



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

2023

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL PARISH
INCLUDING
ST COLUMBKILLE'S CHURCH,
MCELHONE STREET, WOOLLOOMOOLOO

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



FIRST READING *Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7*

A reading from the book of Genesis

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17*

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. **R.**

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R.**

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. **R.**

SECOND READING *Romans 5:12, 17-19*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Matthew 4:4*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL *Matthew 4:1-11*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

*Man does not live on bread alone
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'*

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

*He will put you in his angels' charge,
and they will support you on their hands
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'*

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

*You must worship the Lord your God,
and serve him alone.'*

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WORD FROM THE DEAN



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

Welcome to the First Sunday of Lent!

I don't suppose anyone in Sydney could be unaware of the current events in our city connected to the "World Pride" and the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras. In addition, the politicians and media were excited this week by the issues of banning "gay conversion therapy" and of the rights of religious schools around employment of those who share the beliefs or ethos of the school around moral issues.

So, because a big portion of society, the media, and commentators don't really understand where the Catholic Church's attitude is coming from, I thought it might be opportune to briefly mention something about the basis of Catholic teaching around sexuality and gender. This is not comprehensive but I hope is at least helpful.

Vitally, there is the concept of sexual identity. That is, human beings are created male and female. This is not a social construct, it is a manifest reality, and it has meaning, indeed a physical, moral and spiritual meaning. It means the two sexes have both *difference* and *complementarity*, and this is oriented towards what the Church calls "the goods of marriage and the flourishing of family life." (see the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, n. 2333)

Clearly, the way in which the complementarity, needs, and mutual support between the sexes are lived out has a profound effect on our society.

So, if we leave aside for the moment the question of how people feel about their sexual identity or attractions, there is an objective quality of meaning and purpose which is intrinsic to sexual identity, and which ought to be understood. Subjectively, of course, individuals will have their own personal experience of their sexual identity, yet ought to seek to understand it and themselves in the context of the full meaning of human sexual identity.

This is a spring from which the Church's teachings flow. There is nothing of hate or rejection or injustice in it. It has always been challenging, because people have always had to grapple with conflicting interests and feelings and experiences, and societies and cultures have had different ways of conceiving such matters in the public and private sphere. But the concept of sexual identity as rightly understood has clear implications for how we should approach all sorts of things, from sexual activity of any kind outside marriage, to homosexuality, to gender identity, and all the personal feelings and struggles that people have. And this is something to be approached not only with love but with truth.










Anyway, you don't have to do penance on the Sundays of Lent, so I'll stop there.

May God bless us all in the week ahead.

Fr Don Richardson, Dean.

UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

February - March 2023

<div>  <div> <div>LENT</div> <div>PRAY FAST GIVE</div> </div> </div>			25 Saturday	26 Sunday First Sunday of Lent 2pm Rite of Election 2023 2pm Sunday Public Tour 7pm Embrace Young Adults 	27 Monday	28 Tuesday
1 Wednesday 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	2 Thursday 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	3 Friday Autumn Ember Day (Special Day of Prayer and Penance) 12:15pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS	4 Saturday	5 Sunday Second Sunday of Lent 2pm Sunday Public Tour 7pm Embrace Young Adults 	6 Monday	7 Tuesday
8 Wednesday Today's 5.30pm Mass Concelebration for Sydney Catholic Schools 6:30pm RCIA	9 Thursday 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	10 Friday 12:15pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS	11 Saturday	12 Sunday Third Sunday of Lent Today's 10.30am Solemn Mass Concelebration for Catholic Institute of Sydney 2pm Sunday Public Tour	13 Monday	14 Tuesday
15 Wednesday 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	16 Thursday 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	17 Friday  ST PATRICK'S DAY 10.30am Mass 12:15pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS	18 Saturday	19 Sunday Fourth Sunday of Lent 2pm Sunday Public Tour 7pm Embrace Young Adults 	20 Monday  ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	21 Tuesday

Weekly Mass Schedule

MASS

Monday to Friday: 6:45am, 1:10pm, 5:30pm

Saturday: 9:00am, 12:00 noon

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am, 9:00am, 10:30am (Solemn Choral Mass), 6:00pm

RECONCILIATION

Monday to Friday: 12noon to 1:00pm and 4:30pm to 5:25pm

Saturday: 11.00am to 12noon and 4:30pm to 5:30pm

EVENING VESPERS

Monday to Friday: 5:00pm

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 5:00pm

(Choral Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament)

CATHEDRAL NOTICES



STATIONS OF THE CROSS at ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SYDNEY

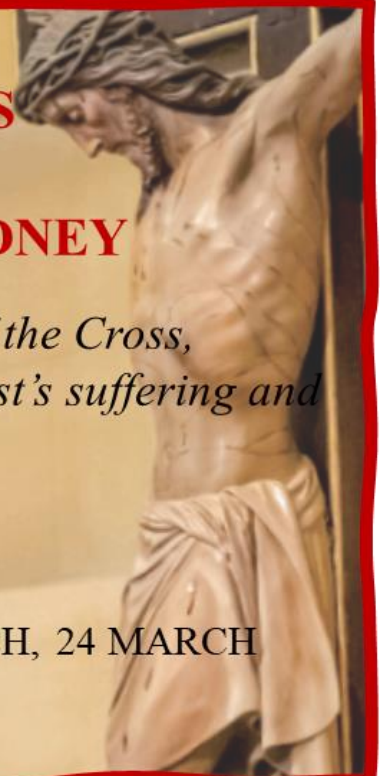
*"You are welcome to join us for Stations of the Cross,
a special devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's suffering and
death for our sake".*

