



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2023

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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



FIRST READING *Isaiah 25:6-10*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 22*

R. I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name,
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING *Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere; full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *cf Ephesians 1:17, 18*

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 22:1-14*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WORD FROM THE CATHEDRAL CLERGY



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

Hearts are aching and many tears will be shed as the news of the ongoing fighting in the lands of Israel and Palestine continues to be reported back to our shores.

The longing of the Prophet Isaiah (25:6-10) echoes throughout the ages.

How we yearn for the mourning veil to be lifted and for death to be destroyed forever. The Prophet's words are not just an expression of the human cry from within – they are also a promise – a Divine Word that comes to us from God.

The Lord himself will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame but not before shedding tears and being humiliated himself. When the God-Man Jesus came to us, walked the earth, and drew near to the city of Jerusalem, he saw it and wept, saying: "Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace!" (Luke 19:41-44)

Some might wonder whether we will ever know what makes for peace in this world.

The Kingdom of Heaven or the Wedding Banquet in today's Gospel (Matthew 22:1-14) is the fulfillment of our longing for peace and it is the Messiah – Jesus of Nazareth – who makes it possible for us to enter. He faced the horror of evil and took on the depths of death. He entered and overcame the darkness of the grave to give us all the hope of overcoming whatever evil we still face in this world.

All people are called to follow Jesus and those who share in his life share in his everlasting peace.

How are we responding to his call?

Don't make anything else more important than how you respond to Jesus' personal call. The wedding garment is like our Baptismal robe received in the Church. When we were baptised in Christ, the water symbolised our burial into Christ's death, from which we then rise by resurrection with him to everlasting life.

New life only comes from following the invitation of the Lord and embracing the struggle for good. We can't be deceived to think we have what it takes to go it alone. Seeking peace without accepting the Grace that God is offering is like trying to get into the wedding without a garment, it will only leave us in darkness (Matthew 22:11-14).

Please join us in praying especially for all those people in Israel and Palestine who are desperately in need of God's saving help. With the help of God's grace may we be peacemakers on earth.

Fr Lewi Barakat,

Master of Ceremonies and Assistant Priest



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL VISION: SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK

September 2023



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

Thank you for helping us to shape our vision for the future of the Cathedral Precinct

Throughout July you helped us to explore the future vision for St Mary's Cathedral, the spiritual home to Catholic communities across Greater Sydney and NSW.

During those conversations, we heard strong support for the vision. In this newsletter we share feedback from Parishioners and other users of the Cathedral and outline the next steps for the masterplan.

THE VISION

Throughout July, we spoke to hundreds of parishioners, volunteers, visitors, clergy and staff about our vision for the Cathedral. Our conversations sought to understand your feedback on this vision and hear your ideas and aspirations for the future of the Cathedral Precinct.

Our vision is to protect and enhance the iconic Cathedral grounds, whilst making these more accessible for everyone.

The vision seeks to celebrate the Cathedral's heritage and update and renew the facilities throughout the Precinct to support the needs of the parishioners, volunteers, visitors, clergy and staff for the next 40 years.

We sought feedback on the following masterplan considerations:

- Improved amenities, including on site refreshments.
- More bathrooms, baby change and accessible toilets.
- More spaces to meet and socialise, including use of Chapter Hall.
- A better located gift shop.
- Improved access into the Cathedral, including wheelchair and pram ramps for families.
- Better use of the crypt, including a lift for easy access.
- Co-location of the Chancery functions on to the site.
- Improving bathroom facilities adjacent to Chapter Hall.
- Lighting upgrades internally and externally.
- Expansion of the College to the new 52-58 William Street Campus.

Over the course of our vision engagement, we:



Held 16 engagement sessions (after Mass)



Received nearly 200 feedback forms online and in paper



Reached hundreds of people through information brochures

YOUR FEEDBACK

There is a high level of support for the Cathedral vision with nearly **90% of respondents supportive** of the suggested upgrades.

