



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2026

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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



FIRST READING *Isaiah 55:1-3*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Hasten and eat.

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat
and rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 144:8-9, 15-18*

R. The hand of the Lord feeds us:
he answers all our needs.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. **R.**

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. **R.**

SECOND READING *Romans 8:35, 37-39*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Matthew 4:4*

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 14:13-21*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full, Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WORD FROM THE DEAN

Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work. (Ex 20:8-10; cf. Deut 5:12-15.)

The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath; so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath. (Mk 2:27-28.)

Please do not be in any doubt: Every Catholic has an obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and on certain Holy Days. This obligation comes from the Commandment revealed by God, and from the authority Christ has entrusted to his Church.

I mention this for two reasons: firstly, because some Catholics, surprisingly, say to me that they did not realise failing to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is a grave sin, and secondly because we have a Holy Day of Obligation, The Assumption of Our Lady, coming up on Saturday August 15th.

On the weekend of 15/16 August you will need to attend Mass twice.

The nature of the obligation is spelled out well by the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

The precept of participating in the Mass is satisfied by assistance at a Mass which is celebrated anywhere in a Catholic rite either on the holy day or on the evening of the preceding day.

The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason, the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin.

Please note: you cannot fulfill both obligations, Assumption and Sunday, by just attending one Mass on Saturday evening. Two obligations = two Masses. Therefore, you can either fulfil your Assumption obligation by participating in Mass any time on Saturday and your Sunday obligation by attending Mass any time on Sunday, or fulfill your Assumption obligation by participating in one Mass on Saturday during the day, and your Sunday obligation by another Mass on Saturday evening. (Or, you could fulfil your Assumption obligation by attending a Mass on Friday evening and your Sunday obligation on Saturday evening or Sunday).

There is no obligation attached to this Saturday 8th August, but you are warmly invited to come to Mass on that morning for the Ordination of three new priests for our Archdiocese, at 10.30am! It will be wonderful.

Fr Don Richardson, Dean.

UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

August 2026

		1 Saturday St Alphonsus Liguori	2 Sunday VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK PLEASE NOTE Today's 12.15pm Latin Mass has been moved to the Crypt and the 2pm Sunday Public Tour is cancelled – due to the 12.30pm Deanery Confirmations CWF CHARITABLE WORKS FUND CWF August Appeal 1st & 2nd August 2026	3 Monday St Dominic Anniversary of Death of Edward Bede Cardinal Clancy, 7th Archbishop of Sydney (2014)	4 Tuesday St John Vianney	
5 Wednesday Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	6 Thursday The Transfiguration of the Lord 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	7 Friday St Sixtus II	8 Saturday ST MARY OF THE CROSS 10.30am Priestly Ordinations PLEASE NOTE Today's 9am Mass, 11am Confessions and 12noon Mass are CANCELLED due to the Ordinations	9 Sunday	10 Monday St Lawrence	11 Tuesday St Clare
12 Wednesday St Jane Francis de Chantal 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	13 Thursday Sts Pontian & Hippolytus 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	14 Friday St Maximilian Mary Kolbe	15 Saturday The ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	16 Sunday Today's 10.30am Mass (St Mary's Cathedral College Confirmations)	17 Monday	18 Tuesday