Fr Don Richardson

DATE: FRIDAYS

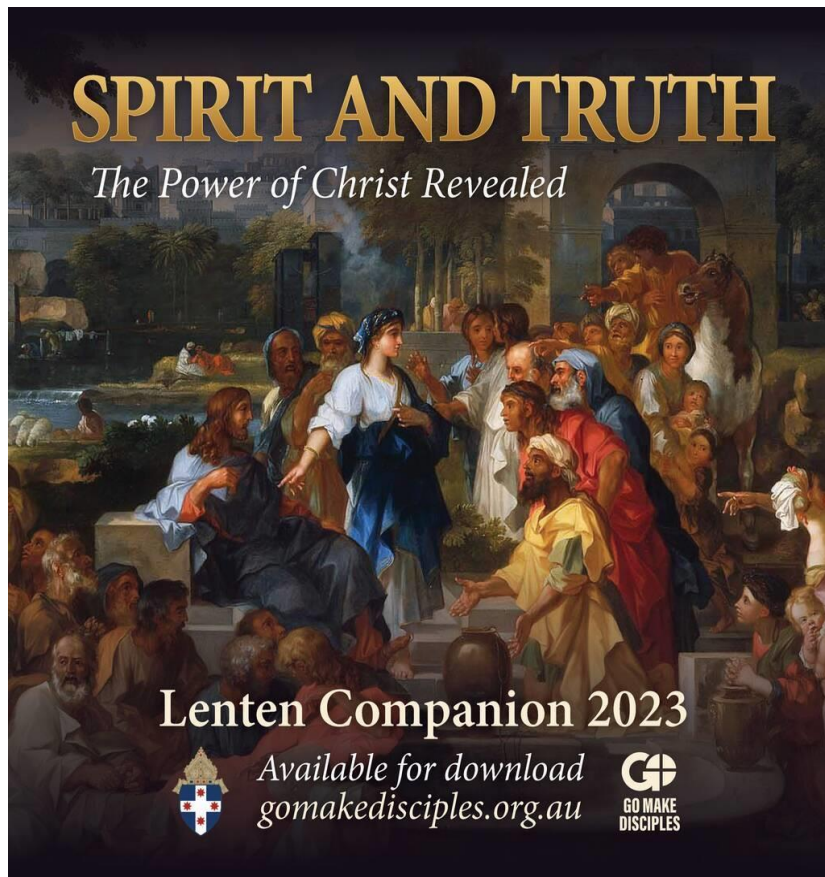
24 FEBRUARY, 3 MARCH, 10 MARCH, 17 MARCH, 24 MARCH
& 31 MARCH

TIME: 12.15PM



SPIRIT AND TRUTH

The Power of Christ Revealed



Lenten Companion 2023



Available for download
gomakedisciples.org.au



Palms Australia

**Mission: Change their
lives... and yours**

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents.

On our website you can also read news from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand.

Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know. Phone: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567 or visit our website: www.palms.org.au

Sisterhood Catholic Womens' Conference

The Sisterhood conference is a weekend for women aged 18+ to grow in their faith and encounter a community of like minded Catholic women committed to their faith.

The conference will be held at The Tops Conference Centre at Stanwell Tops from 17-19th March.

This is a live in weekend. Places are limited.

For more information visit www.sisterhood.org.au
email info@sisterhood.org.au

Missionaries of God's Love

Sisters

Sydney Consecrated Life Weekend



Sat 25th - Sun 26th
March 2022

At the Sisters' house in
Varroville, NSW

Info/RSVP: mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com



FREE GUIDED TOURS



**EVERY SUNDAY
at 2pm**

Please join us for a **FREE** guided tour
of St Mary's Cathedral

Learn about the history and architecture
of this magnificent Cathedral and Crypt

Please note:

Participants receive 10% discount in the Cathedral Shop

Meeting point: Cathedral Shop internal entrance

Wheel chair access is available to Main Cathedral

To book a spot please email:

info@stmaryscathedral.org.au

Walk-ins still accepted



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

“

**We haven't seen an
earthquake of this
magnitude for a
long time...**

**We must do all that we
can to support."**

Sally Thomas,
Caritas Australia's
Humanitarian Emergencies
Lead for the Middle East.

www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey

Donate now



Sydney Alliance: NSW State Election Assembly

The Archdiocese of Sydney's Justice and Peace Office invites you to a forum exploring key issues for voters ahead of the March 25 election including:

- Fairer rental laws
- Cost of living support
- Affordable, renewable energy

Speakers include: NSW Treasurer Matt Kean and Shadow Treasurer Daniel Mookhey

Date: Tuesday 28 February

Time: 6:00pm for 6:15pm-8:15pm

Venue: The Morley Centre, 2 Darcy Rd, Westmead

Transport: Within walking distance of Westmead station

Attendance is free.

Register online: <https://events.humanitix.com/sydney-alliance-nsw-election-assembly-february-28>

For further information, contact Dr Michael Walker from the Justice and Peace Office. Email: Michael.Walker@sydneycatholic.org



A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org.

You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance.

The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.