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# Sunday, 11 August 2019 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinal Time – Year C



Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

It was very sad that the *Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019* was passed by the Legislative Assembly of NSW during the week. It will expose even more unborn children to the risk of being killed in the womb and do nothing good to support mothers in crisis.

Abortion cannot be dressed up as "health care." To deliberately end an innocent human life is not health care, it is killing, no matter how lamentable may be the circumstances of the pregnancy.

As Catholics we must be firm and clear in our understanding. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us:

"2270 Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception.

From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognised as having the rights of a person - among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you." (Jer 1:5; cf. Job 10:8-12; Ps 22:10-11.)

My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately wrought in the depths of the earth. (Ps. 13:15)

2271 Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion.

This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable.

Direct abortion, that is to say, abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law:

You shall not kill the embryo by abortion and shall not cause the newborn to perish. (*Didache 2, 2: SCh 248, 148; cf. Ep. Barnabae 19, 5: PG 2, 777; Ad Diognetum 5, 6: PG 2, 1173; Tertullian, Apol. 9: PL 1, 319-320.*)

God, the Lord of life, has entrusted to men the noble mission of safeguarding life, and men must carry it out in a manner worthy of themselves.

Life must be protected with the utmost care from the moment of conception: abortion and infanticide are abominable crimes. (*Vatican Council II, Gaudium et Spes, 51 #3*)"

### And:

"2273 The inalienable right to life of every innocent human individual is a constitutive element of a civil society and its legislation:

The inalienable rights of the person must be recognised and respected by civil society and the political authority.

These human rights depend neither on single individuals nor on parents; nor do they represent a concession made by society and the state; they belong to human nature and are inherent in the person by virtue of the creative act from which the person took his origin.

Among such fundamental rights one should mention in this regard every human being's right to life and physical integrity from the moment of conception until death. 79

The moment a positive law deprives a category of human beings of the protection which civil legislation ought to accord them, the state is denying the equality of all before the law.

When the state does not place its power at the service of the rights of each citizen, and in particular of the more vulnerable, the very foundations of a state based on law are undermined....

As a consequence of the respect and protection which must be ensured for the unborn child from the moment of conception, the law must provide appropriate penal sanctions for every deliberate violation of the child's rights. (CDF, Donum Vitae III)

2274 Since it must be treated from conception as a person, the embryo must be defended in its integrity, cared for, and healed, as far as possible, like any other human being.

Prenatal diagnosis is morally licit, "if it respects the life and integrity of the embryo and the human fetus and is directed toward its safe guarding or healing as an individual....

It is gravely opposed to the moral law when this is done with the thought of possibly inducing an abortion, depending upon the results: a diagnosis must not be the equivalent of a death sentence." (*Donum Vitae*, 1, 2)

2275 "One must hold as licit procedures carried out on the human embryo which respect the life and integrity of the embryo and do not involve disproportionate risks for it, but are directed toward its healing the improvement of its condition of health, or its individual survival." (*Donum Vitae 1,3*)

"It is immoral to produce human embryos intended for exploitation as disposable biological material." (Donum Vitae 1,5)

Please keep praying and working towards greater respect for life among all groups in our society, and for better support for the vulnerable.

Fr Don Richardson, Dean

# First Reading Wis 18:6-9 A reading from the book of Wisdom

# Just as you struck our enemies, you made us glorious by calling us to you.

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

# The word of the Lord Response: Thanks be to God



# Responsorial Psalm Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12

# Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

- 1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. (R)
- **2.** The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R)
- **3.** Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. (R)



# Second Reading Heb 11:1-2, 8-19

# A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Hebrews

We will look for the city designed and built by God.

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

The word of the Lord Response: Thanks be to God





# Gospel Acclamation Mt 24:42.44

### Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

### Alleluia



# Gospel Lk 12:32-48

# A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

# See that you are prepared.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Gospel Lk 12:32-48 Cont'd......

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

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





Weekend Mass	Saturday Vigil: Sunday:	6.00pm 7.00am, 9.00am, 10.30am (Solemn High Mass); 12.15pm Latin Mass in the extraordinary form; 6.00pm Mass
Weekday Mass	Monday to Friday: Saturday: Public Holidays:	6.45am, 1.10pm & 5.30pm 9.00am & 12noon 9am (or as advertised)
Reconciliation	Monday-Friday: Saturday:	12noon - 1.00pm & 5.00pm - 5.25pm 11.30am - 11.55am, 4.30-5.30pm
Vespers (Evening Prayer)	Saturday: Sunday:	5.30pm 5.00pm (with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament)

