



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
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Sunday, 13 January 2019

Baptism of the Lord - Year C



Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

One of the most beautiful chapels in the Cathedral is the Baptistry, and for me it is a real pleasure to celebrate the Baptisms there.

The Lord Jesus began his public life after having himself baptized by St. John the Baptist in the Jordan. After his resurrection Christ gave this mission to his apostles: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (*Mt* 28:19-20; cf. *Mk* 16:15-16)

Jesus voluntarily submitted himself to the baptism of St. John, intended for sinners, in order to "fulfil all righteousness." (*Mt* 3:15) Jesus' gesture is a manifestation of his self-emptying. The Spirit who had hovered over the waters of the first creation descended then on the Christ as a prelude of the new creation, and the Father revealed Jesus as his "beloved Son."

In his Passion Christ opened to all people the fountain of Baptism. He had already spoken of his Passion, which he was about to suffer in Jerusalem, as a "Baptism" with which he had to be baptized. (*Mk* 10:38; cf. *Lk* 12:50) The blood and water that flowed from the pierced side of the crucified Jesus are signs of Baptism and the Eucharist, the sacraments of new life. From then on, it is possible "to be born of water and the Spirit" in order to enter the Kingdom of God.

Indeed, the Church understands that Baptism is necessary for a person to be saved, given the teaching of Jesus: "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." (*John* 3.5)

Many people have questions about Baptism and how its "necessity" should be understood. I recommend having a look at the section on Baptism in "The Catechism of the Catholic Church", which is easily available on the Vatican website, to explore this more deeply.

Peace to you today and in the week ahead,

Fr Don Richardson, Dean

Liturgy...

First Reading Is 40:1-5. 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it.

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God. ‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.’ A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’ Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’ Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God



Liturgy...

Responsorial Psalm Ps 103:1-2. 3-4. 24-25. 27-30. R. v.1

Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

1. Lord God, how great you are, clothed in majesty and glory, wrapped in light as in a robe! You stretch out the heavens like a tent. **(R.)**
2. Above the rains you build your dwelling. You make the clouds your chariot, you walk on the wings of the wind, you make the winds your messengers and flashing fire your servants. **(R.)**
3. How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your riches. There is the sea, vast and wide, with its moving swarms past counting, living things great and small. **(R.)**
4. All of these look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it, they gather it up: you open your hand, they have their fill. **(R.)**
5. You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. **(R.)**



Second Reading Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God

Liturgy...

Gospel Acclamation Lk 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I;
he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Alleluia!



Gospel Lk 3:15-16. 21-22

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, ‘I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.’

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.’

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



Weekend Mass	Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm Sunday: 7.00am, 9.00am, 10.30am (Solemn High Mass); 12.15pm 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 - 5.25pm Saturday: 11.30am - 11.55am, 4.30-5.30pm
Vespers (Evening Prayer)	Saturday: 5.30pm Sunday: 5.00pm (with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament) NOTE: There is <u>NO</u> Weekday Vespers and Holy Hour during the month of January.

****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 CLERGY <i>Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP</i> <i>Father Donald Richardson, Dean</i> <i>Father Brendan Purcell</i> <i>Father Emmanuel Yoon Jae Seo</i> <i>Father Pierluigi Passoni</i>	CATHEDRAL STAFF <i>Chris Backhouse – Cathedral Sacristan</i> <i>Thomas Wilson – Director of Music</i> <i>Helen Morassut – General Manager,</i> <i>St Mary’s Cathedral Precinct</i>
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**SUBSCRIBE TO THE NEW LOOK CATHOLIC WEEKLY
OR PURCHASE A COPY FOR \$2.**

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.

CATHEDRAL NOTICES

ST BAKHITA'S DAY – ETHICAL SOURCING SEMINAR AND EXPO

Don't miss this important seminar (**8 February**) to ensure your business is prepared, informed and ready to take action to address forced labour, slavery and exploitation in supply chains. Executives from across the corporate and public sector are invited to attend the seminar at St Mary's Cathedral. The Expo will bring together international best practice, modern slavery survivor testimony, local case studies and practical step-by-step guidance to support ethical sourcing practices as part of a robust procurement framework. Program of speakers released later in January 2019. **Event contact** and to **RSVP: Alison Rahill**, Anti-Slavery Taskforce, Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney alison.rahill@sydneycatholic.org **0439 482 290**.

