



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



TWENTY SEVENTH 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 5:1-7*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend
the song of his love for his vineyard.
My friend has a vineyard
on a fertile hillside.
He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,
and planted choice vines in it.
In the middle he built a tower,
he dug a press there too.
He expected it to yield grapes,
but sour grapes were all that it gave.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,
I ask you to judge
between my vineyard and me.
What could I have done for my vineyard
that I have not done?
I expected it to yield grapes.
Why did it yield sour grapes instead?
Very well, I will tell you
what I am going to do to my vineyard:
I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,
and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.
I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;
overgrown by the briar and the thorn.
I will command the clouds
to rain no rain on it.
Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the House of Israel,
and the men of Judah
that chosen plant.

He expected justice, but found bloodshed,
integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 79:9, 12-16, 19-20*

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **R.**

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. **R.**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **R.**

SECOND READING *Philippians 4:6-9*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *cf John 15:15*

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 21:33-43*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone.
This was the Lord's doing
and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WORD FROM THE CATHEDRAL CLERGY



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

Today's readings from Isaiah and the Gospel remind us how we all get an invitation to work in the Father's vineyard—where that 'work' is really to be who God wants us to be, people able to recognize his Son when he passes by. One person who certainly did that was Bernadette of Lourdes. Since this is the month of the Rosary, I'll draw on what Pope Benedict said on his visit to Lourdes in 2008, celebrating the 150th anniversary of Our Lady's appearance there.

He spoke of:

- *a simple young girl from Lourdes, Bernadette Soubirous, [who] saw a light, and in this light she saw a young lady who was "beautiful, more beautiful than any other." This woman addressed her with kindness and gentleness, with respect and trust: "She said vous to me," Bernadette recounted. "Would you do me the kindness of coming here for a fortnight?" Mary asked her. "She was looking at me as one person who speaks to another." It was in this conversation, in this dialogue marked by such delicacy, that the Lady instructed her to deliver certain very simple messages on prayer, penance and conversion. It is hardly surprising that Mary should be beautiful, given that—during the apparition of 25 March 1858—she reveals her name in this way: "I am the Immaculate Conception."*
- *Let us now look at this "woman clothed with the sun" The Most Holy Virgin Mary, the glorious woman of the Apocalypse, wears on her head a crown of twelve stars which represent the twelve tribes of Israel, the entire people of God, the whole communion of saints, while at her feet is the moon, image of death and mortality. Mary left death behind her; she is entirely re-clothed with life, the life of her Son, the risen Christ. She is thus the sign of the victory of love, of good and of God, giving our world the hope it needs.*
- *Lourdes is one of the places chosen by God for his beauty to be reflected with particular brightness, that's the importance here of the symbol of light. From the fourth apparition onwards, on arriving at the grotto, Bernadette would light a votive candle each morning and hold it in her left hand for as long as the Virgin was visible to her. Soon, people would give Bernadette a candle to*

plant in the ground inside the grotto. Very soon, too, people would place their own candles in this place of light and peace. The Mother of God herself let it be known that she liked the touching homage of these thousands of torches, which since that time have continued to shine upon the rock of the apparition and give her glory. From that day, before the grotto, night and day, summer and winter, a burning bush shines out, aflame with the prayers of pilgrims and the sick, who bring their concerns and their needs, but above all their faith and their hope.

It is notable that Bernadette prays the rosary under the gaze of Mary, who unites herself to her at the moment of the Glory Be to the Father. This fact confirms the character of the prayer of the rosary as deeply centred on God. When we pray it, Mary offers us her heart and her gaze to contemplate the life of her Son, Jesus Christ.

We know how much the prayer of Pope John Paul II, who came to Lourdes twice as Pope, relied on the Virgin Mary's intercession. He also keenly encouraged the prayer of the rosary; one of the particular ways he did so was by enriching the Holy Rosary with the meditation of the Mysteries of Light.'

Pope Benedict said that Mary shows us the way to come to God. 'She teaches us to approach him in truth and simplicity. Thanks to her, we discover that the Christian faith is not a burden: It is like a wing which enables us to fly higher, so as to take refuge in God's embrace.'

Pope Francis, in St Peter's Square, after his Angelus meditation on Oct. 1, asked us to pray to Our Lady for the Synod:

Today begins the month of October, the month of the Rosary. ... I encourage everyone to experience the beauty of praying the Rosary, contemplating the mysteries of Christ with Mary and invoking her intercession for the needs of the Church and of the world. Let us pray for ... the Synod of Bishops during this month in which the first assembly on the theme of synodality in the Church takes place.

