



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



TWENTIETH 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 56:1, 6-7*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants - all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant - these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8*

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. **R.**

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. **R.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. **R.**

SECOND READING *Romans 11:13-15, 29-32*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now - and only because of the mercy shown to you - will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Matthew 4:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 15:21-28*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WORD FROM THE DEAN

Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

This week sees the anniversaries of death of two Archbishops who are buried in our cathedral crypt. Sunday 16th August is the anniversary of Cardinal Patrick Francis Moran, the Third Archbishop of Sydney, who died in 1911. Tuesday 18th August marks the anniversary of death of Moran's immediate predecessor, Archbishop Roger Bede Vaughn OSB, who died in 1883. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

For our Year of Saints at St Mary's Cathedral, I would like to mention the following:

- Blessed Laurence Loricatus ("the Armored One") was born in Italy around the year 1190. He trained to be a soldier, but his life took a dramatic turn when he accidentally killed someone. Full of remorse for this terrible event, Laurence went on pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostella, and returned feeling called to a life of solitude and spiritual contemplation. He joined the monastery at Subiaco which was founded by St Benedict. Living as a hermit, as an act of penance he started wearing a coat of chain mail against his skin to remind him of his past sins – hence his nickname, "Loricatus." Pope Gregory IX convinced him to stop wearing it and to moderate his penance. Laurence wrote a spiritual book which survives at the Subiaco monastery, as does his chain mail. Blessed Laurence Loricatus passed away in 1243, leaving a legacy of deep spirituality and austere devotion.
- St Beatriz da Silva Meneses was born of Portuguese nobility in 1426. Her cousin Isabel married the King of Spain, and Beatriz became a lady-in-waiting to Queen Isabel. Beatriz was devout and religious, with a strong devotion to Mary Immaculate. But Beatriz was also outstandingly beautiful, the centre of attention at court, and Queen Isabel became jealous of her and accused Beatriz of wanting to seduce the king. One night, after Beatriz had been praying to Our Lady, Queen Isabel locked her in a cramped airless dungeon room, intending for her to die there. Beatriz prayed earnestly to Mary Immaculate, who appeared to her and promised her that she would live and would found a religious order under the title of the Immaculate Conception. Beatriz's uncle, also at court, noticed she was missing and asked Queen Isabel, who went to the dungeon expecting to find her dead. Instead, when the door was opened, Beatriz was alive and came out, it is said, looking even more beautiful than before. Queen Isabel repented and Beatriz forgave her but left the intrigues of the palace and entered a convent of Dominican Nuns. From then on, Beatriz wore a white veil over her face, to offer her beauty to God alone. After some years, Queen Isabel's daughter and successor, also named Isabel, offered Beatriz a palace which she could use to fulfil her desire to found the order of nuns in honour of the Immaculate Conception. The group was in formation when Beatriz received another mystical vision of Our Lady calling her to heaven, and she died a few days later, August 16 1491. The Order she began, the Conceptionist Nuns continues in Spain to this day.

So we see there are many paths to saintliness. There is one for you too.

Fr Don Richardson, Dean

UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

August 2026

			15 Saturday The ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY TODAY'S MASSES 9am Mass 9am Latin Mass (Held in the Crypt) 12pm Mass 5.30pm Vespers 6pm Mass	16 Sunday Today's 10.30am Mass (St Mary's Cathedral College Confirmations)	17 Monday	18 Tuesday
19 Wednesday St John Eudes 7pm Organ Recital 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	20 Thursday St Bernard 6:30pm CITY COMPASS	21 Friday St Pius X	22 Saturday The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	23 Sunday	24 Monday St Bartholomew	25 Tuesday St Louis 6.30pm Organs Showcase Tour (Hosted By: The Friends of St Mary's Cathedral) 
26 Wednesday 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	27 Thursday St Monica 6:30pm CITY COMPASS	28 Friday St Augustine	29 Saturday The Passion of St John the Baptist Today's 6pm Mass (Blessing of Marathon Runners)	30 Sunday SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY	31 Monday	

Weekly Mass Schedule

MASS

Monday to Friday: 6:45am, 1:10pm, 5:30pm

Saturday: 9:00am, 12:00 noon

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am, 9:00am, 10:30am (Solemn Choral Mass), 6:00pm

RECONCILIATION

Monday to Friday: 12noon to 1:00pm and 4:30pm to 5:25pm

Saturday: 11:00am to 12noon and 4:30pm to 5:30pm

EVENING VESPERS

Monday to Friday: 5:00pm

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 5:00pm

(Choral Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament)

CATHEDRAL NOTICES



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 of the ACHS as well as resources on church history and YouTube videos, are on the website <https://australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au/>

Didaskō
FAITH FORMATION 2026

The Eucharist and Devotion
Rev Dr Benjamin Johnson OFMCap

Mondays 17, 24 and 31 August

Online via Zoom
Cost: \$35 per person (+ BOOKING FEES)
\$100 for Parish Groups, in-person gathering (+ BOOKING FEES)
Register at: gomakedisciples.org.au/didasko



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

POSITION VACANT:
Parish Business Manager
(Full-Time)
St Patrick's Church Hill, The Rocks

Serve the Church at St Patrick's, The Rocks! Supporting the parish priest, this professional role manages finances, properties, compliance, and contracts, ensuring our infrastructure is ready for the 2028 International Eucharistic Congress and beyond, for the spiritual mission and long-term growth of the parish. You will be supported by our office and maintenance managers, and city parking is provided. For a job description, or to apply, contact the Parish Priest at parishpriest@stpatschurchhill.org by Friday 21 August 2026.



Supporting the persecuted:
Help rebuild a Cathedral in the Philippines

In 2017, Christians in the city of Marawi in the southern Philippines faced brutal persecution from Islamist militants. More than 800 people were killed and thousands of families were displaced. During the five months of violence, the Cathedral of St Mary was bombed, desecrated and destroyed.

Nine years on, there is a growing desire for healing and reconciliation. The poor and faithful people of Marawi have asked for our help to rebuild their beloved cathedral so they can once again gather, pray, and be witnesses of Christ in this Muslim-majority region.

To learn more or provide your support, please scan the QR code or visit:



aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject

Thanks to generous supporters, every contribution during August will be doubled.

THE ORGANS OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

Join the Friends of St Mary's Cathedral today

Join Daniel Justin, Director of Music, for an in-depth tour of the Cathedral's organs.

Tuesday 25th August 2026, 6.30 p.m.
 Meet in the eastern transept

TICKETS
 \$15 (members) / \$20 (non-members)
 from cathedralfriends.org.au

Read more and buy tickets for the organ showcase tour

Grace & Truth

4 September 2026
 St Mary's Cathedral, 5-8:30PM

Prof. Hayden Ramsay & Fr. James Baxter, OP
 and the Dominican Friars and Sisters

Topic: *What and who are you looking for?*

Plus a special announcement about upcoming 2027 events

Questions: sydney@op-tn.org



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.