



*St Mary's Cathedral*  
SYDNEY

## CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2023

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

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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### FIRST READING *Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I exult for joy in the Lord.*

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,  
for the Lord has anointed me.  
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,  
to bind up hearts that are broken;

to proclaim liberty to captives,  
freedom to those in prison;  
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

'I exult for joy in the Lord,  
my soul rejoices in my God,  
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,  
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,  
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,  
like a bride adorned in her jewels.

'For as the earth makes fresh things grow,  
as a garden makes seeds spring up,  
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise  
spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** *Luke 1:46-50, 53-54*

**R.** My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R.**

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him. **R.**

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.  
He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy. **R.**

**SECOND READING** *1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*

A reading from first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

*May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body,  
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything - hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)*

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** *John 1:6-8, 19-28*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.*

A man came, sent by God.  
His name was John.  
He came as a witness,  
as a witness to speak for the light,  
so that everyone might believe through him.  
He was not the light,  
only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:  
Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you unknown to you the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



## WORD FROM THE DEAN



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

This afternoon:

*Emmanuel*

A reflection in words and music on the mystery  
of the Incarnation with the Choir of St Mary's Cathedral

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SYDNEY  
SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER  
4:30PM  
ADMISSION FREE

I do hope you can all come to this special preparation for Christmas,

Fr Don Richardson, *Dean*

# UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

December 2023 – January 2024

<h1>ADVENT</h1> 			16 <i>Saturday</i>	17 <i>Sunday</i>  <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b> 2pm Sunday Public Tour 4.30pm Carol Service by the Cathedral Choir  7.30pm Interfaith Remembrance Service by the Catholic Cemeteries & Crematoria	18 <i>Monday</i>	19 <i>Tuesday</i>
			20 <i>Wednesday</i>	21 <i>Thursday</i> 6:30pm CITY COMPASS (Last one for the year) 	22 <i>Friday</i> 7pm Artes Christi 'Carols for Peace'	23 <i>Saturday</i>
27 <i>Wednesday</i> <i>St John</i> <b>Mass at 9am</b> 12pm Confession (Holiday Schedule)	28 <i>Thursday</i> <i>Holy Innocents</i> <b>Mass at 9am</b> 12pm Confession (Holiday Schedule)	29 <i>Friday</i> <b>Mass at 9am</b> 12pm Confession (Holiday Schedule)	30 <i>Saturday</i> <i>Resume normal Liturgy Schedule</i>	31 <i>Sunday</i>  <b>The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b>	1 <i>Monday</i> <b>Public Holiday Mass 9am</b>	2 <i>Tuesday</i> <i>Resume normal Liturgy Schedule</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

**CAROLS FOR PEACE:** Join Archbishop Fisher and a Choir & Orchestra of 80 musicians for this very special ceremony "Carols for Peace". **FRI 22 DEC (7PM)** ~ St Mary's Cathedral.  
**ENTRY BY DONATION:** All funds raised support Aid to the Church in Need & its charity works in The Holy Land & Ukraine. Tickets strictly limited **BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL.**

[www.carolsforpeace.org](http://www.carolsforpeace.org)

# merry christmas

## **SUNDAY 24th DECEMBER:**

**5.00pm:** 1st Vespers of Christmas (Evening Prayer)\*

**6.00pm:** Mass, Vigil of Christmas\*

**8.00pm:** Mass, Vigil of Christmas

**10.00pm:** Mass of Christmas Night

**11.15pm:** Matins of Christmas (The Office of Readings)\*

**12:00 Midnight:** Solemn Mass of Christmas Night (celebrated by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP)\*

## **MONDAY 25th DECEMBER:**

**7.00am:** Mass of Christmas Day

**9.00am:** Mass of Christmas Day

**10.30am:** Solemn Mass of Christmas Day (celebrated by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP)\*

**6.00pm:** Mass of Christmas Day

### **NO BOOKINGS**

Admission to the Cathedral may be restricted until after the previous Mass has concluded

**\*Mass will be live-streamed**



*St Mary's Cathedral*

# 2023



#### 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](mailto: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.

#### ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

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



No photography or videography permitted while Mass is in progress.



# CHRISTMAS at the Cathedral

PRESENTED BY **PAYCE**<sup>®</sup>  
FOUNDATION

**14-25 DECEMBER**

Experience the wonder and beauty of this Advent Season as we wait in joyful anticipation for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas

Live entertainment starts at 6:30 pm  
Christmas projection starts at 8:30 pm

*Market stalls, food and  
live entertainment.*

*All Welcome!*

Use the hashtag  
**#ChristmasAtTheCathedral**  
on your social posts.

For more information, visit our website  
[christmasatthecathedral.org.au](http://christmasatthecathedral.org.au)



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