



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



TWENTY SIXTH 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 *Ezekiel 18:25-28*

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 24:4-9*

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:

for you are God my saviour. **R.**

Remember your mercy, Lord,

and the love you have shown from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth.

In your love remember me,

because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING *Philippians 2:1-11*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,

should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *John 10:27*

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;

I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 21:28-32*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WORD FROM THE DEAN

Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

Last Tuesday morning the cathedral was packed full as we held the Graduation Mass for our St Mary's Cathedral College Year 12 students. In a few short weeks they will be sitting for the Higher School Certificate exams, and beginning a whole new chapter in their lives. Please pray for them as they face their futures, and for all our students and families travelling during these school holidays.

For our Year of Saints at St Mary's Cathedral, this week I want to mention:

Blessed John Robinson, who was born around 1530 in Ferrensby, Yorkshire, England. He married and led a fulfilling family life, and his son Francis became a priest. After John's wife died, his spiritual journey then led him to become a priest himself, but this was in the period of severe persecution of the Catholic faith in England. John went to a seminary in France for his studies and was ordained a priest aged in his 50's in 1585. Notwithstanding the danger – Elizabeth I was on the throne - John returned to England to minister to his old neighbours in his homeland of Yorkshire. Before too long he was arrested, tried and found guilty of the crime of being a Catholic priest, which carried the penalty of execution. Imprisoned for two years, Blessed John Robinson was then martyred by being hanged, drawn and quartered on October 1, 1588, at Ipswich in Suffolk.

Saints Hripsime, Gayane and their companions were a group of Christian women in Rome around 300AD in the reign of emperor Diocletian, who lived as nuns. Gayane served as the leader of the group. According to the tradition, Hripsime, who may have been of noble birth, was very beautiful and attracted unwanted attention from the emperor. Seeking to escape to a place where they could live chaste lives as hermit-nuns, the women left Rome and travelled first to Alexandria in Egypt and then to Vagharshapat in Armenia, where they settled in an old abandoned building within sight of Mount Ararat. Unfortunately, the pagan Armenian King Drtad also noticed Hripsime's beauty. When she refused to marry him because she was firm in her Christian faith and her commitment to chastity, King Drtad had Hripsime, Gayane, and their companions, horribly tortured and killed. Shortly after, the great Armenian saint, Gregory the Illuminator, was able to construct shrines over their burial place, and in the 20th Century archaeological explorations there found, with a high degree of probability, the remains of some of these martyrs. In May 2019 I myself had the fantastic privilege to visit Vagharshapat and pray in the churches of St Hripsime and St Gayane.

Taken together, these martyr saints of the 4th and the 16th Centuries give remarkable testimony to steadfast faith in Christ Jesus and confidence that nothing is to be preferred to the love of God, who is faithful. When we ourselves face time of trial, may the prayers and example of the saints and holy martyrs give us encouragement and hope!

With prayerful best wishes for the week ahead,

Fr Don Richardson, Dean.

UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

September – October 2026

		26 <i>Saturday</i>	27 <i>Sunday</i> WORLD REFUGEES & MIGRATION DAY 2pm Sunday Public Tour	28 <i>Monday</i> St Lawrence Ruiz & Companions	29 <i>Tuesday</i> Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael	
30 <i>Wednesday</i> St Jerome 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	1 <i>Thursday</i> St Therese of the Child Jesus 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	2 <i>Friday</i> The Holy Guardian Angels	3 <i>Saturday</i>	4 <i>Sunday</i> 2pm Mass (Tongan Catholic Community Australia - 50 Year Golden Jubilee Celebration) 2pm Sunday Public Tour	5 <i>Monday</i> St Faustina Kowalska Public Holiday Mass at 9am	6 <i>Tuesday</i> St Bruno
7 <i>Wednesday</i> Our Lady of the Rosary 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	8 <i>Thursday</i> 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	9 <i>Friday</i> St John Leonardi	10 <i>Saturday</i>	11 <i>Sunday</i> 2pm Sunday Public Tour 2.30pm Mass (Annual Archdiocesan Catechist Mass)	12 <i>Monday</i>	13 <i>Tuesday</i>

