



*St Mary's Cathedral*  
SYDNEY

## CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

2026

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

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



### FIRST READING *Acts 1:1-11*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** *Ps 46:2-3, 6-9*

**R.** God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:  
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!  
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,  
great king over all the earth. **R.**

God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.  
Sing praise for God, sing praise,  
sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R.**

God is king of all the earth.  
Sing praise with all your skill.  
God is king over the nations;  
God reigns on his holy throne. **R.**

**SECOND READING** *Ephesians 1:17-23*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

***He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.***

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Matthew 28:19, 20*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** *Matthew 28:16-20*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## WORD FROM THE DEAN



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

Some exciting things happening in and around the cathedral in the next few weeks:

- The Sistine Chapel “Revelations” immersive exhibition 16<sup>th</sup> May to 19<sup>th</sup> July. I think this is a “must see”. Tickets are available online <https://sistinechapelsydney.com.au/#tickets>
- Next Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, the 6pm Mass is the Extended Vigil of Pentecost. A beautiful way to celebrate Pentecost, as at the Easter Vigil there are several Readings. However, I promise the homily will be brief!
- Relics of St Anthony of Padua are coming to Sydney from Padua and will be present in St Mary’s Cathedral on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June from 10am until 6.30pm. There will be a special Mass at 11am as well as the usual Friday Mass schedule. One of the Friars from Padua, Fr Bortolino Maistrello OFM Conv. will accompany the relics and will be speaking at the Masses. It will be a special opportunity to ask the intercessions of this popular and inspiring saint to whom so many of us have turned in time of need.
- The relics of St Carlo Acutis will be at St Mary’s Cathedral for the 5.30pm Mass on 25<sup>th</sup> June.

And, for our “Year of Saints” at St Mary’s Cathedral, here are some to be encouraged and inspired by this week:

Blessed Blandina Merten died in 1918. She was an Ursuline nun at Trier in Germany, who united the contemplative life with care for the human and Christian education of girls.

Blessed Jacques-Louis Loir, priest and martyr, was born in France in 1720. He became a Capuchin Franciscan priest. During the French Revolution, which led to the persecution of Catholic clergy, though he was nearly eighty years of age he was detained in a prison ship at Rochefort with many others. Despite his age and frail health, Jean-Louis’s lively spirit uplifted his fellow prisoners. A survivor later testified that, though “venerable in age,” he was “the joy of all,” displaying the energy of a man half his age. He died in the squalor of the prison hulk, kneeling in prayer.






St Arcangelo Tadini was born on 12 October 1846 in Verolanuova (Brescia), Italy, and ordained a priest in 1870. In his pastoral ministry he was active in his concern for the rights and dignity of workers and founded the Congregation of Worker Sisters of the Holy House of Nazareth with a particular care for social justice. He spent long hours in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. He died in 1912.

Every blessing for the week ahead,

Fr Don Richardson, Dean.

# UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

## May – June 2026

			<p><b>16</b> <i>Saturday</i></p> <p>Today's 6pm Mass (Concelebration followed by Our Lady of Fatima Procession)</p> <p><b>Australian Catholic Bishops Conference National Count of Attendance 2026</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> <i>Sunday</i></p>  <p><b>The ASCENSION of the LORD</b></p> <p>WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY</p> <p>WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY</p> <p><b>Australian Catholic Bishops Conference National Count of Attendance 2026</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> <i>Monday</i></p> <p><i>St John I</i></p>	<p><b>19</b> <i>Tuesday</i></p>
			<p><b>20</b> <i>Wednesday</i></p> <p><i>St Bernadine of Siena</i></p> <p><b>RCIA (RESUMES 27 MAY 2026)</b></p>	<p><b>21</b> <i>Thursday</i></p> <p><i>St Christopher Magallanes</i></p> <p><b>6:30pm CITY COMPASS</b></p> 	<p><b>22</b> <i>Friday</i></p> <p><i>St Rita of Cascia</i></p>	<p><b>23</b> <i>Saturday</i></p> <p><b>Australian Catholic Bishops Conference National Count of Attendance 2026</b></p>
<p><b>27</b> <i>Wednesday</i></p> <p><i>St Augustine of Canterbury</i></p> <p><b>RCIA (RESUMES TODAY)</b></p>	<p><b>28</b> <i>Thursday</i></p> <p><b>6:30pm CITY COMPASS</b></p> 	<p><b>29</b> <i>Friday</i></p> <p><i>St Paul VI</i></p>	<p><b>30</b> <i>Saturday</i></p>	<p><b>31</b> <i>Sunday</i></p>  <p><b>TRINITY SUNDAY</b></p> <p>2pm Sunday Public Tour</p>	<p><b>1</b> <i>Monday</i></p> <p><i>St Justin</i></p>	<p><b>2</b> <i>Tuesday</i></p> <p><i>Sts Marcellinus &amp; Peter</i></p>

# CATHEDRAL NOTICES



## Upcoming 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, 17 May 2026**.

**The Topic:** "Unconventional Women" History of Blessed Sacrament Sisters

**Presenter:** Dr Sarah Gilbert

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, are on the website

<https://australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au/>

THE RELICS OF  
**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA**  
COMES TO  
ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SYDNEY  
FRIDAY, JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SYDNEY X CONVENTUAL FRANCISCAN FRIARS

### SCHEDULE

11:00AM - MASS WITH VENERATION BEFORE & AFTER MASS

12:00PM - CONFESSION

1:10PM - MASS WITH VENERATION BEFORE & AFTER MASS

4:30PM - CONFESSIONS

5:00PM - VESPERS

5:30PM - MASS WITH VENERATION BEFORE & AFTER MASS

# 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](http://cathedralfriends.org.au)

Read more and buy tickets for the dinner

**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.**

16 MAY — 19 JULY 2026  
ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL FORECOURT

# THE WORLD'S GREATEST CEILING HAS COME TO SYDNEY.

S I S T I N E C H A P E L  
R E V E L A T I O N S

AN IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION

   [sistinechapelssydney.com.au](https://www.sistinechapelssydney.com.au)



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VATICANI



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ARCHDIOCESE  
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