



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



SEVENTEENTH 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 *1 Kings 3:5, 7-12*

A reading from the first book of the Kings

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130*

R. Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.

The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. **R.**

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. **R.**

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. **R.**

Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. **R.**

SECOND READING *Romans 8:28-30*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *cf Matthew 11:25*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 13:44-46*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WORD FROM THE DEAN



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

As you can see by the demolition work going on in the cathedral square, the “Revelations” Sistine Chapel immersive exhibition which opened in May has now finished. It was an amazing experience to attend, and it also brought a lot of visitors, schools and parish groups into the cathedral as well. Meanwhile, our planning for this year’s Christmas at the Cathedral light show is well underway – the story is still a secret, but I think you’ll like it. Less than six months to wait!

Today (Sunday) is the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, a commemoration established six years ago by the late Pope Francis on the fourth Sunday in July, near the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

For this year, Pope Leo XIV has chosen the theme “I will never forget you” (Isaiah 49.15.) The Holy Father chose this as a message of consolation and hope for all grandparents and elderly people, especially those who live in loneliness or feel forgotten, and it is a reminder to families and church communities not to forget them, recognizing in them a precious presence and a blessing.

The Pope's choice highlights how God’s love for every person never fails, not even in the fragility of old age.

In his special message, Pope Leo says: *May this day ... be an inspiration for everyone, especially the young, to revive the beautiful custom of visiting their grandparents, the elderly members of the family and even those who have no one to visit them. Ensure that the words of the prophet, “But I will never forget you,” take the form of a tender and affectionate encounter.*

For our Year of Saints at the Cathedral, I want to make mention of some Twentieth Century martyrs: Blessed Maria Stella Mardosewicz and her ten companions, Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, in the town of Nowogródek (then in Poland, now in Belarus) who were shot by the Nazi Gestapo in 1943, offering themselves as a sacrifice in the hope of saving the lives of others. They were Beatified in the year 2000.

Prayerful best wishes for the week ahead,

Fr Don Richardson, *Dean*.

UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

July – August 2026

		25 <i>Saturday</i> <i>St James</i>	26 <i>Sunday</i> WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AN THE ELDERLY 2pm Sunday Public Tour	27 <i>Monday</i>	28 <i>Tuesday</i>
29 <i>Wednesday</i> <i>Sts Martha, Mary & Lazarus</i> <					

CATHEDRAL NOTICES



WORLD DAY FOR Grandparents and the Elderly

"I will never forget you"
ISAIAH 49:15



World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2026



The 6th World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is held every year on the fourth Sunday of July (Sunday 26, July) and is connected to the feast days of St Joachim and St Anne.

The day is an opportunity to bring the Church closer to grandparents and the elderly.

The theme of World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is: "I will never forget you" (Is 49:15).

The theme reminds us about God's unconditional fidelity to his people, especially the elderly who are living in solitude or feel like they are forgotten.

Invitation to Book Launch

Jeff Kildea's book *Iron Law No More: The Rise and Demise of the Catholic-Labor Alliance in Australia* will be launched Tuesday, 28 July 2026 at 5.30 pm at the Chapter Hall, St Mary's Cathedral, St Mary's Road, Sydney.

RSVP to jfkildea@icloud.com.

FIDELIS

MONTHLY ARCHDIOCESEAN YOUNG ADULTS EVENT

"MALE AND FEMALE HE CREATED THEM":
THE BODY AS PROPHECY
OF GOD'S LOVE

CHURCH OF
ST MICHAEL
THE ARCHANGEL
26 Margaret Street,
Belfield



SPEAKER
Dr Peter
Holmes

JULY
29

MASS +
ADORATION

6PM - 7PM
7PM - 7:30PM

FOOD +
SOCIAL TIME

7PM - 8PM

TALK +
OPEN Q&A

8PM - 9PM



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY
Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office

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.

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.

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.



WALKING WITH MARY IN
Hope and Wonder

A Zoom Novena in Preparation for the
Feast Day of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop

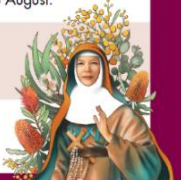
DAILY FROM
JULY 30 - AUGUST 7 | 7:30PM - 8:00PM AEST

You're invited to join Mary MacKillop Place for a Zoom novena of prayer and reflection.

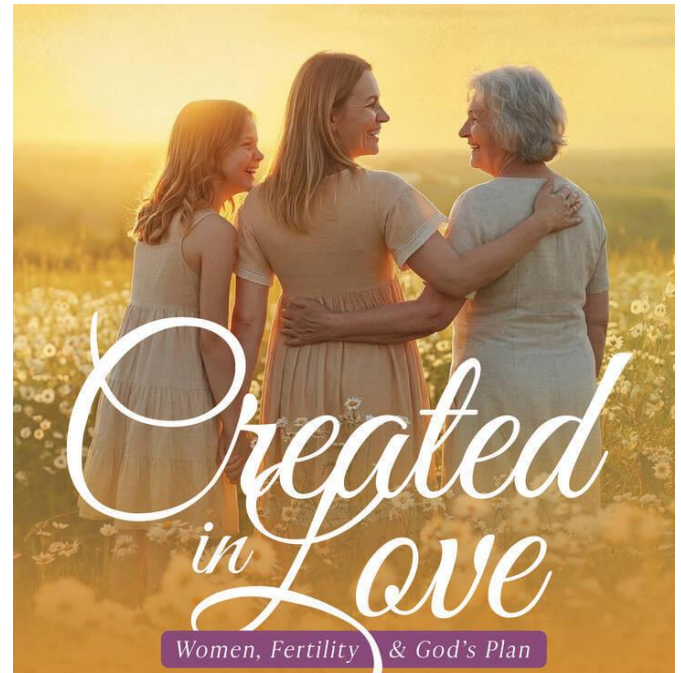
Over nine days, we will explore hope and wonder through the life Mary MacKillop as we journey towards celebrating her Feast Day on Saturday 8 August.

Zoom Link to join the Novena:
<https://zoom.us/j/92816949299>

For more information about Feast Day 2026 visit us at:
<https://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/>



 OUT OF THE
Ordinary



*Created
in Love*

Women, Fertility & God's Plan

SATURDAY
1 AUGUST
9 AM - 4 PM
ST JEROME'S
PUNCHBOWL

A one-day event dedicated to helping women (16+) discover and appreciate the **beauty, dignity, and wisdom** of their bodies.

 CATHOLIC
WOMEN'S NETWORK  MARONITE
WOMEN'S MINISTRY



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.sydneyvocations.org/events-1/triump-of-the-heart-movie-screening-18-only>



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL
ORGAN CONCERTS 2026



**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*

Patrick Newman
Assistant Organist
St Mary's Cathedral



Wednesday 19th August, 7pm
ADMISSION FREE • RETIRING COLLECTION