



*St Mary's Cathedral*  
SYDNEY

## CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2026

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 8:23 - 9:3*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.*

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who live in a land of deep shadow  
a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater,  
you have made their joy increase;  
they rejoice in your presence  
as men rejoice at harvest time,  
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,  
the bar across his shoulders,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
these you break as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 39:2, 4, 7-10*

**R.** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
before whom shall I shrink? **R.**

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
for this I long,

to live in the house of the Lord,  
all the days of my life,  
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,  
to behold his temple. **R.**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.  
Hope in the Lord! **R.**

## SECOND READING *1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.*

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollo', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Matthew 4:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom  
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL *Matthew 4:12-23*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

***He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.***

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled: Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!

Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,

Galilee of the nations!

The people that lived in darkness

has seen a great light;

on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death

a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'.

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## WORD FROM THE DEAN



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

On this Australia Day weekend, it will be good to pray for our nation, for God's blessing on all our people, that peace and justice may prevail always in this land, that we might live in harmony, mutual respect, with a spirit of reconciliation. There are all kinds of problems and shortcomings in our society, but there is very much that is admirable. This is a homeland to be treasured, and living in such a wonderful country, I believe, is something to be very grateful for. We should then reflect on our opportunity, indeed our obligation, to work for the common good, to make right whatever is wrong, and to care well for our common home.

Here at St Mary's Cathedral we always have a special programme of events for the Australia Day public holiday each year – it is listed on another page of this bulletin – including Mass, guided tours (including tours of the belltower) and organ recitals, so if you are in the city on Monday, do come along.

Continuing our "Year of Saints" at the cathedral, here are two more for you to consider as examples of holiness:

- Blessed Michal Kozal was born in the village of Nowy Folwark, in Poland, on 27 September 1893. His family were farmers. He trained for the priesthood at seminaries in Poznań and Gniezno. In 1939 he was named auxiliary bishop of Włocławek, where he was consecrated in the cathedral on August 13. Two weeks later, on September 1, the Nazis invaded Poland and immediately launched a campaign against the Church together with all symbols of national identity. German troops arrived in Włocławek on September 14, suppressing religious publications, seizing church buildings, and arresting many clergy. Bishop Kozal issued protests to no avail. Refusing to flee, he insisted on remaining with his people. He was arrested along with other priests and imprisoned. He was transported in 1941 to the concentration camp at Dachau in southern Germany, where thousands of clergy were held captive. During his imprisonment he continued to exercise his ministry, offering spiritual guidance to his fellow priests and, when possible, celebrating Mass. He said: "I give you the greatest gift, Jesus

in the Eucharist. God is with us. God will never abandon us.” On 26 January 1943, he was taken away for execution by a fatal injection. His last words were: “Now is the easiest way to eternity.” His body was cremated at the concentration camp.

- St. Bathildis was born in England around 626 and was sold into slavery at a young age. Taken to the Frankish court, her intelligence and virtue soon earned her respect, and she eventually married King Clovis II of the Franks. As queen, Bathildis used her position to enact laws against the slave trade, promote the well-being of the poor, and encourage the founding of monasteries. She served as regent after her husband’s death, guiding the kingdom with wisdom and compassion. Later in life, Bathildis entered a convent herself, at Chelles near Paris, living humbly among the very monastic communities she had helped establish. She died around 680, leaving a legacy of justice, charity, and faith-filled leadership.

Prayerful best wishes for the week ahead,

Fr Don Richardson, Dean.

## UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

### January – February 2026

			24 <i>Saturday</i> <i>St Francis de Sales</i>	25 <i>Sunday</i>  2pm Sunday Public Tour	26 <i>Monday</i> <b>AUSTRALIA DAY</b>  Public Holiday Mass 9am  Celebrating Australia Day at St Mary's Cathedral <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Organ Recital</li><li>▪ History &amp; Crypt Tours</li><li>▪ Bell Tower Tours</li><li>▪ Hand Bell Ringing</li></ul>	27 <i>Tuesday</i> <i>Sts Timothy &amp; Titus</i>
28 <i>Wednesday</i> <i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>  6:30pm <b>RCIA</b> (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	29 <i>Thursday</i>  6:30pm <b>CITY COMPASS</b>	30 <i>Friday</i>	31 <i>Saturday</i> <i>St John Bosco</i>	1 <i>Sunday</i> <b>WORD OF GOD SUNDAY</b>  2pm Sunday Public Tour	2 <i>Monday</i> <i>The Presentation of the Lord</i>  <b>WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CONSECRATED LIFE</b>	3 <i>Tuesday</i> <i>St Blaise</i>
4 <i>Wednesday</i>  6:30pm <b>RCIA</b> (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	5 <i>Thursday</i> <i>St Agatha</i>  6:30pm <b>CITY COMPASS</b>	6 <i>Friday</i> <i>St Paul Miki &amp; Companions</i>	7 <i>Saturday</i>	8 <i>Sunday</i>  2pm Sunday Public Tour	9 <i>Monday</i>	10 <i>Tuesday</i> <i>St Scholastica</i>

**PLEASE NOTE: No Vespers during the school holidays**

*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

A large, vertical photograph of the cathedral's interior, focusing on a massive, multi-paned rose window that lets in bright light. The surrounding architecture is made of light-colored stone with intricate carvings. The overall atmosphere is grand and historical.

**CELEBRATING  
Australia Day  
HOLIDAY AT THE CATHEDRAL**

**MASS**  
**9.00AM**

**ORGAN RECITAL**  
**10.00AM**  
**3.00 PM**

**HISTORY AND  
CRYPT TOURS**

<b>10.30AM</b>
<b>11.00AM</b>
<b>11.30AM</b>
<b>12.00PM</b>
<b>1.00PM</b>
<b>1.30PM</b>
<b>2.00PM</b>
<b>2.30PM</b>

**BELL TOWER TOURS\***

<b>11.00AM</b>
<b>1.30PM</b>

**RINGING OF  
HAND BELLS -  
PERFORMANCE**  
**3.30 PM**  
**MAIN CATHEDRAL**

**26 January 2026**  
**OPEN HOURS**  
**6.30AM TO 6.30PM**

\*Bell Tower Tour participants must be in good health and sign a standard waiver form.



### POSITION VACANT Assistant Sacristan

St Mary's Cathedral is currently seeking a candidate to fill the permanent full-time role of Assistant Sacristan.

This is an exciting opportunity to work with a supportive for purpose employer.

The primary purpose of this position is to ensure the Cathedral is cleaned and kept in good order, and that the Sanctuary, Crypt, furnishings and decorative objects are cleaned and maintained. The Assistant Sacristan will also be required to assist with the preparation for liturgical celebrations.

For a comprehensive role overview and/or to apply,

Please email

[helen.morassut@stmaryscathedral.org.au](mailto:helen.morassut@stmaryscathedral.org.au)

Applications for this position close on

**Friday 13 February 2026**



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office

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 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.**