

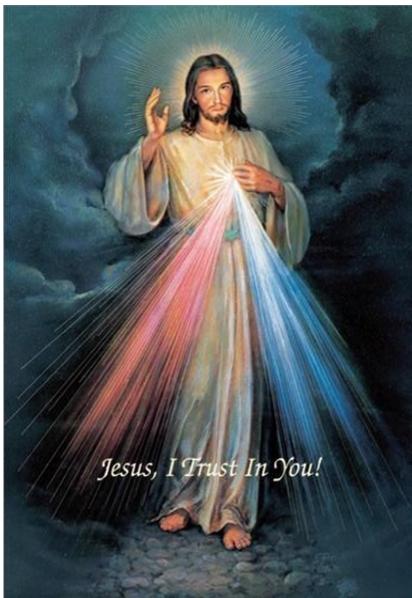


St Mary's Cathedral

SYDNEY

St. Mary's Road Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: (02) 9220 0400 Fax: (02) 9223 5208
Email: info@stmaryscathedral.org.au
Connect with us on Social Media!
www.facebook.com/stmaryssydney
Instagram: @stmaryscathedralsydney

Sunday, 8 April 2018
Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) – Year B



Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

Christ is risen! He is truly risen!

I want to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts made so many of our people – staff and volunteers – to make the Holy Week liturgies beautiful, profound, and joyful. A special word to our volunteer ushers who assisted the very large congregations in the rather hot conditions; We need quite a few more volunteer ushers, especially for the regular Saturday and Sunday evening Masses so if you would like to help, why not call the cathedral office during the week?

Regular worshippers here will notice some new votive candle stands in the cathedral. They are attractive and, I'm promised, less sooty, installations than the tea-lights they replace. But they raise the question, "Why do Catholics light candles in front of statues anyway?"

As anyone who has attended the Easter Vigil knows, light has a special significance for us Christians. The Easter fire is blessed, the Easter Candle is lit, and we stand in the light of the risen Christ each holding a lit candle to express our participation in that risen life through Baptism.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. No follower of mine shall ever walk in darkness; no, he shall possess the light of life" (Jn 8:12) and "I have come to the world as its light, to keep anyone who believes in me from remaining in the dark" (Jn 12:46).

We know that lit candles or oil lamps were burned at the tombs of saints, particularly martyrs, by the 200s, and before sacred images and relics by the 300s. St. Jerome (d. 420) wrote of this practice in his *Contra Vigilantium*. Here, as in early Christian times, we light a candle before a statue or sacred image of our Lord or of a saint. Of course, we do not worship the statue or the image itself, but whom that statue or image represents. The light signifies our prayer offered in faith. With the light of faith, we petition our Lord in prayer, or petition the saint to pray with us and for us to the Lord. The light also shows a special reverence and our desire to remain present to the Lord in prayer even though we may depart and go about our daily business. The burning candle, where the flame gradually consumes the wax that fuels it, is also a symbol of the sacrifice which is made in our offering of the prayer and our acceptance of the Lord's will.

The lighting of votive candles is meant to be an outward expression of an interior faith that is oriented towards the time when we will meet the Lord face to face.

"You have been enlightened by Christ. Walk always as children of the light and keep the flame of faith alive in your hearts. When the Lord comes, may you go out to meet him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom" – *The Rite of Baptism*.

May you have peace and joy from the Lord in the week ahead,

Fr Don Richardson, Dean



Liturgy...

First Reading Acts 4:32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God!



Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.' **(R.)**

2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, but not doomed to die. **(R.)**

3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **(R.)**



Liturgy...

Second Reading 1 Jn 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith.

Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Liturgy...

Gospel

Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!



