

13th September

ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY J. IRELAND



**St Mary's
Cathedral
Parish**

180 Harrington Street
Hobart 7000

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Administrator:
Fr Bernard Perera

Assistant Priest:
Fr Steven Smith

Deacon & Sacristan:
Deacon Michael Smith

Pastoral Associate:
Sr. Monica Shelverson PBVM

Director of Music:
Clair Stanelos

Parish Secretary :
Nimshini Peiris

PARISH OFFICE:

(Monday - 8.00 am - 12.00 | Wednesday 8.00 am -
11 am & 1pm - 5.30 pm)

Friday - 8.30 am - 5.30 pm)

 [cathedralparishhobarttasmania](https://www.facebook.com/cathedralparishhobarttasmania)

<https://www.stmaryscathedralhobart.org.au>

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR A

I remember a movie when I was younger called *Pay It Forward*. In it, a young boy named Trevor receives a school assignment to change the world. His idea is simple yet audacious: instead of paying a favour back, you pay it forward to three people with acts they cannot easily do for themselves, creating an exponential wave of kindness. Yet the messy reality of human frailty quickly catches up. People relapse, courage falters, and old habits die hard. Believing his grand experiment has collapsed into nothing, Trevor marks the project down as an utter failure.

It is easy to recognise that same quiet despair in our own spiritual lives. In this Sunday Gospel, Peter approaches Jesus with what feels like a generous, quantifiable limit: "*Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?*" Unlike Trevor, we are not called to select three distinct beneficiaries for a single grand scheme. We are confronted every single day with the mundane, gruelling task of pardoning those who hurt us. And just like Trevor, we often doubt whether it serves any purpose. We forgive, yet people fail us again. Resentment creeps in, and as our first reading warns, holding onto that anger is a foul, self-destructive rot that poisons our relationship with God.

Yet Trevor's story didn't end in failure. Unbeknownst to him, an invisible ripple had begun. The people he helped went on to save others, sparking an unseen chain reaction that travelled across cities, culminating in thousands of people gathering in quiet unity.

When Jesus tells Peter not seven, but seventy-seven times, He is not setting a larger ceiling; He is dismantling the transactional ledger entirely. Christ is encouraging an exponential explosion of grace that renders the original debt obsolete. In the parable of the unforgiving servant, the master writes off an unpayable fortune of ten thousand talents. The absurdity lies in the servant walking out and choking his fellow worker over a meagre hundred denarii.

This is the divine economy of grace: God forgives our infinite debt, yet He has no need of our forgiveness in return. We cannot pay Him back. Therefore, the only righteous path left to us is to pay it forward - releasing our brothers and sisters from their small claims from the heart, trusting that mercy ripples farther into eternity than our eyes can ever see.



MASS TIMES

St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart

7.30am: Tuesday - Friday
5.00pm: Saturday (Vigil Mass)
10.30am: Sunday
6.00pm: Sunday

Sacred Heart Church New Town

9.15am: Tuesday - Thursday
8.00am: Saturday
8.30am: Sunday
9.45am: Wednesday—Novena
7.30am: Saturday—Rosary

Lawrenny Court

(131 Hill St West Hobart)

10.30am: Friday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart

4.00pm - 4.30pm: Saturday

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St Mary's Cathedral Crypt, Hobart

6.00pm - Midnight: Friday

SACRAMENTS & DEVOTIONS

*ENQUIRIES FOR BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGE
PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE*

THE CC'S - (Companions of the Cathedral)
Every Wednesday on floor 1
starting at 12:30 pm

PIETY SHOP— Thursday, 10 am - 3pm. Saturday &
Sunday the shop is open after every weekend Mass



St Mary's Cathedral Parish embraces and wholeheartedly supports the Archdiocese of Hobart Safe Communities Policy and Framework, which can be found at the Parish office. Any enquiries regarding Safe Communities contact the Parish Office (03) 6234 4463.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross—14 September

On 14th September, we celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, honouring the Cross of Christ as the powerful sign of God's immense love for humanity.

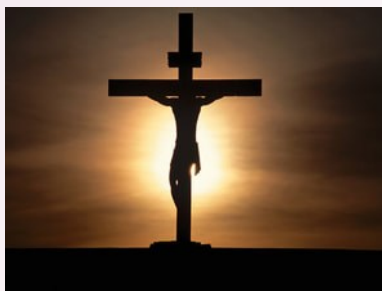
The Cross reminds us that Jesus willingly embraced suffering and gave His life for our salvation. What appeared to be an instrument of suffering became, through Christ's Resurrection, a sign of hope, redemption, mercy and new life.

