



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

2026

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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



FIRST READING *Ezekiel 37:12-14 (Year A)*

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The Lord says this: I am going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this - it is the Lord who speaks.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalms 130.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7b-8 (R.7b)*

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my supplications! **R.**

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you,

so that you may be revered. **R.**

I wait for the Lord,
my soul waits, and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning. **R.**

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.
It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities. **R.**

SECOND READING *Romans 8:8-11 (Year A)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *John 11:25, 26 (Year A)*

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL *John 11:1-45 (Year A)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I am the resurrection and the life.

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. - It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?' Jesus replied:

'Are there not twelve hours in the day?

A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling

because he has the light of this world to see by;

but if he walks at night he stumbles,

because there is no light to guide him.'

He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to

get better.' The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas - known as the Twin - said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live,
and whoever lives and believes in me
will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and wants to see you.' Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked,

'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.
I knew indeed that you always hear me,
but I speak
for the sake of all these who stand round me,
so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WORD FROM THE DEAN



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

Last Sunday morning's 9am "Family Mass" with families of our St Mary's Cathedral College, followed by morning tea, was a very nice occasion of prayer and friendship, and I'm grateful especially to our Family Educator, Angela Mills, for organising it.

Another highlight last week was the concert performance in the Crypt by the boys and girls of the Cathedral Choir on Wednesday evening. They sang the Pergolesi *Stabat Mater* beautifully. That, and the *Lamentations* sung by Richard Butler were touching reminders of the near approach of Holy Week. The Choir are going on tour to Rome and the UK later this year and we would really appreciate your support for them, perhaps by way of buying their new CD, available in our cathedral shop.

This Wednesday is the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, a very beautiful and significant feast – one of my personal "favourites" of the year. We will begin the celebration of the Annunciation on Tuesday evening with First Vespers at 5pm and Mass at 5.30pm.

For our "Year of Saints" at the Cathedral, here are some who are commemorated in the week ahead. These are their very brief entries in the Roman Martyrology:

24th March: Saint Rafqa Ar-Rayès de Himlaya, (died 1914) virgin, of the Lebanese Maronite Order of St Anthony: blind for thirty years, she was then afflicted with paralysis in all her limbs, trusting in God alone she persevered in prayer.

25th March: The commemoration of the Good Thief, who confessed Christ on the cross, and so merited to hear him say, "Today you will be with me in paradise." (*Traditionally named St Dismas.*)

27th March: At Quarona in the territory of Novara in Piedmont, Blessed Panacea de' Muzzi, (died 1383) virgin and martyr: at the age of fifteen, as she was praying in

church she was killed by her own stepmother, who had always been cruel to her.

27th March: At Turin, Blessed Francesco Faa di Bruno, (died 1888) priest, who combined knowledge of mathematics and physics with zeal for works of charity.

The full story of the life of St Rafqa is truly extraordinary though quite harrowing to read. Nothing else is known about the life of the “Good Thief” beyond what is written in the Gospel according to Luke. Bl Panacea is an example of a person whose martyrdom and sanctity were known by the parishioners in her own locality for a long time before being recognised by the wider Church. Bl Francesco Faa di Bruno was an influential Professor of Mathematics who showed how to live a life with faith and reason in harmony. What kind of a saint could you be?

With prayers for you all in the week ahead and for peace in our world,

Fr Don Richardson, Dean

UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

March – April 2026

			21 <i>Saturday</i>	22 <i>Sunday</i> Fifth Sunday of Lent Today's 10.30am Mass (Concelebration for the Day of the Unborn) Followed by Angelus and Procession at 12pm. * Today's 12.15pm Latin Mass to be held in the Crypt 2pm Sunday Public Tour	23 <i>Monday</i>	24 <i>Tuesday</i>
			25 <i>Wednesday</i> THE ANNUCIATION OF THE LORD 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	26 <i>Thursday</i> Today's 5.30pm Mass (Concelebration for Sydney Catholic Schools Commissioning Mass) 6:30pm CITY COMPASS (Will Resume after Easter)	27 <i>Friday</i> 12.15pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS	28 <i>Saturday</i>
1 <i>Wednesday</i> 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY  Mass Times 10.30am Chrism Mass 6.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper 9.00pm Compline	3 GOOD FRIDAY Mass Times 10.00am Stations of the Cross 3.00pm Passion of the Lord 	4 HOLY SATURDAY Mass Times 10.00am Tenebrae 7.00pm Easter Vigil 	5 EASTER SUNDAY Mass Times 7.00am 9.00am 10.30am 5pm Vespers & Benediction 6.00pm 2pm Sunday Public Tour 	6 EASTER MONDAY Public Holiday Mass 9am	7 <i>Tuesday</i> Resume normal Liturgy Schedule

