



St Mary's Cathedral

SYDNEY

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Sunday, 15 March 2020
Third Sunday Of Lent Year A



Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

There has been quite some discussion in the past week about the Church's response to the threat of contagion and the possible spread of germs at Mass.

So, at the risk of repeating myself from last Sunday's bulletin, I would like to be clear about some things.

Firstly: Holy Water. The bowls have been emptied of Holy Water, not simply because the water might get contaminated, but because people often touch the stone of the bowls while reaching for the Holy Water, and the virus might perhaps be transferred from an infected person's finger to the bowl, to the fingers of the next person to touch the bowl.

Holy Water is not dangerous: coronavirus is.

Holy water is a “sacramental”, that is, a sacred sign instituted by the Church which resembles the sacraments. By the Church's prayer, sacramentals prepare us to receive grace and dispose us to cooperate with it. Holy Water recalls our Baptism, and is used to invoke the Lord's blessing and protection. (Holy Water is still available for you to use and take home – just bring a small clean bottle and ask the Sacristan or one of the priests for some.)

Secondly: Holy Communion. In the present circumstances the Bishops have recommended people to receive on the hand rather than the tongue. This is not a rule, it is a recommendation. According to some, the risk is no greater of spreading contagion from spittle than from the biome on hands. Whatever about that, the liturgical law of the Church always permits Communion on the tongue for those who prefer it, so you may choose, if you wish, to receive on the tongue at any Mass. (At Mass in the “Extraordinary Form,” that is the traditional Latin Mass, you may not receive on the hand and may only receive on the tongue.)

The moment of receiving the Lord is supposed to be serene, not contentious.

If you are worried about contracting the COVID-19 virus when receiving Holy Communion, then come to Mass but do not receive Holy Communion. It is good to remember that Mass is not only a Sacred Meal at which we may receive the Bread of Heaven, but Mass is a Holy Sacrifice, the Sacrifice of the Cross made present for us, in which Christ himself is offered to the Father, and we offer ourselves with him.

We are not Protestants or heretics, we are Catholics. We know every Mass has inestimable “value” even when we don’t receive Communion at it. It is not necessary for us to receive Holy Communion every time we come to Mass for it to be “worth our while” coming.

Thirdly: The Collection. Passing the collection plates from person to person would potentially spread the virus, so the plates will not be passed around. Instead, please tap your credit card on the Tap’n’Go terminals marked “Offertory Collection”, located around the cathedral. (They are set at \$5 per tap, so feel free to tap more than once!). Cash can be put in the collection boxes or in the special containers located near the crossing, which the ushers will look after.)”

We should use this time of pestilence to our moral and spiritual advantage, by renewing our sense of humility before God and by showing more love and care for each other and the sick. Goodness knows, we all have more than enough things to repent of and pray about!

Fr Don Richardson, Dean

Liturgy...

First Reading Ex 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus

Give us water to drink.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. ‘Why did you bring us out of Egypt?’ they said. ‘Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?’ Moses appealed to the Lord. ‘How am I to deal with this people?’ he said. ‘A little more and they will stone me!’ The Lord said to Moses, ‘Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.’ This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, ‘Is the Lord with us, or not?’

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



Responsorial Psalm Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R v.8

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

- 1.** Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R)**
- 2.** Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. **(R)**
- 3.** O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.’ **(R)**



Liturgy...

Second Reading Rom 5:1-2. 5-8

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

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

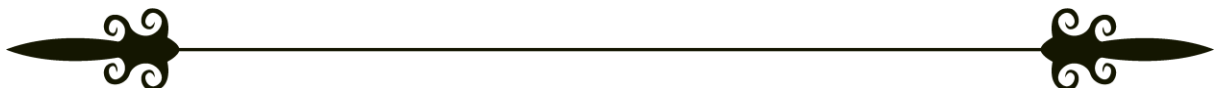


Gospel Acclamation Jn 4:42. 15

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Alleluia



Liturgy...

Gospel Jn 4:5-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'Go and call your husband' said Jesus to her 'and come back here.' The woman answered, 'I have no husband.' He said to her, 'You are right to say, "I have no husband"; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshiper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

Liturgy..... **Gospel Mt 17:1-9 Continued.....**

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

At this point his disciples returned, and were surprised to find him speaking to a woman, though none of them asked, 'What do you want from her?' or, 'Why are you talking to her?' The woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town to tell the people, 'Come and see a man who has told me everything I ever did; I wonder if he is the Christ?' This brought people out of the town and they started walking towards him.

Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, do have something to eat'; but he said, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples asked one another, 'Has someone been bringing him food?' But Jesus said: 'My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work. Have you not got a saying: Four months and then the harvest? Well, I tell you: Look around you, look at the fields; already they are white, ready for harvest! Already the reaper is being paid his wages, already he is bringing in the grain for eternal life, and thus sower and reaper rejoice together. For here the proverb holds good: one sows, another reaps; I sent you to reap a harvest you had not worked for. Others worked for it; and you have come into the rewards of their trouble.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

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 is held each Sunday in the Lady Chapel. 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)
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 <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>
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**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: www.catholic.org.au/drought.

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

DIVINE RENOVATION. Transform your 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.ORG

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

ANNUAL ST PATRICK'S DAY MASS. You are invited to join Bishop Terry Brady for the Annual St Patrick's Day Mass on **Sunday, 15 March 2020** at **St Patrick's Church Hill** commencing at 10.00am and **Tuesday, 17 March 2020** at **St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney** commencing at 10:30am.

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD. Continuing the Lenten custom called for by Pope Francis, St Mary's Cathedral will open the doors for an extended time of Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Penance. 24 Hours for the Lord is a global annual event. Located in the **Irish Chapel (Eastern side of Cathedral)** on **Friday, 20 March 2020** starting at **12pm to 8pm** and on **Saturday, 21 March 2020** from **8am to 12pm.**

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. Please see the itinerary included in this bulletin.

LE LABRYINTHE. Venture into the labyrinth and discover your own path to enlightenment 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.

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.eventbrite.com.au> or contact bishopsblend@sydneycatholic.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 **15 March** Embrace will continue with part five of the study series "**Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible**" You are welcome to join. For more information email: embrace@stmaryscathedral.org.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!"

Y-FACTOR: ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN YOUTH CAMP FROM 14-17TH APRIL.

If you are currently in Yrs 7-12, come have the time of your life these Easter school holidays with tons of friends you haven't met yet! There'll be heaps of time for games, activities, talks, discussion, prayer and a chance to grow in your faith and relationship with God. This camp is so big, we can only run it once a year so get on board now! Venue: Elanora Heights (chartered bus from a central location in Sydney will be organised). Find out more at www.sydneycatholicyouth.org/yfactor or call **Elizabeth** on **(02) 9307 8152** or email info@sydneycatholicyouth.org.

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL | 20 MARCH (12pm to 8pm) - 21 MARCH (8am to 12pm)

(EXCEPT FOR MASS TIMES 1:10PM & 5:30PM ON FRIDAY, 9AM ON SATURDAY)



ALL WELCOME

National Pilgrimage of The Relics of Saints Thérèse, Louis & Zélie Martin



Date	Morning	Evening
Sat 14 March 2020	Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church 59 Bradleys Head Rd, Clifton Gardens <i>Arrival: 7:00 am</i> <i>Departure: 1:00 pm</i>	St Joachim's Catholic Church 2 Mills St, Lidcombe <i>Arrival: 2:30 pm</i> All-night Vigil <i>Departure: 6:00 am next day</i>
Sun 15 March 2020	St Thérèse Catholic Church 11 Harvey Ave, Padstow <i>Arrival: 7:00 am</i> <i>Departure: 1:00 pm</i>	Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church 389 Port Hacking Rd, Caringbah <i>Arrival: 3:00 pm</i> <i>Departure: 9:00 pm</i>
Mon 16 March 2020	St Peter Chanel Catholic Church 60 Kingsland Rd, Regents Park (Berala) <i>Arrival: 8:30 am</i> <i>Departure: 4:00 pm</i>	The Korean Martyrs & St Stanislaus Catholic Church Asquith St, North Auburn (Silverwater) <i>Arrival: 5:00 pm</i> <i>Departure: 11:00 pm</i>
Tues 17 March 2020	St Charles Borromeo Catholic Church 582 Victoria Rd, Ryde <i>Arrival: 8:00 am</i> <i>Departure: 3:00 pm</i>	St Kevin's Catholic Church 36 Hillview Rd, Eastwood <i>Arrival: 4:00 pm</i> All-night Vigil <i>Departure: 5:00 am next day</i>
Wed 18 March 2020	All Saints Catholic Church 53 Bigge St, Liverpool <i>Arrival: 6:00 am</i>	All Saints Catholic Church All-night Vigil <i>Departure: 7:00 am next day</i>

