Eastern Deanery Confirmations will be celebrated at the Cathedral on this day. Please note, there will be NO ADORATION OR VESPERS held on the day.

#### WORLD YOUTH DAY IN JANUARY 2019

Join Pope Francis in Panama for the 34th World Youth Day in January 2019. Sydney Catholic Youth are inviting you on the pilgrimage of a lifetime to Panama where you will celebrate Mass with Pope Francis and millions of young Catholics from around the world. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will lead the Sydney pilgrimage departing on 15 January 2019 which will travel from Sydney to Washington DC, then to WYD Panama with the optional extension to travel to Mexico City. Register your interest and find out more by website visiting the www.sydneycatholicyouth.org.wyd

EMBRACE, YOUNG ADULTS GROUP. Embrace is St Mary's group for young people of 18-35 yrs old from all cultures and backgrounds. We meet every Sunday at St Mary's Cathedral House, adjacent to the Cathedral, after the 6.00pm Mass. Our activities and youth projects are designed to support spiritual development and encourage active practice of our faith. For 17 June, Embrace will host Simon Carrington of Fire Up Ministries, who will give a talk on 'Finding the Love That Satisfies'. You are welcome to join: please call/text Embrace Coordinator on 0404 008 870 write or to embrace@stmaryscathedral.org.au

**2018 HOLY FATHER'S APPEAL** Our parish will hold the Holy Father's Appeal next weekend for which we'll ask your support. Through your gift you can help Pope Francis bring hope, opportunity and the spirit of Jesus Christ to our less fortunate brothers and sisters around the world.

To give, please use the appeal envelopes provided or phone the Fundraising Office on during office hours on **1800 753 959**.

**RELIC OF ST ANTHONY** Parishioners and friends of St Anthony are invited to join the celebrations culminating in the reception of the Holy Relic on **Thursday**, **21 June** and Masses and public veneration of the Relics on **Friday 22 June. 27-33 Aurelia Street, Toongabbie NSW 2146**. See website: www.stanthonyschurch.org.au or 96313316 for full details of the Celebrations

**WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES – 21-26** AUGUST 2018 Dublin, Ireland, has been chosen by Pope Francis to host the next World Meeting of Families from 21-26 August 2018. Guided by the theme "The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World". Held every three years, this major international event brings together families from across the world to celebrate, pray and reflect upon the central importance of marriage and the family as the cornerstone of our lives, of society and of the Church. The family is essential for the future of the world and the Church. Everyone first learns what love means in their family, as they become aware that they are loved, and learn how to love in return. This is essential so that people can grow into mature individuals. We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become. (Saint Clare of Assisi)For further information:

https://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT.** For family and friends who grieve and their companions. Understanding and managing life's changes in Loss, Grief & Bereavement. **Third Wednesday of Every Month 10.00am – 1.00pm** Morning tea provided. For further information, please contact **96466908 or** email **bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.co m.au.** 

ANNUAL MARRIAGE MASS & RENEWAL OF VOWS. The Marriage Mass and Renewal of Vows will take place on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> July at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, at 10.30 am. All married couples are welcome. Please register with the Life, Marriage and Family Centre on 9307 8404 or LMFevents@sydneycatholic.org. Registered couples celebrating 50<sup>th</sup>, 55<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, or 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries will receive a special certificate from Archbishop Fisher. Special recognition will also be given to couples who were married at the Cathedral.

#### ST VINCENT PALLOTTI

SCHOLARSHIP: Applications now open. The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offer scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. Applications close 23rd July 2018. Details and application: http://www.pallottine.org.au/scholarships/stvincent-pallotti-scholarship-for-layministry.html LESSONS FROM THE LONG PADDOCK WORKSHOP Lessons from the Long Paddock offers perspectives from outback and rural NSW on faith and spiritual life. Fr Richard Leonard SJ, Sr Michele Connolly RSJ and Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE reflect on stories from people in the Diocese and explore the lived experiences of faith in the bush. Thursday 9th August 2018 9.30am -12.30 at the Ron Dyer Centre Our Lady of the Way Parish, St Mary's North Sydney -Admission Free. For enquiries ring Kate Englebrecht on 0420 309 689 or visit http://www.wf.catholic.org.au for more information.

**CATHOLICCARE SYDNEY** Are you looking for a flexible role and enjoy helping people? Join our dedicated Home Care team to help seniors enjoy living independently in their own home with comfort and confidence. The following languages are highly desirable: Croatian, Serbian, Bosnian, Polish, Italian and Assyrian. Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to find out more.

**THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY** Applications are invited for the position of Executive Assistant to the General Counsel (Maternity Leave cover – 12 months)

For further information, the advertisements for these positions can be viewed at <u>www.catholicjobsonline.com.au</u>

CHIEF OPERATIONS MANAGER, DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG. Full-time position and based in Wollongong. For further information, please contact Anthony Spata at REACH Human Resources, on 0402 210 055. Applications close Monday, 2 July 2018.

CATHOLICCARE SYDNEY Join the Sydney Catholic Youth Team to raise funds for CatholicCare Sydney's HOPE program in this year's City2Surf. We're aiming to raise \$75,000 to help vulnerable young mothers and their babies. Challenge yourself and run for HOPE! Register online at https://fundraise.catholiccare.org/city2surf and join the Sydney Catholic Youth Team today! For further information please contact Ashleigh 0419 839 Green on 954 or at community@catholiccare.org.au