

# CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

2023

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

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



#### FIRST READING Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM** *Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19*

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

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. *R*.

For 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*.

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**.

#### SECOND READING 1 Peter 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL John 14:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John *I am the way, the truth, and the life.* 

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father's house;

if there were not, I should have told you.

I am now going to prepare a place for you,

and after I have gone and prepared you a place,

I shall return to take you with me;

so that where I am you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,

so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?

Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly,

whoever believes in me

will perform the same works as I do myself,

he will perform even greater works,

because I am going to the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## WORD FROM THE DEAN



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

I read recently that the Canadian Prime Minister was planning to replace the religious symbols on the Crown – the Cross of Christ and the Fleur-de-lis of the Blessed Virgin Mary – with stars and snowflakes. What the Canadians do with their government is up to them of course, but authority in human society derives from God, not from the Milky Way.

Noting the Coronation of King Charles this weekend, I repeat the quote from Pope St John XXIII I gave in last week's bulletin: "Human society can be neither well-ordered nor prosperous without the presence of those who, invested with legal authority, preserve its institutions and do all that is necessary to sponsor actively the interests of all its members."

The Catechism of the Catholic Church has more to say in respect of Authority and Government, and here are some excerpts:

1898 Every human community needs an authority to govern it. (Cf. Leo XIII, *Immortale Dei; Diuturnum illud.*) The foundation of such authority lies in human nature. It is necessary for the unity of the state. Its role is to ensure as far as possible the common good of the society.

1899 The authority required by the moral order derives from God: "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore he who resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment." (*Rom* 13:1-2; cf. 1 *Pet* 2:13-17.)

1902 Authority does not derive its moral legitimacy from itself. It must not behave in a despotic manner, but must act for the common good as a "moral force based on freedom and a sense of responsibility".(Second Vatican Council, *Gaudium et Spes*, 74 § 2)

1903 Authority is exercised legitimately only when it seeks the common good of the group concerned and if it employs morally licit means to attain it. If rulers were to enact unjust laws or take measures contrary to the moral order, such arrangements would not be binding in conscience. In such a case, "authority breaks down completely and results in shameful abuse." (John XXIII *Pacem in Terris* 51)

1904 "It is preferable that each power be balanced by other powers and by other spheres of responsibility which keep it within proper bounds. This is the principle of the 'rule of law,' in which the law is sovereign and not the arbitrary will of men." (John Paul II *Centesimus Annus*, 44)

Much of what we see in the Coronation at Westminster Abbey is the ritual expression of those same deeply Catholic Christian principles that authority comes from God, that it is to be exercised for the common good and with justice and mercy, and that those who legitimately exercise authority are to be respected and prayed for.

It is also true we can see elements in the Coronation that originate in Protestantism and the accidents of history, raising all manner of contemporary religious and political questions. It is good to explore these but from a starting point of knowledge and understanding, not just snowflakes.

Every blessing for the week ahead,

Fr Don Richardson, Dean.

# **UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS**

# May 2023

MAY MONTH OF MARY  10  11  12  13  Wednesday St John de Avila  6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults							
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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







#### 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 <a href="mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org">safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org</a>.

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.



#### MAY CELEBRATION

IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY
TO INTERCEDE FOR
PEACE IN THE WORLD
AND
THE WELFARE OF AUSTRALIA

The Sydney Archdiocese Committee, of the World Apostolate of Fatima invite you to our May Celebration in St. Mary's Cathedral on **Saturday May, 13**th honouring our Lady and intercede for peace in the World and the welfare of Australia.

To commence at 11.30am with entrance procession (inside the Cathedral) with the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima (with the Immaculate Heart) Rosary, Litany of Loreto & Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary followed by Holy Mass at Noon.

Please join us in Prayer.

For further enquiries please contact us on - 0403578994.