CATHEDRAL NOTICES



Passiontide CAROLS

**MARCH 26
6PM**

**ST JOHN PAUL II
CATHOLIC CHAPEL**
150 CITY ROAD - DARLINGTON

 **SYDNEY UNIVERSITY
CATHOLIC SOCIETY**

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FAITH FORMATION 2026

The Eucharist in the Life of the Church

<p>Apr Introduction to the Eucharist (Free Event) <i>Rev Dr Paschal M. Corby OFM Conv</i></p> <p>May The Eucharist in Scripture <i>Dr Mario Baghos</i></p> <p>Jun The Eucharist in the Early Church <i>Dr Kevin Wagner</i></p> <p>Eucharistic Miracles (Free Event) <i>Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP</i></p> <p>Jul The Eucharist in Systematic Theology <i>Chris Woller</i></p>	<p>Aug The Eucharistic and Devotion <i>Rev Dr Benjamin Johnson OFM Cap</i></p> <p>Sep Thomas Aquinas on the Eucharist and Corpus Christi <i>Professor Angus Brook</i></p> <p>Oct The Eucharist and Morality <i>Rev Dr Paschal M. Corby OFM Conv</i></p> <p>Nov The Eucharist and Evangelisation <i>Dr Kevin Wagner</i></p>
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Online via Zoom
Cost per month: \$35 per person (+ BOOKING FEES)
\$100 for Parish Groups, in-person gathering (+ BOOKING FEES)
Register at: gomakedisciples.org.au/didasko



Discover and share in our story

The Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre brings alive the spirit of the Congregation, its history and heritage.

Australia's first religious sisters have been of service to the community regardless of creed, wealth or ethnicity, for over 185 years.

Tuesday – Thursday
10.00am–3.00pm or by appointment
Free entry, parking available
Bookings recommended

You too are part of this continuing and living heritage and we'd love to welcome you.

1 Rockwall Cres, Potts Point, NSW
T: 02 9138 0835
W: socheritagecentre.org.au
E: heritagecentre@rscoffice.com



**Sisters
of Charity
of Australia**

**HERITAGE
CENTRE**





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. 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

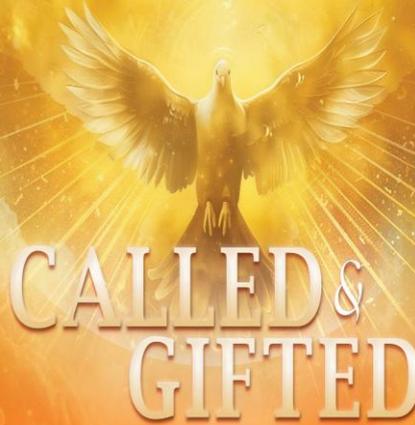
The option to make an offering via credit card is available at this Mass.



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

No photography or videography permitted while Mass is in progress.





CALLED & GIFTED

DISCERNMENT PROCESS

The path to discerning your charisms

4 May - 16 July 2026

In-person at

St Catherine Labouré Parish, Gympie

BROUGHT TO YOU BY  CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

 CATHERINE OF SIENA INSTITUTE



Gala dinner

FOR OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS




Join the Friends of St Mary's Cathedral today to become part of our vibrant community

Canapés • Three courses
Music from the Australian World Orchestra

Friday 5th June 2026, 6.30 p.m.
Cathedral House

TICKETS
\$120 from cathedralfriends.org.au

Read more and buy tickets for the dinner





IN LUMINE FIDEI

IN THE LIGHT OF FAITH

A Gala Fundraising Dinner

Join with **Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP** in supporting the Campaign for St Mary's Cathedral and major restorations to advance the home of Catholic faith in Australia.