CWF August Appeal
1st & 2nd August 2026

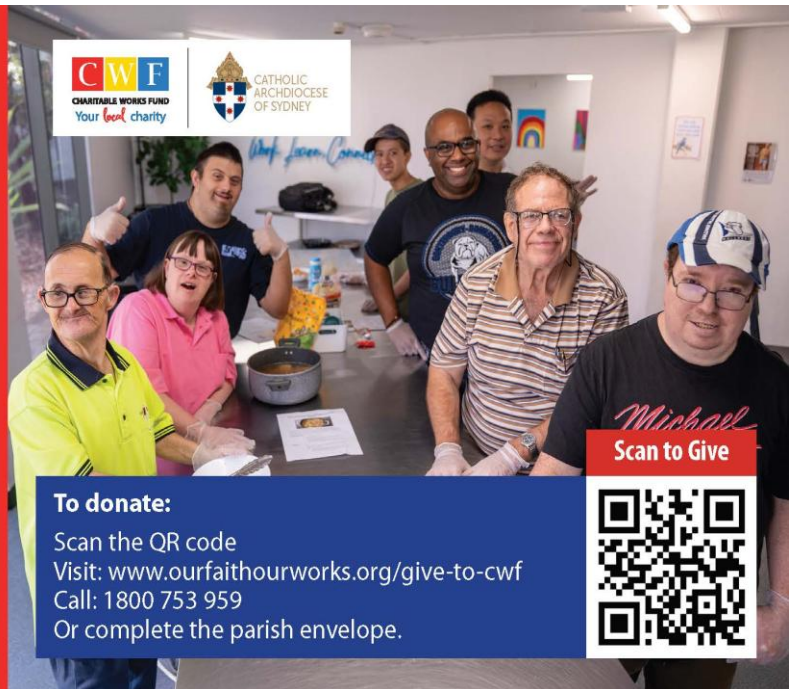
CATHEDRAL NOTICES

Donate to the Charitable Works Fund Appeal

1 and 2 August 2026

Your generous support today will help us continue the vital charitable works of the Catholic Church. Help advance our faith and care for those who need it most.

Give generously.
Your tax-deductible gift changes lives.



To donate:

Scan the QR code
Visit: www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-cwf
Call: 1800 753 959
Or complete the parish envelope.

Scan to Give



Special Screening of Triumph of the Heart

Sydney Vocations is hosting a **special screening of the film *Triumph of the Heart*** – the moving true story of **St. Maximilian Kolbe**, the Franciscan priest who offered his life in exchange for another prisoner at Auschwitz during World War II.

Come and be inspired by this powerful witness of faith, courage, and sacrificial love. This screening is open to all parishioners aged 18 and up.

When: 7:30pm Saturday August 8

Where: Gleeson Auditorium, ACU Campus, 25A Barker Rd, Strathfield NSW

Admission:
\$15 including Dinner

RSVP: Register at

<https://www.sydneylvocations.org/events-1/triumph-of-the-heart-movie-screening-18-only>





Theology at the Pub

In celebration of our annual Mission Week, ACU Campus Ministry and the MacKillop Bakhita Law Students' Society invite all Sydney young adults to a fun evening at the pub!



SPECIAL GUEST
Dr. Robert Haddad
The legal situation for Christians during the persecutions of the Roman Empire:
The response of St Justin Martyr



Monday 10 August



6pm



The Orient Hotel
Lvl 3, The Rocks.



Free entry 18+ event

REGISTER NOW



Register with the QR Code or via Facebook



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 safeguardingquiries@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.

SCHOLARSHIP AT THE CATHEDRAL

6:00PM - 8:00PM | THURSDAY, AUGUST 13 2026

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL COLLEGE - CHAPTER HALL
2 ST MARY'S RD, SYDNEY

SAINT OSCAR ROMERO "PERSONA EUCHARISTICA"



ARCHBISHOP

JOHN WILSON

METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP OF SOUTHWARK

Archbishop John Wilson was born in Sheffield on 4 July 1968 and educated in theology at the University of Leeds before entering priestly formation at the Venerable English College in Rome in 1989. During his seminary formation, he completed a Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University, and a Licence in Moral Theology at the Accademia Alfonsiana. He was ordained priest for the Diocese of Leeds on 29 July 1995.

In 2015 Pope Francis named him Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster, ordained bishop in 2016, before becoming Archbishop of Southwark in 2019.

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN
www.satcathedral.org



Australian Catholic Historical Society Talk

The next event for the Australian Catholic Historical Society will be held in the **crypt of St Patrick's Church Hill**, at **2:00 PM** on **Sunday, 16 August**.

The Topic: Fr Ted Kennedy and Redfern - A Personal Reflection. **Presenter:** Danny Gilbert Members, their guests, and visitors are most welcome and there is no charge. Details of the programme on the ACHS website <https://australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au/>

Called & Gifted Discernment Process: Online with In-person Workshop

If you are wondering how God is calling you to serve Him, then the Called & Gifted Discernment Process is for you! This Process is designed to help Christians identify and nurture their spiritual gifts (charisms), both to represent Christ and to serve as a channel of God's goodness to others.

Commences Wednesday 2 September 2026. Places are limited.

Register at gomakedisciples.org.au/called-gifted-discernment-process.

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL ORGAN CONCERTS 2026



Patrick Newman
Assistant Organist
St Mary's Cathedral

WILD THINGS & GRAND DESIGNS

Music by Widor, Saint-Saëns (*Carnival des Animaux*)

Willan (*Introduction, Passacaglia & Fugue*)

World première of Sydney composer Adriel Sukumar's *Sonata*

Wednesday 19th August, 7pm

ADMISSION FREE • RETIRING COLLECTION