



St Mary's Cathedral

SYDNEY

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Sunday, 15 April 2018
Third Sunday of Easter– Year B



Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

I wrote last week about the practice of lighting candles before the images of Christ or the saints, and mentioned that we do not worship the statue, but the one whom the statue represents.

Now my rather loose use of the word “worship” opens up the question of whether we should “worship” the saints. It is a classical Protestant accusation that Catholic veneration of Mary and the saints is idolatrous.

Indeed we should only worship God. We do not regard the saints as if they were gods: that would be idolatry which is of course the very thing forbidden by the First Commandment.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* refers to idolatry thus:

2112 The first commandment condemns polytheism. It requires man neither to believe in, nor to venerate, other divinities than the one true God. Scripture constantly recalls this rejection of "idols, (of) silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see." These empty idols make their worshippers empty: "Those who make them are like them; so are all who trust in them." God, however, is the "living God" who gives life and intervenes in history.

2113 Idolatry not only refers to false pagan worship. It remains a constant temptation to faith. Idolatry consists in divinizing what is not God. Man commits idolatry whenever he honors and reveres a creature in place of God, whether this be gods or demons (for example, satanism), power, pleasure, race, ancestors, the state, money, etc. Jesus says, "You cannot serve God and mammon." (Matthew 6.24).

Catholic teaching makes a clear distinction between the worship due to God, and the veneration we pay to the saints. The term used for the worship due to God alone is *latria*. God alone, the Creator, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is to be adored. No creature, no matter how holy, should be adored and served like God. The saints and angels are venerated and respected with what is called *dulia*. St Thomas Aquinas, always useful when trying to clarify things, wrote about worship thus in the *Summa Theologica* (II,II, 84,1).

Reverence is due to God on account of His excellence, which is communicated to certain creatures not in equal measure, but according to a measure of proportion; and so the reverence which we pay to God, and which belongs to *latria*, differs from the reverence which we pay to certain excellent creatures; this belongs to *dulia*,...

While we must not worship them like God, we do owe the saints and angels honour and respect. And when we do so we are testifying to the fact that the saints are not simply people from the past, significant but dead: they are alive, with God, and in their love for Christ they care for His Body, the Church, of which we are each part. We are linked to them in the relationship of the "communion of saints," as we affirm in the Creed, and they assist us with their prayers to God. Far from distracting us from Christ, they help us approach Him.

Fr Don Richardson, Dean



Liturgy...

First Reading Acts 3:13-15. 17-19

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

You have killed the prince of life; God, however, raised him from the dead.

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

The word of the Lord.



Response: Thanks be to God!





Responsorial Psalm Ps 4:2. 4. 7. 9. R. v.7

(R.) Lord, let your face shine on us.

1. When I call, answer me, O God of justice;
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me! *(R.)*
 2. It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves;
the Lord hears me whenever I call him. *(R.)*
 3. 'What can bring us happiness?' many say.
Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord. *(R.)*
 4. I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once,
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. *(R.)*
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Liturgy...

Second Reading 1 Jn 2:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St John

Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and those of the whole world.

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's.

We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth.

But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation Lk 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

Liturgy...

Gospel

Lk 24:35-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

It was written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!

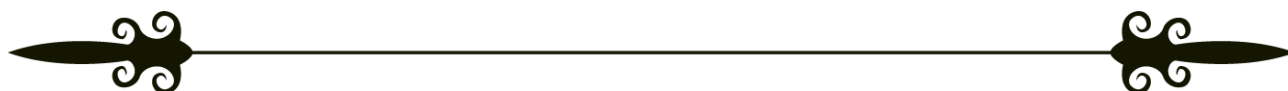


CATHEDRAL CLERGY

*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.

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/>.

ARCHDIOCESAN SOCIAL JUSTICE GATHERING – 'Caring for God's Creation, Caring for God's People'. Come and join us for our first Social Justice Gathering for 2018 Panels of speakers on a variety of topics related to our theme. Focus on solar energy and anti-slavery projects with a mix of practical and informative sessions. There will be a delicious lunch and refreshments throughout the day. Plenty of street parking and the venue is easily accessible by public transport. All most welcome! **Saturday, 05 May 2018, 10:30 for 11:00am-3:30pm. WHERE: St Columba's Parish Hall, 213 Elswick Street, Leichhardt. COST: Free. RSVP: Essential for catering: email jpinfo@sydneycatholic.org or ring 9307 8465**

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 **15 April**, Embrace will celebrate their fellowship in the Church with a group dinner. You are welcome to join. Please call/text Embrace Coordinator on **0404 008 870** or write to

embrace@stmaryscathedral.org.au.

All are welcome to join. Embrace contact: **0404 008 870** or email:

embrace@stmaryscathedral.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: Auntie 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.

COURAGE IN SYDNEY. Courage is a movement for those with same-sex attraction who desire to live chaste lives in accordance with the Church's teachings. Any interested person can call the Sydney chaplain on **0418 136 785**. A men's group meets monthly in Sydney, privately, for fellowship, discussion & prayer, guided by the priest chaplain. **Confidentiality assured.**

CATHOLICCARE SYDNEY. Are families in your community struggling with parenting? Parenting Education groups can help parents develop positive strategies to manage these concerns in a friendly environment with other parents. Call our friendly **CCareline** team on **13 18 19** to find out more or visit our website to view our Term 2 groups calendar 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.

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.

TOURS OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL: Our tour guides would love to take you through the history of our mother church in Sydney on weekdays at **10am, 10.30am and a visit at 1.45pm or 2pm**. Please send a request to info@stmaryscathedral.org.au or ring the Cathedral office on **(02) 9220 0400** to book your tour. *Please note: minimum tour group numbers of 10 required; also no tours on Fridays as the Crypt can be closed at short notice.*

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.