As we look upon the Cross, we are reminded that we are never alone in our own struggles and suffering. Christ walks with us, giving us the strength to carry our crosses with faith and trust in God.

May we embrace the Cross not only as a symbol, but as an invitation to live with greater love, compassion, forgiveness and faith.

"For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son."
— John 3:16

May the Holy Cross be a source of hope, strength, peace and blessing for us all.



Cathedral Parish Sacramental Program 2026/2027 Information Night

The Cathedral Parish invites parents and carers to begin their children's sacramental journey for the 2026/2027 program.

Reconciliation, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion are important milestones in nurturing your child's faith and building upon their Baptism.

Families interested in preparing their children to receive these sacraments are warmly invited to attend our upcoming Information Night:

Date: Tuesday, 22 September 2026

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: St Mary's Cathedral

This session will provide details about the preparation program, key dates, and the support available to families throughout this sacred journey.

For further information or enquiries, please contact the Cathedral Parish Office. We look forward to journeying in faith with your family.

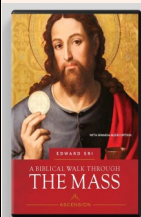
A Biblical Walk Through the Mass Parish Study Program

Ever wondered why we say what we say and do what we do at Mass? Join us for *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*, a 5-week video study by Dr Edward Sri (Ascension Press) that explores the extraordinary biblical roots of the Liturgy's prayers, gestures, and rituals. Whether you have attended Mass your whole life or are newly discovering the Catholic faith, this program will renew your understanding and deepen your devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

Duration: a 6-week program starting on Saturday 19th September.

Location: Cathedral Parish Centre – 1st Floor
10 am to 10:30 am for morning tea
10:30 am to Midday for session

Cost: \$25 per person (includes participant study workbook and materials)



Registration: Please sign up at the parish office

or via the registration sheet in the foyer by Wednesday 9th September

come and discover the beauty and riches of the Liturgy in a whole new light—all are wel-

Sacristans

The **Sacristan** is one of the Church's most unsung ministries. Much of their important work happens behind the scenes, preparing for Mass and caring for the sacred space afterwards. Their quiet service helps our liturgies run smoothly and supports our worshipping community. **Interested in learning more? We'd love to hear from you.** Please contact **Deacon Mick or the Parish Office.**

Welcomer

"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit."

Luke 1:41

God gives each of us unique gifts and charisms to share and to build His Kingdom. A warm welcome can create a lasting first impression when someone enters our church.

As Christ has welcomed us with unconditional love, we are called to extend that same love to others.

Would you like to know more about becoming a Welcomer?

We would love to hear from you. Please contact **Deacon Mick or the Parish Office.**

From Our Anniversary Book Giovanni Gazzignato, Mary Downey, Doris Cross, Gladys McVilly, Fr. Peter Rushton, William Verrell, James Polock, Doug Parkinson, Frances Simpson, Gina Toigo, Barry Stanfield, D'Abate & Meale families, Emma Alomes, William Absalom, Dawn Dolan, Reginald Goodluck, Zygmunt Gauden, George Carr, Michael Donnelly, Kaisei David O'Keefe, Vittorio Limongelli, Leslie Aiken, John Williams, Margaret Burnett, Geoffrey Saunders, Eileen Fahey, Victorio Gabriel, Carmelo Abate, Francis Jeffrey, Rose Salter, John Breen, Alice Kelly, James Lynch, Thomas Williams, Keith Downey, Frederick McCann, Tom Young. **May they rest in peace !**



Livestreaming at St Mary's Cathedral—Please note that the **Sunday 10:30am Mass** at St Mary's Cathedral is livestreamed on the **Archdiocese of Hobart YouTube channel**. Most special events and ceremonies celebrated at the Cathedral are also livestreamed. If you have any concerns or questions regarding the livestream, please contact the Parish Office on **(03) 6208 6094** for more information.

