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Sunday, 08 March 2020 Second Sunday Of Lent Year A



Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

There used to be a special set of prayers and readings for a 'Mass in Time of Pestilence' but when they reformed the Roman Missal after the Second Vatican Council it was dropped. I guess the 1960's were years of optimism that scientific progress would conquer all health problems as well as taking us to the stars. The scripture reading for the Mass in Time of Pestilence were real ripsnorters: 2 Kings 24.15-19, where God sends a pestilence which is stopped by David's prayer and sacrifice, and Luke 4.38-44, where Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law who had come down with a fever.

Actually, as Christians, it remains our duty to pray and intercede for the world, that people might be spared dangerous sickness and that we may come to recognize in Christ the one who brings healing and new life. It is also incumbent on us to be considerate to our neighbor and our whole society by doing what we can to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus which is so much on our minds these days.

Hence, you will see that the Holy Water has been removed temporarily from the stoups near the cathedral doors, and you are asked to refrain from handshakes and physical contact at the sign of peace.

If people receive Holy Communion properly, whether on the hand or the tongue, the risk of contact spreading the virus will be lessened. By "properly", I mean that when receiving on the hand, one hand should be placed flat on top of the other so the host can be placed on it by the Minister;



If receiving on the tongue, the mouth should be open and the tongue extended slightly to just beyond the lip, and the head should be held still (frankly, this is much easier when kneeling than when standing.)



Receiving Communion on the hand is recommended by the Australian bishops at this time – but if you don't hold your hand flat on top of the other it is likely that the ministers fingers will touch your hand and potentially be contaminated. (At Mass in the old rite, however, Communion may only be received on the tongue.)

Or, as Psalm 24 puts it: "Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with <u>clean hands</u> and pure heart, who desires not worthless things, who has not sworn so as to deceive his neighbour."

So let's pray to the Lord and take care of our neighbour at this time of pestilence!

Please remember in your prayers also the soul of Archbishop Michael Kelly, Fourth Archbishop of Sydney, whose 80th anniversary of death falls today (Sunday 8th March).

Fr Don Richardson, Dean

Liturgy...

First Reading Gen 12:1-4

A reading from the book of Genesis

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.' So Abram went as the Lord told him.

The word of the Lord Response: Thanks be to God

-00

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Responsorial Psalm Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R v.22

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

- 1. The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. (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)





Liturgy...

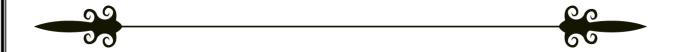
Second Reading 2 Tm 1:8-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

The word of the Lord Response: Thanks be to God



Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Alleluia



Liturgy...

Gospel Mt 17:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

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 is held each Sunday in the Lady Chapel. 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)
Stations of The Cross	Fridays @ 4.30pm:	March – 06, 13, 20, 27 & April – 03

**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

PLEASE NOTE: STATIONS OF THE CROSS A SPECIAL DEVOTION COMMEMORATING THE JOURNEY OF CHRIST TO HIS CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL IS PRAYED EVERY FRIDAY IN LENT AT 4.30PM.

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:

THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY is

www.catholic.org.au/drought.

an International Catholic voluntary organisation of lay people. Local conferences (groups) meet as a community based on spiritual bonds of friendship between members and a common mission to help the poor and marginalised. The St Mary's Cathedral Conference was established in 1881 but is in urgent need of new members. If you are interested in being involved or just learning more please contact

jennifer.murphy@vinnies.org.au or attend our next meeting on Tuesday, 10 March at 6:15pm in the Parish Centre. At worst you will meet some new people and have some supper....but it could lead to lifelong connections and making a difference to those in need.

Parish from maintenance to mission! Pastors, Ministry Leaders and Lay Faithful are invited to a Divine Renovation Conference in Canada. The Archdiocese of Sydney will join with Parishes from across the globe at the Divine Renovation Conference to experience hands-on leadership formation and networking to develop mission-focused parishes. For more information and registration details, contact Helen Wagner 02 9307 8499 or:

HELEN.WAGNER@SYDNEYCATHOLIC.OR

THE 12.15PM LATIN MASS IN THE EXTRAORDINARY FORM EACH SUNDAY IS HELD IN THE LADY CHAPEL.

VISIT OF THE RELICS OF ST THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX AND HER PARENTS. The

National Pilgrimage of the Relics of Saints Thérèse, and her parents, Louis and Zélie, is returning to the Archdiocese of Sydney in March.

LE LABRYINTHE. Venture into the lybrinth and discover your own path to enlightment this Easter (21-24 March). Join Anna Fraser, Neal Peres da Costa, Laura Vaughan and Simon Martyn-Ellis on a sumptuous and spiritual journey showcasing Michel-Richard de Lalande's 'Leçons de Ténèbres' and Miserere (1730), a beautiful and rarely heard French Baroque vocal work. Visit www.annafraser.net.au for more details. Saturday 21 March, 7:30pm. St Mary's Cathedral, Crypt.

www.trybooking.com./BIGOK. Tuesday 24 March, 7pm.Holy Name Church, Wahroonga www.trybooking.com/BIHOI.