CATHEDRAL CLERGY

*Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP
 Father Donald Richardson, Dean
 Father Brendan Purcell
 Father Emmanuel Yoon Jae Seo
 Father Pierluigi Passoni*

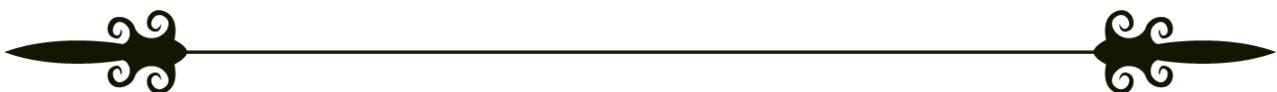
CATHEDRAL STAFF

*Chris Backhouse- Cathedral Sacristan
 Thomas Wilson – Director of Music
 Helen Morassut – General Manager, St Marys
 Cathedral Precinct*

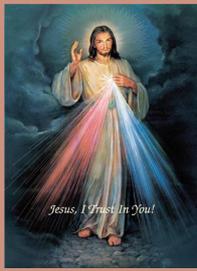


A COPY OF THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY CAN BE PURCHASED FOR \$2

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Weekend Mass | Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm Sunday: 7.00am, 9.00am, 10.30am (Solemn High Mass); 12noon Latin Mass in the extraordinary form; 6.00pm Mass |
| Weekday Mass | Monday to Friday: 6.45am, 1.10pm & 5.30pm; Saturday: 9.00am & 12noon Public Holidays: 9am (or as advertised) |
| Reconciliation | Monday-Friday: 12noon -1.00pm & 5.00pm to 5.25pm Saturday 11.30am- 11.55am, 4.30-5.30pm |
| Vespers (Evening Prayer) | Monday to Thursday: 5.00pm; Saturday 5.30pm; Sunday 5.00pm (with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament) |
| Anzac Day | Tuesday, 24 April: 5.30pm Anzac Eve Solemn Vigil Mass of Remembrance Wednesday, 25 April: 9.00am Mass (only Mass for the day) |



****COELIACS:** Special Provision is made for Coeliacs at the Cathedral. Those who are gluten intolerant may receive communion either from the Chalice or with a gluten low host. Application should be made to the Sacristan before Mass.



CATHEDRAL NOTICES

JOIN POPE FRANCIS IN PANAMA FOR THE 34TH WORLD YOUTH DAY IN JANUARY 2019.

Sydney Catholic Youth are inviting you on the pilgrimage of a lifetime to Panama where you will celebrate Mass with Pope Francis and millions of young Catholics from around the world. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will lead the Sydney pilgrimage departing on 15 January 2019 which will travel from Sydney to Washington DC, then to WYD Panama with the optional extension to travel to Mexico City. Register your interest and find out more by visiting the website www.sydneycatholicyouth.org/wyd.

GODPARENTS AND SPONSORS

wanted for adults who are to be baptised or received into the Church at Easter at St Mary's Cathedral. We are looking for mature Catholic adults who are willing to befriend and help new Catholics. Training given. For more information, please contact the RCIA team: godparents@mailforce.net / 0410 659 908 or speak with Fr Emmanuel or Fr Don.

CATHEDRAL CHOIR CELEBRATES BICENTENARY IN ROME 15-22 May 2018.

This is an opportunity for you to join Dean of St Mary's Cathedral Fr Don Richardson on a special pilgrimage to Rome. The Cathedral Choir is the oldest surviving of its kind in Australia and in 2018; to celebrate their bicentenary Rome Pilgrimages has created an exciting itinerary which includes both tour favourites and special additions. For full details phone 1800 753 959 or email pilgrimage@sydneycatholic.org.

ANZAC DAY. Annual ANZAC Eve Solemn Vigil Mass of Remembrance - **24 April 5.30pm. 25 April – 9.00am** Mass (only Mass for the day) and **1pm – Full Peal (Half-Muffled)** Bell Ringing.

Parishoners and Visitors are invited to join the St Mary's Cathedral Clergy to commemorate ANZAC Day on the 24 and 25 April 2018 as we honour the Fallen and to pray for those who serve or have served the nation in a military or civilian capacity in the defence of Australia.

Y-FACTOR 2018. TO THE HEIGHTS

will be held at St Gregory's College Campbelltown from **16-19 April**. Open to all teens and students in Years 7 – 12. \$250 (includes accommodation, meals, transport & activities). For more information contact Sydney Catholic Youth on **02 9307 8152** or Info@sydneycatholicyouth.org.

CATHEDRAL - NEW ORGANIST

FREE CONCERT. Simon Niemiński the Assistant Director of Music, has moved here all the way from Edinburgh; from Scottish snow to sweltering Sydney! Simon will be playing a free concert on Wednesday, 04 April at 7.00pm as an introduction. There will be music from Poland (Chopin) and Japan to reflect Simon's ancestry, from Scotland and Australia for his old and new homes, some Bach, and some pedal fireworks to watch. In addition to the Grand Organ, the new chamber organ will be featured. The concert will last for one hour and there will be refreshments afterwards. All are welcome!

