



St Mary's Cathedral

SYDNEY

St. Mary's Road Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: (02) 9220 0400 Fax: (02) 9223 5208
Email: info@stmaryscathedral.org.au
Connect with us on Social Media!
www.facebook.com/stmaryscathedralsydney
Instagram: @stmaryscathedralsydney

Sunday, 15 December 2019
Third Sunday of Advent



Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

From today's Second Reading, James 5.7-10, we learn that in the time of the Apostles, farmers would wait patiently for the spring and autumn rains to cause the crops to grow and the earth to yield its fruit. But currently the spring, summer, autumn and winter rains have failed. Please continue to pray for the gift of abundant rain to break the present drought.

The Advent liturgy is full of waiting for God to shower the world with his grace.

Antiphons such as *Rorate caeli desuper*, based on a prophecy in the Book of Isaiah, set the tone for our prayers in these days as we await not merely rainfall, but the Lord: “Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the just: let the earth be opened, and bud forth a saviour: and let justice spring up together: I the Lord have created him.” (Isaiah 45.8)

Today, the Third Sunday of Advent, the Introit of the Mass cheers us on: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your forbearance be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Do not be anxious over anything; but in all manner of prayer, let your requests be made known unto God. Lord, you have blessed your land; you have put an end to Jacob's captivity.”

May the Lord bless our land indeed, and every creature in it!

Fr Don Richardson, Dean.

Liturgy...

First Reading Is 35:1-6, 10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

God himself will come and save us.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy. The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God. Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy, for those the Lord has ransomed shall return. They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.

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



Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:6-10. R. Is 35:4

Lord, come and save us.

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R)**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. **(R)**

3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **(R)**



Liturgy...

Second Reading Jas 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of St James

You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God

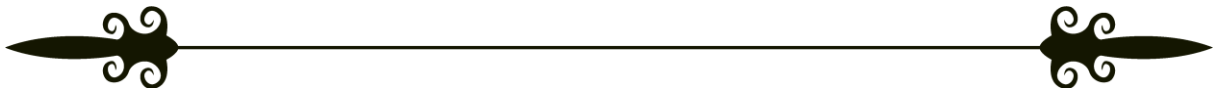


Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia



Liturgy...

Gospel Mt 11:2-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

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



Weekend Mass	Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm Sunday: 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: 6.45am, 1.10pm & 5.30pm Saturday: 9.00am & 12noon Public Holidays: 9am (or as advertised)
Reconciliation	Monday-Friday: 12noon - 1.00pm & 5.00pm - 5.25pm Saturday: 11.30am - 11.55am, 4.30-5.30pm
Vespers (Evening Prayer)	Saturday: 5.30pm Sunday: 5.00pm (with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament) NO VESPERS MON – FRI: From Mon, 09 Dec to Fri, 31 Jan 2019 Will resume on Mon, 03 February 2020

****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 <i>Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP</i> <i>Father Donald Richardson, Dean</i> <i>Father Brendan Purcell</i> <i>Father Gerard Woo Ling</i> <i>Father Lewi Barakat</i>	CATHEDRAL STAFF <i>Chris Backhouse – Cathedral Sacristan</i> <i>Thomas Wilson – Director of Music</i> <i>Helen Morassut – General Manager,</i> <i>St Mary's Cathedral Precinct</i>
---	---

**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 safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or visit www.sydneycatholic.org/safeguarding-and-child-protection/.

GIFTS OF FAITH. This Christmas give a gift with faith at the Centre. The Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need has produced a Gifts of Faith catalogue in support of suffering and persecuted Christians. Copies can be found (*list the location in your parish*). Alternatively visit www.aidtochurch.org/GiftsofFaith or phone 1800 101 201. Order by 09 December to receive your Gift of Faith cards and envelopes in time for Christmas.

BISHOPS ANNOUNCE NATIONAL PRAYER CAMPAIGN FOR DROUGHT. The Catholic Bishops of Australia have announced a National Prayer Campaign for Drought to take place during November. People across the country are encouraged to pray for the gift of rain, for people affected by the drought and to provide practical support, where possible. The Bishops note that large parts of the country are directly affected by the drought, but the impact is national – and so should the response be national. Access resources and find out more at: www.catholic.org.au/drought.