ENCOUNTER KIRIBATI WITH PALMS. 18-26 MAY 2020. A 12-day tour visiting a number of islands in this small Pacific nation. Palms personnel work with local communities to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty in a part of the world impacted by climate change. You will meet and spend time with them and their host communities to see first-hand how Palms Australia is working to create a better world. It might even inspire you to join Palms and work overseas yourself. Tours offered to Timor-Leste in September and Thailand/Myanmar in November. For more information call Robert at Palms on 02 9560 5333 or email robert@palms.org.au.

BUSHFIRE APPEAL. Special collections at Masses across the country on the Australia Day weekend have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support people and communities affected by the devastating bushfires. Catholic Emergency Relief Australia (CERA) is a new collaboration of national Catholic organisations that will help coordinate the Church's ongoing response to the bushfire crisis and future domestic natural disasters. Find out more at www.cera.catholic.org.au

THE BISHOP'S BLEND BREAKFAST.

Looking to network with other young Catholic professionals and learn how to live your faith in the workplace? Then join Bishop Richard Umbers, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney on **Tues**, **24 March 7am at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney** for The Bishop's Blend Breakfast for Young Professionals. Online booking is essential. For more information and to purchase tickets visit

https://thebishopsblendtenthedition.eventbri te.com.au or contact bishopsblend@sydnevcatholic.org.

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 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 08 March Embrace will resume part four of the study series "Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible" You are welcome to join. For more information email: embrace@stmaryscathedral.org.au.

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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/.

SHRINES OF OUR LADY WITH FR SEBASTIAN MANOHARAN (MSFS).

Journey with our Lady as you visit famous shrines and sites of her apparitions. Explore various pilgrimage sites in Portugal, France, Italy, Croatia and Bosnia during this 15N pilgrimage led by Fr. Sebastian Manoharan (MSFS) that features Fatima, Lourdes, Paris,

Rome and Medjugorje for an all-inclusive price of \$7990+Tips. The fare includes Entrances & Sites as per itinerary + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfast & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. 2020 Departures Available: 20th May 2020. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300721561 or email us info@magiholidays.com.au.

JRS FOOD DRIVE – Lenten Appeal. This Lent, donate 1 item each week to give to refugees living in this community. Your donation will be given to the Jesuit Refugee Service Foodbank. Help us keep the shelves stocked... Jesuit Refugee Service Australia. 24 Roslyn Street Elizabeth Bay NSW 2011.

Contacts for more information - T: +61 2 9356 388. W: www.jrs.org.au. E:

jrsinfo@jrs.org.au.

CALLING ALL CATECHISTS -

Children's Liturgy, Sacramental Preparation, Public School Catechists. You are invited to 'come and see' and experience the pilgrimage of a lifetime to where Jesus walked. "To experience the Garden of Gethsemane, the place of the Beatitudes, the Sea of Galilee – scriptures come alive and you will never be the same again!" Very Rev Michael McLean, Episcopal Vicar for Education (Schs), Leader of the Archdiocese's CCD Parish Catechist Support team's Jubilee Pilgrimage. Departs 16 May 2020, 10 Nights/13 Days in the Holy Land with Optional Rome Extension (5 Nights). Book now 1800 819 156 www.harvestjourneys.com/PV3120 DEPOSIT due 20 Dec 2019. "Next year, Jerusalem!"

NEW YEAR, NEXT STEPS: Full Day

Training for Youth Leaders. Parish youth leaders and co-ordinators are welcome to join Sydney Catholic Youth's full day of training on Saturday, 14 March from 9.30am – 6.00pm at 3 Keating St, Lidcombe. Breakfast, lunch and dinner is included. Registration is FREE but essential. After a 5PM Mass, all are invited to MERCY NIGHT with the relics of St Therese of Lisieux and Sts Louis and Zelie Martin. For all the details, visit

www.sydneycatholicyouth.org/newyearnexts teps/.



ISCERNMENT RETREAT

WHEN GOD disrupts your plans

THE DEFENING Yes OF ST JOSEPH

Take a glimpse into life and formation into the Priesthood; with talks, personal prayer, sacraments, adoration, spiritual guidance, Q&A with seminarians and discussions.

27 - 29 MARCH 2020 | (FRI) 5PM - (SUN) 3PM



THE SEMINARY OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD





*PARTICIPANTS REGISTERING MUST BE 18-30 YEARS OLD

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER. PLEASE VISIT US AT VOCATIONCENTRE.ORG.AU OR CONTACT US (02) 9307 8433