



# St Mary's Cathedral Parish

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## ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY IRELAND

**Administrator:**  
Fr Bernard Perera

**Assistant Priest:**  
Fr Steven Smith

**Deacon & Sacristan:**  
Deacon Michael Smith  
**Pastoral Associate:**  
Sr. Monica Shelverton PBV

**Director of Music:**  
Clair Stanelos

**Parish Secretary :**  
Nimshini Peiris

**PARISH OFFICE :**

(Tuesday & Friday - 8.00 am - 5.00pm and  
Wednesday 8.00 am - 11.00am)



[cathedralparishhobarttasmania](https://www.stmaryscathedralhobart.org.au)  
<https://www.stmaryscathedralhobart.org.au>

### Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A- 1st February 2026

In our modern world, tribalism often defines how we navigate our daily lives. We are constantly asked to identify which group we belong to—whether it is the political party we support, the AFL team we cheer for on a Saturday afternoon, or even the "type" of Catholic we consider ourselves to be. We find comfort in these labels because they tell us where we fit. When we hear the Beatitudes in today's Gospel, we often bring this same mindset to the text. We try to find our "category," thinking, "I'm not a peacemaker, I'm too argumentative," or "I'm not mourning right now, so this doesn't apply to me."

But Jesus isn't handing out badges to different departments of the Church. He is describing the changing seasons of a faithful life. In the rugged landscape of Tasmania, we know the weather can change in an instant; you can start a hike in the sun and finish it in a shroud of mist. Our spiritual lives are no different. The Beatitudes are not static labels, but moments of encounter that we will all experience at different times.

There are seasons when we are "poor in spirit," feeling our inadequacy through ill health, financial struggle, or our own mistakes. In that emptiness, we aren't failing; we are simply making space for God. There are seasons of mourning, which is not a permanent identity but a valley we must walk through, finding blessing in the comfort that meets us there. There are moments when we are called to be gentle or merciful—not because it is our natural personality, but because we choose to be in the heat of a family disagreement or a stressful day.

When we view these as a cycle of human experience, the pressure to "fit" one category disappears. We realize that the person in the pew next to us isn't part of a different "tribe"; they are a fellow traveller, one of the many in the body of Christ who has likely known both the hunger for justice and the need for mercy. Whichever Beatitude you are living right now, that is exactly where Jesus is standing, calling you "Blessed."



### 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

#### Lawrenny Court

(131 Hill St West Hobart)  
**10.30am:** Friday

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

**St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart**  
**4.00pm - 4.30pm:** Saturday

#### NOVENA TO OUR LADY AND ROSARY

**Sacred Heart Church, New Town**  
**After 9.15am Mass:** Wednesday  
**7.30am:** 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*

### PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM—2026

The Cathedral Parish is delighted to announce that enrolments are now being received for the **2026 Sacramental Program** for the Sacrament of **Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion**.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 'The sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us' (#1131).

The Sacraments are a way in which we experience God's love, healing, forgiveness, nourishment and strength. They are a deep meaningful step in our faith journey.

The Cathedral Parish Sacramental Program is a program for all children who are **Baptised, Year 3 and upwards who attend as parishioners and are students of Parish Schools (Catholic, Government and independent)**. Enrolments and further information can be received at the Parish Office by **Phone: 03 62344463**

or Email: [smcsacramentalprogram@gmail.com](mailto:smcsacramentalprogram@gmail.com)

The Cathedral Parish welcomes you who are interested to **Join our Sacramental Program Team as a volunteer** to assist, guide and journey with the children, their families and the team through the program for 2026.

Please contact the Parish Office if interested.



### Piety Store 2026

Our Piety/Gift Shop has been under new volunteer-led management since 2025, allowing for a wider range of new stock. We are hoping more parishioners will come forward to help support this important parish service.

If you are interested in helping, please speak with Christine, who is available at the Piety Shop counter after all Masses. As we are now nearly one month into 2026, the shop is open after all weekend Masses and every Thursday from 10am to 3pm.