PRAY FOR THE PLENARY COUNCIL

Across Australia, Catholics are gathering to pray, talk and listen to one another about our experiences of faith and the Church. Many parishes within the Archdiocese have commenced their journey towards the Plenary Council 2020, sharing and reflecting on the future of the Catholic church in Australia. Please continue to pray for the community of the Sydney Archdiocese that we will respond well to the call of the Holy Spirit, by engaging in the preparatory phase of the Plenary with open and humble hearts, listening to what the Spirit is saying to each one of us as we share our experiences of faith towards the preparation of the agenda of the Plenary Council. The Plenary Council Prayer: <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/pray/> Want to know more or on how to become involved? Please contact **9390 5147** or email plenarycouncil@sydneycatholic.org.

EMBRACE, YOUNG ADULTS GROUP.

Embrace is St Mary's group for young adults 18-35 yrs old from all cultures and backgrounds. We meet every Sunday at Cathedral House, adjacent to the Cathedral. Our activities and youth projects are designed to support spiritual development and encourage active practice of our faith. The group will resume for 2019 on **03 February** after the 6.00pm Mass. For enquiries: please call/text

Embrace on **0404 008 870** or email: embrace@stmaryscathedral.org.au.

THE BENEDICT XVI RETREAT CENTRE now offers a series of fun, innovative facilitated activity programs to complement and enrich any group retreat. Whether you are looking for adventure, team building, and opportunities for reflection or simply to have fun with your group, our specially trained facilitators can tailor a program to meet your needs and budget. Activities include flying fox, archery, bushwalking, leadership challenge, communications challenge, camp craft, environmental programs and more. Contact Reception on **(02) 4572 2899** / email bxvi@sydneycatholic.org to find out more or visit www.benedictxvicentre.org.au.

VOCATION DISCERNMENT WEEKEND

- **The Capuchin Friars 15-17th February 2019**. Come away for a few days of quiet to reflect upon the inspiring and uplifting vocations to the priesthood and religious life. This weekend retreat is for men aged 18-35. **7:30pm Friday to 4pm Sunday** at the Marymount Mercy Centre, Castle Hill. Mass on Saturday and Sunday, Adoration, quiet prayer, talks, confession available and quiet time. Come and reflect on God's will in your life, and these amazing ways of making a gift of self for the glory of God and in service of His Kingdom. The cost is only \$50. **Registrations required by 07 February: contact Father Thomas** vocations@capuchinfriars.org.au or **0432 362 052**. <https://www.capuchin.org.au>.

DRAWING AND GIVING LIFE – NSW PASTORAL MINISTRY CONFERENCE

2019 How do we renew our pastoral structures to draw and give life in the post Royal Commission Church? In what ways are we called to move forward and strengthen our ministries to serve the mission of Jesus Christ? The day includes networking with ministry leaders around NSW and two opportunities to engage with a variety of workshops with on the ground practitioners offering strategies for renewing and strengthening our pastoral mission. Normal rate \$75. **Dooleys Catholic Club Lidcombe. Tuesday 26th February 2019 / 9.30am to 4.30pm**

ROME PILGRIMAGE - 16 to 23 May 2019. To celebrate our Cathedral's 150 years it would be a great opportunity to join Fr Don Richardson, Dean of St Mary's Cathedral on a unique tour of Rome. Get your free pilgrimage kit today by ringing Rome Pilgrimages on **1800 753 959** or Email: pilgrimages@sydneycatholic.org.

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 contact the Cathedral office at info@stmaryscathedral.org.au 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.*

WALK THE CAMINO PORTUGUÉS. Catholic Mission 17-day Pilgrimage: Lisbon, Fatima, Porto, Santiago de Compostela. Two pilgrimages: **May 2019 and June 2019**. Small group led by Sr Veronica, OP, **(0451 387 906)**. For more information visit <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/get-involved/immersions/camino-portugues>

VOLUNTEERING WITH CATHOLICCARE. Interested in volunteering to **help seniors**? Based at our **Liverpool office**, we need callers to phone people waiting for government funded home care to check on their wellbeing. Interested in volunteering to **help children**? Based at our **Lewisham office**, we need people to help at playgroups for young, vulnerable mothers and their babies. Call CCareline on **13 18 19** to find out more.



**CELEBRATING AUSTRALIA DAY
AT THE CATHEDRAL – 26 JANUARY 2019**

Open Hours	6:30am to 7.30pm
Mass	9.00am 12noon 6pm Vigil
Vespers	5:30pm
Reconciliation	11:30am- 11:55am 4:30pm – 5:30pm
Cathedral History & Crypt Tours	10.00am 10.30am 11.00am 12.00pm 12.30pm 1.30pm 2.30pm
Bell Ringing	9.50am (60 minutes)
Organ Recital	1.00pm 2.00pm 3.00pm