The Cathedral's rich heritage remains a priority, with **90% of respondents agreeing that heritage** is its most important feature.

More than half of respondents **ranked the need for more accessible entrances as high**, stating more ramps should be prioritised.

WHAT WE HEARD IS IMPORTANT TO YOU

The community provided great feedback on the ideas for the future of the Cathedral.



The **heritage of the Cathedral** is its most important feature.



The need for **more accessible entrances** should be prioritised for prams and wheelchairs.



More **spaces to gather and sit indoors and outdoors** is critical to supporting a sense of parish community. This includes better **use of Chapter Hall**.



All people should **have equal access to the bathrooms**, which are currently not pram or wheelchair accessible.



The **co-location of Catholic services** on the Cathedral Precinct will support community building.



There was strong support for improving the use of, and access to **the crypt**. It will provide more space for events and activities.



The masterplan should consider better amenities and **provide a place to get refreshments** within the Precinct.



A **better located gift shop** will attract more interest in the Catholic church and distract less from places of worship.

WHAT YOU TOLD US

"It is essential for all people to have equal access to the Cathedral."

"The heritage of St Mary's Cathedral and its grounds are very important as it's our spiritual home and for the future generations to come to in worship and pray."

"It's very important to have facilities that support the gathering of people... the toilets and access to the Cathedral is not pram or wheelchair accessible."

"Enhance the Cathedral as the centre of Catholic life in Sydney."

OUR NEXT STEPS

Thank you again for your contribution to our shared vision for the future of the Cathedral Precinct. There is much more detail than we have summarised here. Your ideas are now being included in the preparation of a Cathedral masterplan.









Once our Cathedral masterplan is prepared, it will be presented to the parish community for feedback. This consultation will take place in November 2023. We'll provide an update on times and dates for consultation sessions within the Cathedral nearer the time.

If you have any questions please contact: engagement@urbis.com.au



UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

October - November 2023

			14 <i>Saturday</i>	15 <i>Sunday</i> 2pm Sunday Public Tour 7pm EMBRACE Young Adults 	16 <i>Monday</i>	17 <i>Tuesday</i> <i>St Ignatius of Antioch</i>
18 <i>Wednesday</i> <i>St Luke</i> 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	19 <i>Thursday</i> 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	20 <i>Friday</i>	21 <i>Saturday</i>	22 <i>Sunday</i> WORLD MISSION DAY 10.30am Mass Life, Marriage and Family Sunday (previously known as Marriage Mass) 2pm Sunday Public Tour 7pm EMBRACE Young Adults 	23 <i>Monday</i>	24 <i>Tuesday</i>
25 <i>Wednesday</i> 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	26 <i>Thursday</i> 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	27 <i>Friday</i>	28 <i>Saturday</i> <i>Sts. Simon & Jude</i>	29 <i>Sunday</i> 10.30am Mass Adult Confirmation 2pm Sunday Public Tour 7pm EMBRACE Young Adults 	30 <i>Monday</i>	31 <i>Tuesday</i>
1 <i>Wednesday</i> ALL SAINTS 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	2 <i>Thursday</i> ALL SOULS' DAY 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	3 <i>Friday</i>	4 <i>Saturday</i> <i>St Charles Borromeo</i> 10.30am Neo-Cat Priestly Ordinations Please Note due to the Ordinations today's 9am and 12noon Masses and 11am Reconciliation are cancelled	5 <i>Sunday</i> Sydney Open from 1.15pm to 4.15pm 7pm EMBRACE Young Adults 	6 <i>Monday</i>	7 <i>Tuesday</i>

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



St Mary's Singers at St Mary's Cathedral Sydney presents

CHURCH MUSIC THROUGH THE YEAR

FEATURING MOZART'S CORONATION MASS



FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2023

7PM

AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SYDNEY

Tickets at the door or
www.trybooking.com/1097546

TICKET PRICES

Adults \$30, Students \$15 and under 16 free