FEATURING



Master of Ceremony,
Ben Fordham



Performances by the
St Mary's Cathedral Choir



International Actress &
Opera Singer, **Silvia Colloca**



Opera Australia Leading Tenor
Diego Torre

Live and silent auctions featuring exclusive items and unique experiences, along with an incredible Car Raffle.

Saturday, 9 May 2026 | Sofitel Wentworth Sydney | SEATS LIMITED – BOOK TODAY
6:00pm to 10:30pm

*Includes a partial tax-deductible gift for St Mary's Cathedral National Trust

For Tickets Visit www.ourfaithourworks.org/cathedral-gala-dinner

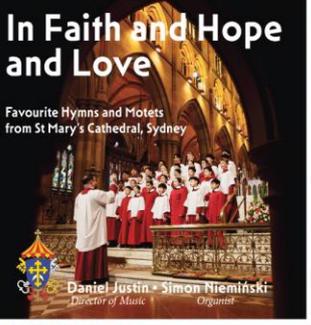
 **BOOK NOW**



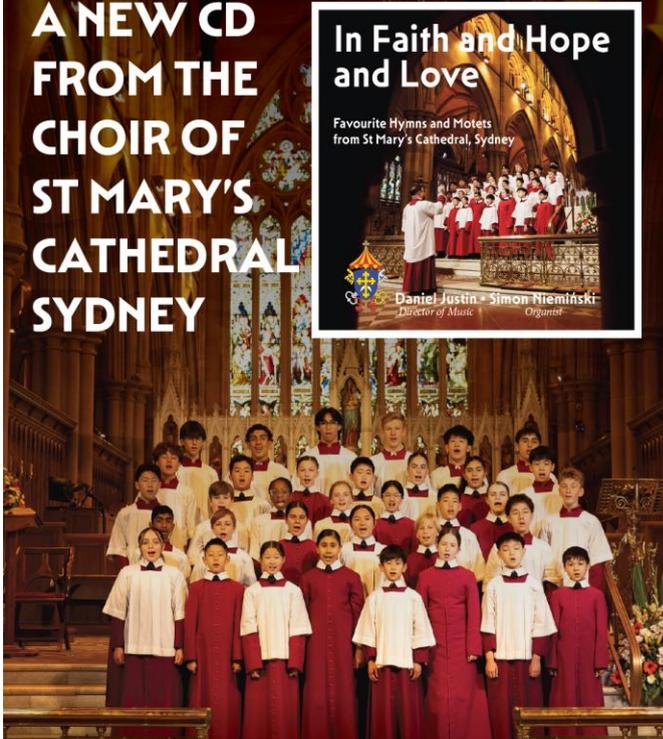
A NEW CD FROM THE CHOIR OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL SYDNEY

In Faith and Hope and Love

Favourite Hymns and Motets from St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney



Daniel Justin • **Simon Nieminski**
Director of Music • Organist



\$30 from the Cathedral Shop

Featuring favourite hymns, including:
In Faith and Hope and Love, Hail Queen of Heaven, Soul of my Saviour, Sweet Sacrament Divine, and many more!



EASTER

AT
ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

"I welcome you to the Sacred Liturgies of Holy Week.

Jesus Christ died for all and rose from the dead so that all people may come to know and believe in the saving power of God."

Fr Don Richardson
Dean of St Mary's Cathedral

PALM SUNDAY / 29 MARCH 2026

7.00am: Mass
9.00am: Mass
10.30am: Procession & Solemn Mass
5.00pm: Solemn Vespers and
Benediction 6.00pm: Mass

MAUNDY THURSDAY / 2 APRIL 2026

10.30am: Chrism Mass
6.30pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper
9.00pm: Compline The Office of Night Prayer

GOOD FRIDAY / 3 APRIL 2026

10.00am: Stations of the Cross
3.00pm: Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

HOLY SATURDAY / 4 APRIL 2026

10.00am: Tenebrae The Office of Readings
7.00pm: Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY / 5 APRIL 2026

7.00am: Mass
9.00am: Mass
10.30am: Solemn Mass
5.00pm: Solemn Vespers and
Benediction 6.00pm: Mass