

# CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



FOURTH SUNDAY

OF

**LENT** 

2021

### UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

## $March - April \ 2021 \ (regular \ Mass \ schedule \ has \ resumed \ )$

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#### WORD FROM THE DEAN



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors.

This is the "Year of St Joseph" proclaimed by Pope Francis, and this Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, is the solemn feastday of St Joseph.

There are many aspects of the life of St Joseph that we can contemplate. Here's one, taken from Pope Francis's Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde*, announcing the Year of St Josephs:

"Often in life, things happen whose meaning we do not understand. Our first reaction is frequently one of disappointment and rebellion. Joseph set aside his own ideas in order to accept the course of events and, mysterious as they seemed, to embrace them, take responsibility for them and make them part of his own history. Unless we are reconciled with our own history, we will be unable to take a single step forward, for we will always remain hostage to our expectations and the disappointments that follow.

The spiritual path that Joseph traces for us is not one that *explains*, but *accepts*. Only as a result of this acceptance, this reconciliation, can we begin to glimpse a broader history, a deeper meaning. We can almost hear an echo of the impassioned reply of Job to his wife, who had urged him to rebel against the evil he endured: "Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" (*Job* 2:10).

Joseph is certainly not passively resigned, but courageously and firmly proactive. In our own lives, acceptance and welcome can be an expression of the Holy Spirit's gift of fortitude. Only the Lord can give us the strength needed to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments.

Jesus' appearance in our midst is a gift from the Father, which makes it possible for each of us to be reconciled to the flesh of our own history, even when we fail to understand it completely."

One way you can commemorate the Year of St Joseph as a family is by an Act of Entrustment made together on his feastday. The Archdiocese has prepared some "Entrustment to St Joseph" certificates that you can use to make the entrustment and keep in your home. You can pick one up from a table in front of St Joseph's Chapel, which is the altar at the far left corner of the Cathedral, next to the Lady Chapel. Also available there and at the other statue of St Joseph, (on the right hand side, near the Irish Saints Chapel) are some special prayer cards.

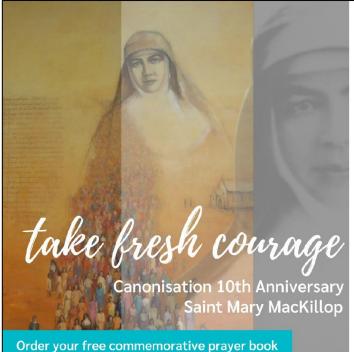
And a reminder that Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March is the anniversary of death of our pioneer Archbishop, John Bede Polding (1877) and our sixth Archbishop, James Cardinal Freeman. And of course it is St Patrick's Day on Wednesday!

With every blessing for the week ahead,

Fr Don Richardson, Dean.

### CATHEDRAL NOTICES





## To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the canonisation of Saint Mary MacKillop

We invite you to order your <u>free</u> copy of **Encountering St Mary MacKillop in Prayer** 

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have created a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire us all to "take fresh courage..." as Mary did so often. These prayers share details of her personal journey, highlighting Mary's values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world.

To order your exclusive copy please go to: www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book or call us on Ph: 02 8912 2777

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