Fr Brendan Purcell,
Assistant Priest

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

1. In Australia Catholics may receive Holy Communion standing or kneeling.
2. In Australia Catholics may receive Holy Communion on the tongue or in the hand. They are to respond “Amen” after the priest or minister says “The Body of Christ” before they receive.

PLEASE NOTE:

- If you are receiving on the tongue, PLEASE DO IT PROPERLY.

The minister is not supposed to have to put fingers into your mouth. You are supposed to open your mouth and extend your tongue to cover your front teeth. Nor should you poke your tongue right out. Open your mouth, extend your tongue slightly, and tilt your head back slightly.



- If you are receiving on the hand, PLEASE DO IT PROPERLY.

Your hands should be bare, empty and clean. Place one hand open on top of the other so the minister can place the host on the open palm of your hand. Allow the minister to place the host on the palm of your hand. Then take the host with the fingers of your other hand and place it in your mouth, **in the presence of the minister** – do not walk away with the host!



- Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Communion. There are certain circumstances in which non-Catholic Christians may be admitted to receive Holy Communion – but this should be discussed personally with a priest well before Mass.

Thank you.



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.

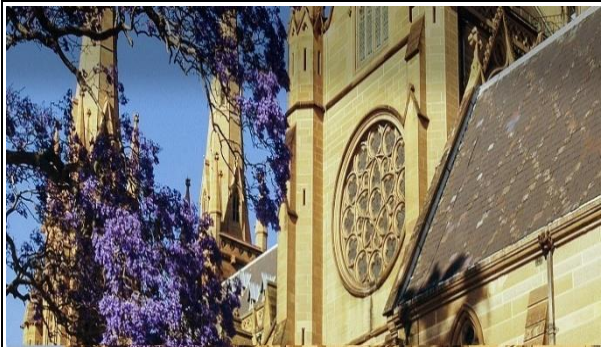







Once our Cathedral masterplan is prepared, it will be presented to the parish community for feedback. This consultation will take place in November 2023. We'll provide an update on times and dates for consultation sessions within the Cathedral nearer the time.

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



UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

October 2023

			7 <i>Saturday</i> <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	8 <i>Sunday</i> 9am Mass Rite of Election 2pm Sunday Public Tour 7pm EMBRACE Young Adults 	9 <i>Monday</i>	10 <i>Tuesday</i>
CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL 7th AND 8th OCTOBER 2023						
11 <i>Wednesday</i> 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	12 <i>Thursday</i> 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	13 <i>Friday</i>	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> <i>WORLD MISSION DAY</i> 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>

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



Hearts on Fire
FEET ON THE MOVE

catholic mission Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/timor

This week Catholic Mission will offer the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program which aims to address gaps in medical care, and provide families with essential health care and knowledge, equipping them with the confidence to act and autonomy over their health and well-being.

The Maria Auxiliadora Clinic is a vital project for the Salesian Sisters and the Church in Venilale. Since its establishment, the clinic has provided life-saving treatment for families in need, like Petrolina's, whose daughter Vitoria was found to have tuberculosis. But, with an increase in the demand for treatment, the Sisters resources can only carry them so far.

Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, going online at catholicmission.org.au/timor, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

HIS MOTHER SAID TO THE SERVANTS,
"DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU." *John 2:5*

MARIAN RETREAT
13th-15th October 2023
Starts on Friday 5.30pm & ends on Sunday 4.00pm

For more info & bookings please contact:
02 43721 598 or email: drcretreatego@gmail.com

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE
160 Hensons Road, Somersby, SYDNEY-NSW 2250,
Tel: 02 4372 1598, email: drcsydney@gmail.com
• www.divineretreatcentre.org • www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentersomersby

The Divine Retreat Centre promotes the safety and protection of children and other vulnerable persons in its care.

