



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

2026

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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



FIRST READING *Acts 8:5-8, 14-17*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20*

R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,

O sing to the glory of his name.

O render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **R.**

'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. **R.**

He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. **R.**

Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. **R.**

SECOND READING *1 Peter 3:15-18*

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *John 14:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *John 14:15-21*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate

to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive

since it neither sees nor knows him;

but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave your orphans;

I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me;

but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father

and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them
will be one who loves me;

and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WORD FROM THE DEAN

Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

A very happy Mothers Day to all our mothers! Let's all fill heaven with prayers for mums everywhere, prayers of gratitude, asking God's happiest blessings for those who live and those who wait for us in the Lord!

For our "Year of Saints" at the cathedral:

Catholic men in particular may take inspiration from **Blessed Ivan Merz**. He was born in Bosnia in 1896, at Banja Luka. After his secondary schooling he enrolled in the University of Vienna, wishing to teach young people back home in Bosnia. His Catholic faith grew stronger. The First World War broke out and in 1916 Ivan was enlisted in the military and sent to the Italian front. The experience of warfare and its horrors changed his life, deepened his spiritual quest, and made him determined to struggle for Christian perfection, placing his life in God's hands. He developed a very clear spiritual itinerary, and, because he carefully wrote in his diary each day, we can understand how he set about achieving his goals. He dedicated himself to the Catholic faith and he made a private vow of perpetual chastity in 1918.

After the war he continued his university studies in Vienna and Paris, where he continued to put his faith into action serving the poor in the Society of St Vincent de Paul, and obtaining a doctorate in philosophy he became a professor of language and literature in his homeland. Ivan was especially noted for his interest in young people and concern for their growth in faith and holiness. He started the "League of Young Croatian Catholics" within the Croatian Catholic Action Movement. As a Catholic intellectual, Ivan was able to guide young people and adults to Christ and His Church through his writings and the gatherings he organised. In 1928 Ivan underwent surgery for chronic sinus problems but contracted meningitis. In his last suffering he made an offering of his life for the young people whom he served and encouraged in faith, and died on May 10th 1928, aged only 31. Ivan Merz was beatified in 2003.

In 1798, **Saint Theodora (Anne-Therese) Guerin** was born in France. From an early age she showed her devotion to God, and when she was 10 she told her parish priest that one day she would be a nun. Living near the sea, she liked to spend time on the rocky shore – her father served in Napoleon's navy. When she was 15 her father was killed and her mother's mental health weakened, so Anne-Therese cared for her mother and young sister for some years, but when she was about 25 she joined the Sisters of Providence, becoming Sr Theodora, teaching and caring for the sick. She was asked to lead a group of missionary Sisters of Providence to the USA, in Indiana. She and her Sisters arrived there in 1840 and found themselves in pioneering territory, near Indianapolis, living at first in a humble log cabin. Facing many difficulties, she and her companions established a school and a legacy of love, mercy and justice that continues to this day. Sr Theodora herself often felt inadequate for the work entrusted to her, but knew that, while alone she could do nothing, all things were possible with God. Remaining true and faithful, and having touched countless lives, and often remarked to be saintly by people who knew her, she died in 1856. She was canonised in 2006.




May these, and all the saints, help us by their example and their prayers!

With prayerful best wishes for the week ahead,

Fr Don Richardson, Dean.

UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

May 2026

		<p>9 <i>Saturday</i></p> <p>Today's 12pm Mass (May Celebration for the World Apostolate of Fatima Concelebration)</p> <p>Australian Catholic Bishops Conference National Count of Attendance 2026</p>	<p>10 <i>Sunday</i></p> <p>Australian Catholic Bishops Conference National Count of Attendance 2026</p> <p>2pm Sunday Public Tour</p>	<p>11 <i>Monday</i></p>	<p>12 <i>Tuesday</i></p> <p><i>Sts. Nereus & Achilleus</i></p>	
		<p>13 <i>Wednesday</i></p> <p><i>Our Lady of Fatima</i></p> <p>RCIA (RESUMES 27 MAY 2026)</p>	<p>14 <i>Thursday</i></p> <p><i>St Matthias</i></p> <p>6:30pm CITY COMPASS </p>	<p>15 <i>Friday</i></p>	<p>16 <i>Saturday</i></p> <p>Today's 6pm Mass (Concelebration followed by Our Lady of Fatima Procession)</p> <p>Australian Catholic Bishops Conference National Count of Attendance 2026</p>	<p>17 <i>Sunday</i></p> <p>The ASCENSION of the LORD</p> <p>WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY</p> <p>WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY</p> <p>Australian Catholic Bishops Conference National Count of Attendance 2026</p>
<p>20 <i>Wednesday</i></p> <p><i>St Bernadine of Siena</i></p> <p>RCIA (RESUMES 27 MAY 2026)</p>	<p>21 <i>Thursday</i></p> <p><i>St Christopher Magallanes</i></p> <p>6:30pm CITY COMPASS </p>	<p>22 <i>Friday</i></p> <p><i>St Rita of Cascia</i></p>	<p>23 <i>Saturday</i></p> <p>Australian Catholic Bishops Conference National Count of Attendance 2026</p>	<p>24 <i>Sunday</i></p> <p>PENTECOST SUNDAY</p> <p>Today's 10.30am Mass (Adult Confirmation)</p> <p>Australian Catholic Bishops Conference National Count of Attendance 2026</p>	<p>25 <i>Monday</i></p> <p>OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS</p>	<p>26 <i>Tuesday</i></p> <p><i>St Philip Neri</i></p>

CATHEDRAL NOTICES



The FEAST of OUR LADY of
FATIMA
Saturday 16 May 2026
Vigil Mass at 6pm followed by Marian Procession

Walk with Our Lady of Fatima in a candle-lit procession from St Mary's Cathedral as we pray for the needs of the Church and the world.



For more information, visit sydneycatholic.org/our-lady-of-fatima-procession

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/>



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.

Series of Talks on the Holy Spirit

In preparation for the feast of Pentecost, we invite you to join us for a series of talks to deepen your relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Sessions will be held weekly from 7:30 to 8:30 pm in the hall at St James' Catholic Primary School, Glebe:

DATES:

Thursday 14 May – Fr Chris Caruana OP
What Happened at Pentecost and Why Does It Matter?

Thursday 21 May – Tania Rimac (Parish Renewal Team)
Following the Spirit, Living Christ's Call

All are warmly invited. Registration is not required, but is appreciated for catering and seating purposes.

For further information, please email: pastoral@bbjcatholicparishes.org.au



Gala dinner

FOR OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Join the Friends of St Mary's Cathedral today as 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

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
SYDNEY

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