September edition of the *Catholic Standard* is now available at the foyer

Here are the highlights from this edition:

- Dr Debra Sayce appointed Executive Director of Catholic Education Tasmania
- Synodality: 'Discerning and listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit'
- 'Safeguarding at the forefront of parish life'
- Fr Jessie: Revisiting the questions 'Who do you follow?'
- Puzzle solved for retired Archbishop's jigsaw collection
- Gifted musician's career of high notes (Launceston)
- Dedication to Catholic Education recognised through awards
- Spotlight on faith illuminating Catholic education
- Overwhelming joy at blessing of altar (St Helens) Star of the Sea School invests in hope for the future



Caritas Australia: Nepal Floods Appeal

Communities in northern Nepal are facing a humanitarian crisis after devastating flash floods swept through the Rasuwa District on 26 August. Over 1,000 people have lost their lives, many remain missing, and thousands of families have been affected. Homes, roads, bridges, schools and essential infrastructure have been destroyed, leaving vulnerable communities in urgent need of support.

Caritas Australia is working with Caritas Nepal and local partners to provide lifesaving assistance, including emergency shelter, food, safe drinking water, healthcare and protection support for affected families.

Together, we can provide urgent relief and hope to families rebuilding their lives in Nepal.

To donate to the Caritas Australia Nepal Floods Appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/nepal or call **1800 024 413**.



The Angelus Prayer

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.



R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with Thee; Blessed art thou among women, And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us sinners, Now and at the hour of our death. Amen

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done to me according to your word. **Hail Mary. . .**

V. And the Word was made flesh.

R. And dwelt among us. **Hail Mary. . .**

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through



1. Release, Restore, Reclaim retreat - Evening meal and session 6- 8pm on Friday 9th October, Saturday 10th of October 9-3pm and Sunday - 11th October 9- 11am.
Cost: \$330 incl. GST (including Morning Tea, Lunch, Afternoon Tea, Dinner)
Facilitator: Anne Slingo - Ignatian Spiritual focus
2. Drasko Dizdar- Lectio Divina – October 3rd, October 31st – 10am to 12.30pm \$20 pp (Morning tea provided)

Carmelite Spirituality Weekend Retreat at St John of the Cross

FRIDAY 23RD - SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER

AT THE EMMANUEL CENTRE

123 ABBOTT STREET, NEWSTEAD

"Come aside and rest awhile." (Mk 6, 31)

A time for silence, a time to listen, a time to ask, a time to rest...

A weekend to encounter the Lord through the liturgy, scripture, the Carmelite saints, silence and prayer led by experienced Discalced Carmelite friar Fr Gerard Moran OCD.

Cost of weekend \$330 Including accommodation and all meals

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL TO: Meriam 0438 005 263 (please leave a text message)

READINGS OF THE DAY TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

First Reading

Sirach 27:30 – 28:7

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,
and both are found with the sinner.
He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of
the Lord,
who keeps strict account of sin.
Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.
If a man nurses anger against another,
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?
Showing no pity for a man like himself,
can he then plead for his own sins?
Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;
who will forgive him his sins?
Remember the last things, and stop hating,
remember dissolution and death, and live by the
commandments.
Remember the commandments, and do not bear your
neighbour ill-will;
remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook
the offence.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8

**(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others;
if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the
Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This
explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so
that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation

John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

Gospel—Matthew 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I
forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven
times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-
seven times. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be
compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with
his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him
a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no
means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should
be sold, together with his wife and children and all his
possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw
himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said
"and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master
felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the
debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a
fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he
seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay
what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his
feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay
you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he
had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His
fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw
what had happened, and they went to their master and
reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for
him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt
of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound,
then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity
on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to
the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is
how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each
forgive your brother from
your heart.'



Claude Vignon: *The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant*

GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday 14th September	- John 3:13-17 (The Exaltation of the Holy Cross)
Tuesday 15th September	- John 19:25-27 /Luk 2:33-35 (Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows)
Wednesday 16th September	- Luke 7:31-35
Thursday 17th September	- Luke 7:36-50
Friday 18th September	- Luke 8:1-3
Saturday 19th September	- Luke 8:4-15

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 20th September 2026

First Reading	- Isaiah 55:6-9
Responsorial Psalm	- Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18
Second Reading	- Philippians 1:20-24. 27
Gospel	- Matthew 20:1-16

Pray and Reflect on the Word of God !

Please take your copy of the AVE home to reflect and to share with family and friends.