\*\*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 CLERGY**

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP Father Donald Richardson, Dean Father Brendan Purcell Father Gerard Woo Ling Father Lewi Barakat

### **CATHEDRAL STAFF**

Chris Backhouse – Cathedral Sacristan Thomas Wilson – Director of Music Helen Morassut – General Manager, St Mary's Cathedral Precinct

SUBSCRIBE TO THE NEW LOOK CATHOLIC WEEKLY OR PURCHASE A COPY FOR \$2

# **ELECTRONIC COLLECTION PLATES**

The option to make an offering via credit card is available at this mass.



**Please note**: you can continue to donate with cash or pass the plate on.

### **CATHEDRAL NOTICES .....**

### A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

SAFEGUARDING. Keeping Our
Communities Safe. We understand how
difficult it can be for people who have
experienced abuse to make a complaint. We
have developed a Listening to You card, which
is available in all our parishes to provide
guidance for those wishing to make a
complaint. We want to support you in this
process and we can provide access to
counselling and support services if needed. For
more information please see the attached
posters that we ask Parish Priests to print and
display in a prominent area within parishes. For
assistance, please contact

<u>safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org</u> or visit

www.sydneycatholic.org/safeguarding-and-child-protection/.

WALK WITH CHRIST In light of it being the Feast of Corpus Christi we ask all parishioners to save the date for a very special celebration for all Sydney Catholics. Please join your fellow Sydneysiders in the Walk with Christ annual Eucharistic Procession through the streets of Sydney on the Feast of Christ The King on November 24 at 2.30pm. Thousands of people took part in last year's joyful public proclamation and act of worship to invoke Christ's blessing upon our beautiful city. Meet at the corner of Martin Place & Pitt Street at 2.30pm.

40 HOURS FOR VOCATIONS 11 August 2019. Join us as the Archdiocese of Sydney dedicates a Mass for Vocation and 40 hours of Adoration to pray for more vocations to consecrated life and the Priesthood. A Mass for Vocations will be celebrated by a Bishop of each region of the Archdiocese of Sydney. This will be followed by all night Eucharistic adoration. There is a sign-up form for the Eucharistic adoration

→ <a href="https://forms.gle/Y13smvcNhvqhRyAD8">https://forms.gle/Y13smvcNhvqhRyAD8</a>. Eastern Region, Mass for Vocations celebrated by Bishop Richard Umbers on Sun 11 Aug 2019, 6pm at Our Lady Star Of The Sea, Miranda.

NSW ABORTION BILL- CONTACT YOUR MP. A bill to make abortion legal in NSW up until birth, for any reason, has been tabled in NSW Parliament and is due to be voted on this week. Archbishop Anthony Fisher has asked all Catholics in NSW to urgently contact their state Member of Parliament and ask them to vote against this bill.

ECUMENISM IN AUSTRALIA, YESTERDAY AND TODAY. Archdiocese of Sydney Commission for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations in invites you to a special lecture reflecting on Pope John Paul II's Ecumenical Encyclical, Ut Unum Sint (That They May Be One). Encyclical discussed and its call to action. **Speakers:** Fr Gerard Kelly, Catholic Institute of Sydney, Thomas Westenberg, Commission for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations. The Peter Cosgrove Centre, Level 18, The Tenison Woods House, 8-20 Napier Street, MacKillop Campius, ACU, North Sydney. Thursday, 29 August 2019. 6:00pm-8:00pm. Bookings essential for catering purposes: www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=53617 2 and refreshments provided.

COULD YOU HELP A CHILD IN CARE? We urgently need compassionate people to provide short-term foster care. To learn more, come to our information night. Tuesday, 13 August, 5.30 to 7.30pm. Family Spirit, Suite 301, Level 3, 2-14 Meredith St 40 11 Aug 2019, 6pm at Our Lady Star Of The Sea, Miranda. Bankstown. CCareline on 13 18 19 to find out more.

PARISH RENEWAL WORKSHOP. The Archbishop of Sydney, Anthony Fisher OP has invited world-renowned author Sherry Weddell to come to Sydney in September. Sherry will be speaking at several different engagements during her visit. Life, Family & Outreach will be hosting one of these events, which will be open to the lay faithful. The Parish Renewal Workshop will take place on Saturday, 07 September from 10.00am – 4.00pm at Dooleys in Regents Park. Cost: \$20.00 including lunch and tea breaks. Register online at www.sydneycatholic.org/sherry-weddell.