Please help support this initiative by spreading the word, which will allow the range of stock to continue to grow.

### Readers and Sacristan Volunteers

The new Rosters for readers and Sacristans are currently being prepared. We are always looking for new volunteers, but we are especially calling out for readers on Saturday and Sunday evening Masses. If you feel a calling to this ministry, please don't hesitate to talk to Deacon Michael or contact the Parish office. We are also always looking for Sacristans across all three Masses in the Cathedral. If you would like to know more about this important ministry, contact Deacon Michael or talk to Fr. Bernard or Fr. Steven. The involvement of volunteers in these important ministries is vital to the functioning and wellbeing Catholic Parish.

### 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 the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Lenten Program-2026

The Cathedral Parish is running a reflection/discussion program based around a series of short videos titled "Made for Heaven/Lent with Fr Agustino". There will be a 10am meeting at the Cathedral Parish Centre on the first floor and then at 5:30pm in the Parish Rooms at Sacred Heart Church. Both meetings will commence on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February. There will be Handouts available with all details at the back of the Churches as of this coming weekend. Grab one and join us as we travel through Lent together.

### A Note of Appreciation

As a parish, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to every volunteer who helped make our recent celebrations so special. From the Cathedral Dedication on Friday, January 23rd, to our Australia Day gathering on January 26th, these events thrived because of your dedication.

Whether you served during the Mass, prepared and shared food, managed the BBQ, or helped with the setup and pack-up, your contribution was vital. We are especially grateful to everyone who took time out of their busy lives simply to be present. You are the reason these gatherings are truly "community" events. Please know that your hard work and spirit are deeply appreciated.



### From Our Anniversary Book:

Archpriest Phillip Henneby, Anne Shelverton, Percy Smith, Elizabeth Tehan, Senka Dzelalija, Francesco Ranalli, Mary Scott, Frank Burke, Patrick Waters, Eileen Miller, Joan Shirley, Antonio Scavone, Rosa Palermo, Felicitonio Di Saia, John Conlan, Mildred Coulson, Ina Compton, Elsie Thornhill, Christian Berger, Anna Zanini, Audrey Harrington, Agueda Tojino, Sheelah Boon, Joshua Kirk, William Baldwin, Patricia Margaret Wilson, John Devine, Sergio Moreira, Florence Denne, Ludovico Genovesi, Ronald Peters, Ella Shelverton, Diane Bretnall, Zelinda and Donato Vacca, Patrick Crisp, Maria Carr, Pamela Steele, Jack Murrawood, Aileen Stuart, Joan King, David Harris, Georgie Wilkes, Basilio Gabriel, Domenico Carmelo Abate.

**May they rest in peace !**



### Important Notice: Sick & Deceased Prayer List

Within our parish, we hold a sincere commitment to pray as a community for our sick and deceased members. We honour this in two ways:

1. **Death Anniversaries:** These are included in the Weekly Bulletin for the parish community to read.
2. **Names in the Universal Prayers:** Names of the deceased and the sick are read out during the Universal Prayers at all our Weekend Masses, as requested by parishioners.

Beginning next week, all names included in the Universal Prayer list will remain for a **four-week period**. After this time, the names will be removed unless a renewed and proper request is submitted through our Parish Office.

This process ensures that our community prayers continue to support those individuals and souls who are truly in need of on-going remembrance and prayers.

### FRIDAY ADORATION

Friday Adoration for 2026 commenced on 30th January and will continue **Every Friday from 6:00 pm to midnight**.

