



St Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY

CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



TWENTY SEVENTH 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 5:1-7*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend
the song of his love for his vineyard.
My friend has a vineyard
on a fertile hillside.
He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,
and planted choice vines in it.
In the middle he built a tower,
he dug a press there too.
He expected it to yield grapes,
but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,
I ask you to judge
between my vineyard and me.
What could I have done for my vineyard
that I have not done?
I expected it to yield grapes.
Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you
what I am going to do to my vineyard:
I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,
and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.
I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;

overgrown by the briar and the thorn.
I will command the clouds
to rain no rain on it.
Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the House of Israel,
and the men of Judah
that chosen plant.
He expected justice, but found bloodshed,
integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 79:9, 12-16, 19-20*

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **R.**

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. **R.**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **R.**

SECOND READING *Philippians 4:6-9*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *cf John 15:15*

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 21:33-43*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone.

This was the Lord's doing
and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WORD FROM THE DEAN

Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

I am glad to advise that after years of planning and preparation, we have recently lodged with the relevant government authorities detailed plans for a number of works in and around the cathedral. Some have already been approved and we expect others to be approved soon. These important projects include works to:

- Greatly improve accessibility for people with mobility challenges, providing dignified step-free access to the cathedral and crypt;
- Protect the cathedral from the risk of catastrophic fire by installing fire-suppression sprinklers;
- Provide more energy-efficient, effective and sympathetic lighting;
- Update important behind-the scenes facilities that are no longer fit for purpose;
- Continue the work of decoration of the cathedral begun in 1868 and progressed in stages by successive generations of Catholics, by completing the carvings on the main portals left unfinished in 1928 and by sculpting and erecting statues of saints in the main;
- Provide more toilets for those who come to Mass.

Excitingly, we plan to complete these major projects in good time for the International Eucharistic Congress being held here in Sydney 24 September to 1 October 2028. Over the coming weeks I will be able to share with you more details about how these projects will affect our daily programme in the period beginning after Easter 2027.

For our Year of Saints at St Mary's Cathedral, as well as noting that today is the 800th anniversary of the death of **St Francis of Assisi**, I would like to mention two saints from seven hundred years ago, both associated with healing:

St Flora of Beaulieu. She was born about 1300 at Maurs in France. At the age of thirteen, she entered the convent of the Sisters of St. John of Jerusalem at Beaulieu, where she devoted herself to tending the poor and the sick in the hospital attached to the convent. She was a mystic and received visions, and her spirituality was centred on the Blessed Eucharist and on Our Lord's Passion. Many miraculous healings were attributed to her.

St John of Bridlington. Born in 1320 in the village of Thwing in Yorkshire, England, John was educated at a school in the village from the age of five, and then went to Oxford University. He then entered the Augustinian Canons community of Bridlington Priory. He carried out his duties with humility and diligence, and was in turn novice master, almsgiver, preacher and sub-prior. He was eventually elected Prior. He became known locally because his prayers on behalf of people who were sick or in need were answered quickly and favourably by God. His holiness was recognised by many and after his death a strong devotion to him as a saint developed, such that he was canonised in 1401 by Pope Boniface IX.

The saints – even the ones we've never heard of - help us with their prayers.

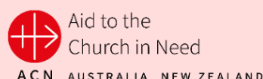
Fr Don Richardson, Dean

UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

October 2026

			3 Saturday	4 Sunday 2pm Mass (Tongan Catholic Community Australia - 50 Year Golden Jubilee Celebration) 2pm Sunday Public Tour	5 Monday St Faustina Kowalska Public Holiday Mass at 9am	6 Tuesday St Bruno
7 Wednesday Our Lady of the Rosary 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	8 Thursday 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	9 Friday St John Leonardi	10 Saturday	11 Sunday 2pm Sunday Public Tour 2.30pm Mass (Annual Archdiocesan Catechist Mass)	12 Monday	13 Tuesday
			 Catholic Mission Appeal 10 & 11 October 2026			
14 Wednesday St Callistus I 6:30pm RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	15 Thursday St Teresa of Jesus 6:30pm CITY COMPASS 	16 Friday St Margaret Mary Alocoque 4.30pm to 7pm Cathedral College St Carlo Acutis Parish Program 4.30pm Reconciliation 4.30pm – 4.50pm Rosary 5pm Vespers 5.30pm Mass 6.15pm Presentation by Katie Hobbs 6.30pm – 7pm Veneration of the Relics of St Carlo of Acutis	17 Saturday St Ignatius of Antioch	18 Sunday WORLD MISSION DAY 10.30am Mass (St Mary's Cathedral Life Marriage and Family Sunday Concelebration) 2pm Sunday Public Tour	19 Monday St Philip Howard	20 Tuesday

CATHEDRAL NOTICES



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

Australian Catholic Historical Society

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 18 October 2026.

The Topic: The Australian Bishops and the Voice Referendum - 3 years on

Presenter: Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO 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/>



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



POSITION VACANT

Assistant Sacristan

We are seeking a full-time role of Assistant Sacristan at St Mary's Cathedral.

This role involves hands-on preparation for Masses and other liturgical celebrations, including the care of vestments, altar linens, sacred vessels, and liturgical books. The Assistant Sacristan also contributes to the daily presentation and upkeep of sacred spaces and assists with Cathedral and Cathedral House activities as required.

For a comprehensive role overview and/or to apply, please visit <https://catholicjobsonline.com.au>

Applications close 17 October 2026.

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.



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.