### EMBRACE YOUNG ADULTS GROUP.

Embrace, St Mary's Cathedral young adult group is for young people of 18-35 yrs 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. On 04 August Embrace will begin its August movie month with St Francis of Assisi His Life and Miracles. You are welcome to join. For more information please write to embrace@stmaryscathedral.org.au.

### ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL CONCERT -

**14 August 7.00pm.** Concert by Michael Butterfield, Royal Academy of Music, London. Organ music from Bach to 20<sup>th</sup> Century France. Free admission with retiring collection.

'OF LIFE AND LOVE'- MARRIAGE
PREPARATION COURSE. The Catholic
Archdiocese of Sydney is offering marriage
preparation courses for engaged couples
preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Each
course will be held over 3 consecutive
Wednesdays. 2019 dates include: 16, 23, 30
October (The Assisi Centre, Lidcombe). To
book online visit

https://www.trybooking.com/ZWSU or contact LMFevents@sydneycatholic.org.

MARY MACKILLOP APPEAL - (10 & 11 **August 2019):** In the spirit and legacy of Australia's first Saint, Mary MacKillop, we invite you to bring life to "the poorest and most neglected parts of God's vineyard." Mary MacKillop believed that education could transform lives and everyone, regardless of their circumstances deserved the opportunity to learn. As part of the celebrations for the feast of Saint Mary MacKillop, please consider making a donation (envelopes will be provided) or visit www.marymackilloptoday.org.au. Your generous donation to Mary MacKillop Today will support thousands of people in Timor-Leste, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and here in Australia with education, health, finance and livelihoods opportunities, bringing hope to communities for generations to come.+

RACHEL'S VINEYARD MINISTRIES – Healing After Abortion Retreat 25-27 October 2019. Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, Sydney offers regular healing retreats for those who have experienced an abortion. The retreat offers a sanctuary in which to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion in a safe, supportive, confidential and nonjudgmental environment. Information and a brochure can found at: <a href="www.rachelsvineyard.org.au">www.rachelsvineyard.org.au</a> or call us on our confidential voicemail number 0400 092 555 or Email: info@rachelsvineyard.org.au.

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: NO TOUR ON SUNDAY, 25 AUGUST.



8 August 2019

### PASSAGE OF ABORTION BILL THROUGH NSW LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

I am deeply saddened at the passing of the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019 through the NSW Legislative Assembly this evening.

If a civilisation is to be judged by how it treats its weakest members, New South Wales failed spectacularly today.

The few amendments allowed by the House today hardly made this bad bill any better. It still allows abortion right up to birth. It conscripts all medical practitioners and institutions into the abortion industry by requiring them to perform abortions themselves or direct women to an abortion provider. It still does nothing to protect mothers or their unborn children or to give them real alternatives.

The amendments passed today at most made this extreme law a little less bad. Better proposed amendments, such as one to require that a baby born alive after a failed abortion be given life-saving care, were defeated.

I urge the Members of the Legislative Council to vote against this abhorrent bill, and instead to direct the efforts of the parliament to the provision of meaningful support for women and children.

I thank those Members who spoke against this bill, and those who proposed significant amendments, often in the face of hostility. I also thank the thousands of people who spoke up on behalf of the unborn and their mothers by contacting their MPs, by maintaining a consistent presence at Parliament House, and by praying for the defeat of this bill at round-the-clock vigils at St Mary's Cathedral and elsewhere. Please continue to pray for a civilisation of life and love, and to make your views known to the members of the Legislative Council, asking them to vote against this bill.

Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP, DD BA LIB BTheol DPhil

Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP, DD BA LIB BTheol DPhil Archbishop of Sydney

+ Olchon Dishen or

bereaved mothers and fathers, the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney In commemoration of this profound loss, and in solidarity with invites all people to a solemn memorial mass

# Memorial Mass for the Unborn

REMEMBERING ALL THOSE HURT BY ABORTION



TO BE OFFERED BY
THE AUXILIARY BISHOP OF SYDNEY
MOST REV RICHARD UMBERS

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SYDNEY WEDNESDAY 28th AUGUST 2019, 7:00 PM

Seventy-four candles will be lit in remembrance of the innocent lives ended on this day in NSW Enquiries: Life, Family & Outreach Office, 9307 8480 or steven.buhagiar@sydneycatholic.org

"You will restore my life; from the depths of the earth you will raise me up again." Psalm 71:20