**MEN'S SILENT RETREAT
THE VIRTUOUS MAN**

20-22 OCTOBER 2023

REGISTRATION: \$120 | AGE: 18-35 YRS
Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park
RETREAT DIRECTOR: FR DANIELE RUSSO

Vocation Centre
Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney

REGISTER HERE

Caritas AUSTRALIA

EMERGENCY APPEALS
Morocco Earthquake and Libya Floods
www.caritas.org.au

OREMUS DAY RETREAT

*Strengthen your faith in Christ,
your prayer life, and your confidence
to pray with others.*

28 OCTOBER 2023
SAT 10 AM - 4 PM

ST MARTHA'S
38 RENWICK STREET,
LEICHHARDT

\$28.50
PLUS BOOKING FEES

REGISTER TODAY
GOMAKEDISCIPLS.ORG.AU/CAS-EVENTS
INQUIRIES: PARISHRENEWAL@SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG

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5 John Street, Lidcombe. NSW 2141 * PO Box 315, Lidcombe. NSW 1825 *
Email: fr.basil@armeniancatholic.org.au * Tel (02) 9649 3380 * Mobil 0427 404 952



Sydney 29.09.2023

Dear Catholic Community of Australia

We the Armenian Catholic Church of Australia are in mourning for the current situation in Artsakh (Nagorno Karpakh), the Armenians of Artsakh since 2020 and more so over the last 9 months have been living without food, resources or essentials which is the norm for us.

A total of 50000 individuals have managed to cross the border to Armenia and we have been supporting them with supplies and aid. As you have shown that you're seeking to provide support from a financial perspective which will ensure that we can continue to support all who are fleeing the region to ensure that they can go to a safer haven, your contributions will mean lives are spared and even saved.

Every contribution and financial aid will ensure a Christian person will be saved from persecution and this is what our Lord would expect from every one of his children in Christ. Australia is a multicultural country and we live as one and this is one of the greatest blessings any Christian can ask for, yet today unfortunately the Armenians of Artsakh are still being persecuted because of their beliefs and have been this way since Armenia accepted Christianity as a Nation since 301AD.

Today with your contribution we can at least ensure that we can help as many people as possible with the Lord's Grace.

We thank you for your heartfelt contributions and for standing by our side in our time of need.

Please send your financial contributions to

Account Name: Armenian Catholic Church

BSB: 062 194

Account Number: 1050 5497

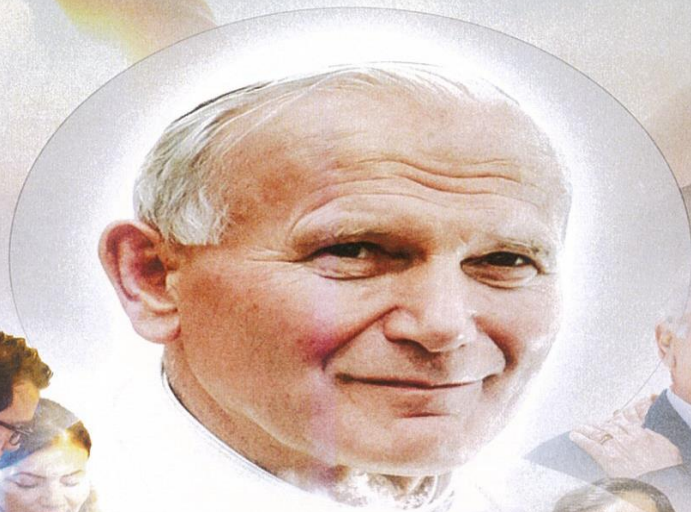
Kind regards

Monsignor Basil Sousanian

Armenian Catholic Church, Australia



ALL FAMILIES WELCOME
RENEWAL OF MARITAL PROMISES



LIFE
MARRIAGE
FAMILY

Sunday
22 OCTOBER 2023
FEAST OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

Life Marriage and Family Sunday, previously known as the Annual Archdiocesan Marriage Mass, celebrates the commitment of married couples and families to their vocation. Couples celebrating Significant Wedding Anniversaries will be presented with certificates after Mass.



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

10:30am Mass followed by tea and coffee
RSVP essential by 8th October
for certificates and catering
www.trybooking.com/CJTNF



**LIFE, MARRIAGE
AND FAMILY**
ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY



Looking to join a group and have the opportunity to meet other like-minded young adults?

then St Mary's Cathedral "EMBRACE" invites you to join them!

Meeting every Sunday after the 6pm Mass at St Mary's Cathedral House, (next to St Mary's Cathedral), young people between the ages of 18-35 gather to discuss and enjoy activities and youth projects designed to support spiritual development and encourage active practice of the faith.

The group is run by our very own Fr Emmanuel Lubega. **All welcome.**

ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

The option to make an offering via credit card is available at St Mary's Cathedral.



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.



No photography or videography permitted while Mass is in progress.



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