A MASS AND BLESSING FOR

PEOPLE WITH AUTISM. Sunday, **08 April 2018** at 2.00pm. In celebration of Autism Awareness Month and to honour all those in our community with autism, the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney invites you to the annual Mass and Blessing for People with Autism, to be celebrated by Bishop Anthony Randazzo. St Benedict's Church, Broadway. For enquiries or to **RSVP** by Tuesday, **03 April** please contact LMFEvents@sydneycatholic.org or phone **(02) 9307 8404**.

EMBRACE YOUNG ADULT GROUP.

Embrace is St Mary's group for young adults aged 18-35 yrs old from all cultures and backgrounds. We meet every Sunday after the 6.00pm Mass at St Mary's Cathedral House, adjacent to the Cathedral. Our activities and youth projects are designed to support spiritual development and encourage active practice of our faith. For 08 April Embrace observes Divine Mercy Sunday with a film by Jerzy Lukaszewicz: 'Faustina: The Apostle of Divine Mercy'. All are welcome to join. Embrace contact :**0404 008 870** or email:

embrace@stmaryscathedral.org.au.

JUBILEE – SCHOENSTATT SHRINE, Mulgoa Pentecost Sunday, 20 May and annual May pilgrimage. For more information please contact

info@schoenstatt.org.au/ 02 4773 8338 or visit www.schoenstatt.org.au

SHALOM LONG LUNCH - Aboriginal Spirituality in the Catholic Church. Sunday, **8 April** at 12:00pm - 3:00pm. Shalom House of Prayer 7 Collins St, CARCOAR. Suggested Donation: Lunch \$40 per person (3 courses). Come along and enjoy an interesting Sunday afternoon talk and a wonderful three-course meal. Speaker: Aunty Elsie A WOMAN of ACTION... DEEP FAITH... STRONG IDENTITY. Elsie Heiss was born into the Wiradjuri Nation and spent most of her early days in Cowra and Griffith in NSW. Elsie is a respected elder in her community and has represented NSW on the National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) since 1999 and is a former Chairperson. Her talk will focus on, Aboriginal Spirituality in the Catholic Church - giving an overview of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry and exploring culture, healing and reconciliation. To Book for the Lunch please phone: **(02) 63673058** or email: **shalomcarcoar@gmail.com**.

CATHOLICCARE SYDNEY. Do you have time to help people in your community? We need volunteers to provide much needed companionship to elderly people who feel lonely and isolated in South West and Inner West Sydney. If you have time to spend with someone who would truly appreciate it, please call us on **13 18 19** and become a volunteer today. Visit us on the web at **www.catholiccare.org**.

SISTERS OF CHARITY OUTREACH, based at St Vincent's Hospital, is seeking casual drivers for its Country Care Link program. Drivers must have their own fully comprehensively insured vehicle and volunteers can receive a kilometre allowance for trips undertaken. For enquiries phone **8382 6430** or Jo Moore at **jmoore@outreach.net.au**.

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES – 21-26 August 2018. Dublin, Ireland, has been chosen by Pope Francis to host the next World Meeting of Families. Guided by the theme "*The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World*". Held every three years, this major international event brings together families from across the world to celebrate, pray and reflect upon the central importance of marriage and the family as the cornerstone of our lives, of society and of the Church. For further information: **<https://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/>** .

GET FIRED UP – A Pre-Pentecost Gathering - Speaker: Rev Fr Isuru Dinesh Weliwatte MGL **12 May 2018** Time. 9:00 am – 5:00pm. St Joseph's Parish Hall, Walz Street, Rockdale . Coffee, tea and biscuits provided, BYO Lunch. Enquiries: **Ida Krisnadi Mob: 0416 464 221** Helen Aldana Mob: 0433 455114. Email: **jlowcommunity@gmail.com**

FREE SUNDAY TOUR OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL: Our tour guides would love to take you through the history of the Mother Church for Australian Catholics with a free tour every Sunday after the 10:30am Solemn Choral Mass. Please look out for the tour guide next to the organ console after Mass. All are welcome!