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

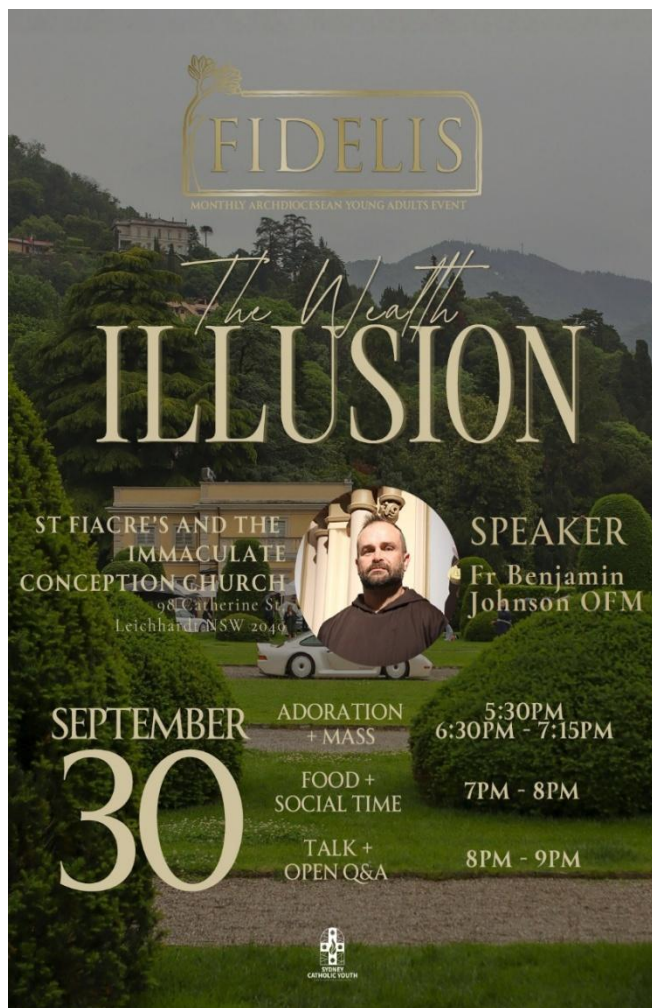
Monday to Friday: 5:00pm

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 5:00pm

(Choral Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament)

CATHEDRAL NOTICES



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

Pray with Pope Leo XIV: One Million Children Praying the Rosary

From 1-7 October, *Aid to the Church in Need* invites you to join with Pope Leo XIV and Catholics worldwide for the *One Million Children Praying the Rosary* prayer campaign, for peace and unity in the world.

Families, parishioners, prayer groups, and schools are all encouraged to register to take part!

For free Rosary resources and to **Register**, please scan the QR code



or visit:

www.acninternational.org/millionchildrenpraying

"When one million children pray the Rosary, the world will change." - Saint Padre Pio

Courage Musical

A Story of Bravery, Destiny, and Courage under Fire. Step into the world of a legend - the original knight in shining armour! Watch as St George faces his greatest trial: a fearsome dragon, an Empire in peril, and the courage to stand firm when all hope seems lost.

Come and join us for an evening of romance, of adventure, of satire; as we discover the true story behind the legend of George and the Dragon.

Where: St Peter's Parish Surry Hills
(1880 – Parish Hall) 235 Devonshire Street,
Surry Hills

When:

Friday 9 October at 7:00PM
Saturday 10 October at 2:00PM and 7:00PM
Sunday 11 October at 2:00 PM

Booking via this link:

www.trybooking.com/DOUBL

Event - Celebrate Mission Together Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre, Potts Point

Join us in celebrating 100 years of **World Mission Sunday** with a very special **morning tea** hosted by the Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre which includes a special conversation with Sr Dorothy Bayliss rsc, who has lived and worked in countries in Oceania, Asia, Africa and will share some of her experiences.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to view our exhibition, 'Celebrating Overseas Mission'.

Date: Thursday, 15 October 2026

Time: 10.30am to 12.30pm

Where: Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre,
1 Rockwall Crescent, Potts Point.

For enquiries and to register
please call (02) 9138 0835 or email
heritagecentre@rsoffice.com



Celebrating Seniority!

Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!

Join Palms International Volunteering for a special session where you'll learn about our [diverse assignments](#) suited to your qualifications and time of life. Meet past volunteers Wendy and Mick who will share their adventures of life and laughter in PNG and Timor Leste, leaving a lasting positive impact on communities. Scan below to register or see palms.org.au/events

Date: Monday 19 October 2026

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm AEDT

02 9560 5333

palms@palms.org.au

OCT INFO SESSION

• SCAN HERE •



OCT INFO SESSION



ORGAN CONCERTS 2026 at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney

WITH ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL ORGANISTS

Wed. 21st October, 7pm SIMON NIEMIŃSKI

'From Tea For Two to Symphony Six'

Premières of new organ arrangements of
Shostakovich's *Festive Overture*, *Tahiti-Trot* and *6th Symphony*

Wed. 18th November, 7pm DANIEL JUSTIN

'Echoes of the Masters'

Weaver *Passacaglia* on a theme by Dunstable

Karg-Elert *Partita in E major*

Tambling *Flourish for the Flutes*

Hendrie *Toccata and Fugue (Le Tombeau de Marcel Dupré)*

Sunday 20th December, 3.30pm

A concert for Christmas

Olivier Messiaen's *La Nativité du Seigneur*

played by Simon Niemiński

Preceding the Cathedral Carol Service at 4.30pm

ADMISSION FREE • RETIRING COLLECTION

IN PERSON with **BILL DONAGHY**
THEOLOGY of the BODY & ART
THE WAY of BEAUTY
PRESENTED BY TOB INSTITUTE
TOBI.SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG
17-22 JANUARY 2027
Benedict XVI Retreat Centre

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

EUCHARIST28 SYDNEY

SAVE THE DATE

24 SEPTEMBER – 1 OCTOBER 2028

eucharist28.org

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.



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.



No photography or videography permitted while Mass is in progress.