NO VESPERS MON – FRI: From Mon, 09 Dec to Fri, 31 Jan 2019 Will resume on Mon, 03 February 2020

LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS. Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral. A wonderful free community event from 05 December running every night until Christmas. Featuring a range of choirs from 7.30pm with the light show on at 8.30pm.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA GLOBAL GIFTS. Be an angel this Christmas – buy a Global Gift. Order online at www.globalgifts.org.au or call 1800 024 413

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 **15 Dec Embrace 2019 Christmas Celebrations** are on. Please bring a plate of food...a gift and...plenty of Joy ...to share. You are welcome to join. For more information please write to embrace@stmaryscathedral.org.au.

IS YOUR FAMILY FACING FINANCIAL STRESS? Connect with financial counsellors who can offer information, guidance and advocacy for people in financial distress who are at risk of or not able to pay bills or make repayments. Contact **CCareline 13 18 19**.

PLENARY COUNCIL. Have you been a part of the Plenary Council process of listening, prayer, dialogue and discernment? Do you feel called to express your interest in being a delegate from our diocese to participate in the plenary council general assembly held in Adelaide in October? If so, speak with your Parish Priest or Barbara Perry (Sydney Plenary Council Working Group) on 0438 012 964, barbara.perry@sydneycatholic.org for more details. All applicants must fill in and submit an application form found here: <https://sydneycatholic.org/plenary-council.pdf>.

Christmas in the Cathedral



5

Prayers for your
Family evening

7:30pm
onwards



7

Regular
Mass services
Saturday:
9:00am, 12noon
Saturday Vigil
6:00pm onwards

8

Regular
Mass services
Sunday: 7am, 9am, 10:30am (Solemn Choral Mass),
12:15pm (Latin Mass –
Our Lady Chapel), 6pm

9

St Mary's Cathedral
Singers
Concert in Rehearsal
7:30pm

10

CLOSED FOR
SPECIAL MASS



Titus Greyer
FREE
Organ Recital
7:30pm



12

CLOSED FOR
CONCERT
REHEARSAL

N.B. 5:30pm Mass
service will be held
in the Crypt

13



All Mass services will be
held in the Crypt

7:30pm
onwards

Regular Mass services
followed by:
Prayers for
your Family evening

15

5:00pm – 6:00pm
Cathedral Carol Service

16

St Mary's Cathedral
Singers
Concert in Rehearsal
7:30pm

17

Simon Nieminski
FREE Organ Recital
7:30pm



18

St Peter's Choir
performance 7:30pm



19

Prayers
for your
Family
evening

7:30pm
onwards

20

St Mary's
Cathedral
Bell Ringers –
ringing of the Bells

Regular
Mass services
Saturday:
9:00am,
12noon
Saturday Vigil: 6pm

22

Thomas Wilson
FREE Organ Recital
7:30pm

23

ASK A PRIEST
7pm to 8pm

24

5:00pm: Vespers
6:00pm: Vigil Mass with
Congregational Carols
8:00pm: Choral Vigil Mass
(Carols from 7:30pm)
11:15pm: Readings & Carols
12:00am:
Midnight Solemn Mass

25



7:00am : Mass

9:00am: Mass with Congregational Carols
10:30am: Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)
6:00pm: Mass with Congregational Carols

* Self-Guided Tours are available
from 7pm till 9:00pm
(collect a flyer at entrance)



Open hours: 5 Dec to 23 Dec 6:30am to 10:00pm
Regular mass services are in place unless otherwise advised

DECEMBER 2019

IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDING NOTICE

The Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office, in conjunction with the Sydney Archdiocese has stated that all Volunteer roles require a Working With Children Check and are also required to sign a Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Code of Conduct form.

If you Volunteer here at St Mary's Cathedral, in any capacity (e.g.: reader, usher, shop assistant, bell ringer etc) please contact St Mary's Cathedral's Special Liturgy Officer on 9220 0453.

Applying for a Working with Children Check is a simple three-step process.

Step 1: Complete application for WWCC online: www.check.kids.nsw.gov.au

Step 2: Take your application number from the online process along with identification to be verified at your local Service NSW Centre or Motor Registry.

Step 3: When you receive your clearance number, please pass these details onto St Mary's Cathedral Liturgy Officer who will then verify your details

The role of the Safeguarding Office is to raise awareness regarding our collective responsibility to protect the safety, well-being and dignity of children, young people and vulnerable adults within the Archdiocese of Sydney. Your support and understanding is greatly appreciated.