



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

2025

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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



FIRST READING *Numbers 21:4-9*

A reading from the book of Numbers

When those that were afflicted looked upon it, they were healed.

On the way through the wilderness the people lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 77:1-2, 34-38*

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past. **R.**

When he slew them then they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer. **R.**

But the words they spoke were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant. **R.**

Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have stirred up his rage. **R.**

SECOND READING *Philippians 2:6-11*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

He humbled himself, therefore God had exalted him.

The state of Jesus was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.

But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *John 3:13-17*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The Son of Man must be lifted up.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'No one has gone up to heaven
except the one who came down from heaven,
the Son of Man who is in heaven;
and the Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.
Yes, God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WORD FROM THE DEAN



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

Despite the simply enormous downpour of rain we had on Wednesday evening, and even tornadoes in parts of our state, there has been some glorious spring weather this past week, days of sunshine and budding growth, which lift the spirits. Goodness knows, we need our spirits lifting in these days which seem filled with news of murder, war, suspicion and fear.

In a wounded world, Christians ought to be people of hope. That is what faith in Christ brings: hope. We have a vision, in Christ, which enables us to see something of the wonderful future which, even now in this time and place, is already visible. Our deep sense of hope comes from the knowledge and love of God. And so, we can see things differently, we can understand the “here and now” differently to those who do not have this hope, this vision.

In 2007 Pope Benedict XVI wrote about this hope in his Encyclical, *Spe Salvi* (Saved in Hope), and I want to share just a little of what he wrote, which I find helpful for keeping a sense of hope in these times:

Our relationship with God is established through communion with Jesus -- we cannot achieve it alone or from our own resources alone.

And a little later he continued:

This great hope can only be God, who encompasses the whole of reality and who can bestow upon us what we, by ourselves, cannot attain. The fact that it comes to us as a gift is actually part of hope.

His love alone gives us the possibility of soberly persevering day by day, without ceasing to be spurred on by hope, in a world which by its very nature is imperfect.

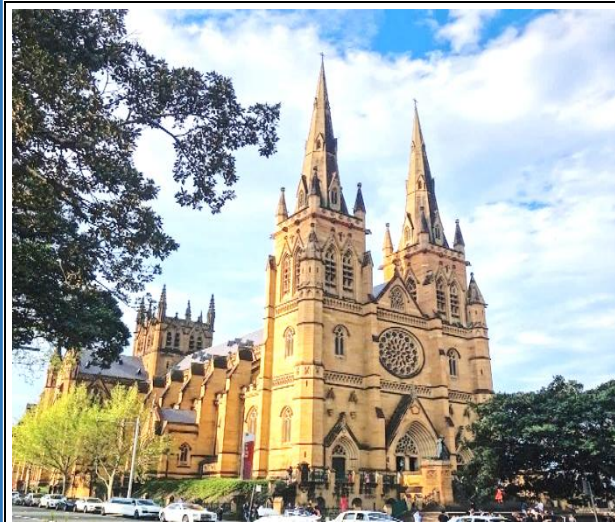
His love is at the same time our guarantee of the existence of what we only vaguely sense and which nevertheless, in our deepest self, we await: A life that is 'truly' life.

Today's Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross also powerfully reminds us to have hope, because it was through his body broken and blood poured out on the Cross that Jesus Christ has won the victory over death: he is risen, and has saved us! Knowing that, we can see deeply into the world today and find the promise of new life.

Fr Don Richardson, *Dean*.

UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

September 2025



| | | | |
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| 13 Saturday <i>St John</i> <i>Chrysostom</i> | 14 Sunday THE EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 2pm Mass <i>(Feast of Our Lady of Victories)</i> 2pm Sunday Public Tour | 15 Monday <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i> | 16 Tuesday <i>Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian</i> |
| 17 Wednesday 7pm Organ Recital  6:30pm RCIA <i>(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)</i> | 18 Thursday 6:30pm CITY COMPASS  | 19 Friday | 20 Saturday <i>Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang & Companions</i> |
| 21 Sunday 2pm Sunday Public Tour | 22 Monday | 23 Tuesday <i>St Pius of Pietrelcina</i> | 24 Wednesday 6:30pm RCIA <i>(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)</i> |
| 25 Thursday 6:30pm CITY COMPASS  | 26 Friday | 27 Saturday <i>St Vincent de Paul</i> | 28 Sunday WORLD REFUGEES AND MIGRATION DAY 2pm Multicultural Mass <i>(Catholic Immigration Office)</i> 2pm Sunday Public Tour |
| 29 Monday <i>Sts. Michael, Gabriel, Raphael</i> | 30 Tuesday <i>St Jerome</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

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY • 14 SEP 2025

WE ARE A SAFE, HOPE-FILLED AND WELCOMING CHURCH



 ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL
ORGAN CONCERTS 2025



BACH at the centre
celebrating discoveries and anniversaries


Simon Niemiński
Assistant Director
of Music
St Mary's Cathedral

*"This is a splendid release... There is a lot of poetry here."
(American Record Guide)*

*"Simon Niemiński plays this hugely difficult score brilliantly"
(Choir and Organ)*

Wednesday 17 September, 7pm
ADMISSION FREE • RETIRING COLLECTION


THE ST MARY'S SINGERS
AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL
CONDUCTED BY SIMON NIEMIŃSKI
ORGAN: DANIEL JUSTIN
PRESENT

**A CONCERT TRIBUTE
TO TED GRANTHAM**

INCLUDING:
MOZART MISSA SOLEMNIS IN C
HAYDN TE DEUM

LOCATION: ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, COLLEGE ST, SYDNEY
DATE: FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2025
TIME: 7PM

TICKETS:
GENERAL: \$35
CONCESSION: \$25
UNDER 16 FREE

TICKETS AVAILABLE HERE:
<https://www.trybooking.com/DEKKU>



Australian Catholic Historical Society Talk

The next event for the Australian Catholic Historical Society will be held in the crypt of Saint Patrick's, Church Hill at **2:00 PM** on **Sunday 21 Sept**, in the crypt of St Patrick's Church, Church Hill.

The Topic '*The Divided Heart of Catherine Mackerras, Faith, family & self-understanding in a different Australia*'. Speaker: Patrick Mullins, historian. *Members, their guests, and visitors are most welcome and there is no charge. Details of the programme of the ACHS as well as resources on church history and YouTube videos are on the website <https://australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au/>*



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.

ELECTRONIC COLLECTION PLATES

The option to make an offering via credit card is available at this Mass.



Please note you can continue to donate with cash or pass the plate on.



No photography or videography permitted while Mass is in progress.