### COMING UP IN THE NEW YEAR

- 1st Friday Mass and Healing Service—6th February, 6PM Cathedral Parish Centre-Level 2
- Sacramental Programme Information session—10th February, 6PM, Cathedral.
- Parish Lenten Program 1—19th February  
Day session— Cathedral Parish Centre 10 AM –12 PM |  
Evening Session— Sacred Heart Parish Centre 5.00 PM – 7.00 PM
- Stations of the Cross— Every Friday During Lent Season, 6.00PM—7.00 PM at Sacred Heart Church

### 30th World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

**5:00pm Mass - 2 Feb 2026,  
St John's Church, Glenorchy.**

Archbishop Tony will celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving recognising the remarkable contribution of hundreds of consecrated religious to Catholic life and mission in our Archdiocese over many years, particularly in education, care of the sick and social welfare. Coinciding with the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, it is an opportunity to recognise their witness as bearers of Christ's light in our world and give thanks for their lives of service, prayer, and dedication that so enrich the Church.

### Lenten Reflection Days

#### Come Beloved - into the wilderness with Jesus

You are invited to a day of prayer and reflection *accompanying Jesus in the wilderness and discovering the temptations that distract you from your belovedness*.  
Saturday 14th March, 10am - 3pm, Catholic Pastoral Centre, Launceston.  
Cost \$50 (including morning tea, BYO lunch).  
Facilitated by Belinda Chapman.

#### "...and Come Follow Me"

You are invited to hear the invitation of Jesus and discover what it means for you.  
Saturday 21st March, 10am - 3pm, Mary MacKillop Spirituality Centre, New Town.  
Cost \$50 (including morning tea BYO lunch).  
Facilitated by Belinda Chapman.

#### Silent Retreat - At Your Feet

Do you desire to grow in intimacy with God? You are invited to the welcoming space of love and listening at the feet of Jesus. Come as you are into scripture stories of acceptance, accompaniment and intimacy. Discover your deeper identity and find yourself at home and growing in intimacy with God who walked in human feet.

*Each day will include input sessions on scripture passages, time for silent personal prayer and reflection, and individual spiritual direction.*

*Directors: Belinda Chapman and Maureen O'Halloran*  
Friday 26th June (4pm) - Sunday 28th June (2pm), Seaview, Camp Clayton, Ulverstone.  
Cost \$500 (including accommodation, all meals, spiritual direction and all prayer resources)



Join the Office of Youth Evangelisation to launch our preparation for  
**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027**

**Testimonials | Korean Food | K-Pop**

**13 FEBRUARY, 2026 | 6-8PM**

Come along and find out more about the Tasmanian Pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CHURCH HALL**  
61 Adelaide St, South Hobart



Event open to anyone who will be between 18 - 35 years old before the 25th July, 2027



## READINGS OF THE DAY—4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR 1

### First Reading

**Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13**

Seek the Lord  
all you, the humble of the earth,  
who obey his commands.  
Seek integrity,  
seek humility:  
you may perhaps find shelter  
on the day of the anger of the Lord.  
In your midst I will leave  
a humble and lowly people,  
and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord.  
They will do no wrong,  
will tell no lies;  
and the perjured tongue will no longer  
be found in their mouths.  
But they will be able to graze and rest  
with no one to disturb them.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3**

**(R.) Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!**  
or  
(R.) Alleluia!

It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)

It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

### Second Reading

**1 Corinthians 1:26-31**

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Rejoice and be glad;  
Your reward will be great in heaven.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

**Matthew 5:1-12**

*Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:*  
*'How happy are the poor in spirit:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Happy the gentle:  
they shall have the earth for their heritage.  
Happy those who mourn:  
they shall be comforted.  
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:  
they shall be satisfied.  
Happy the merciful:  
they shall have mercy shown them.  
Happy the pure in heart:  
they shall see God.  
Happy the peacemakers:  
they shall be called sons of God.  
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'*



### GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday 2nd February	-	Luke 2:22-40/Luke 2:22-32
Tuesday 3rd February	-	Mark 5:21-43
Wednesday 4th February	-	Mark 6:1-6
Thursday 5th February	-	Mark 6:7-13
Friday 6th February	-	Mark 6:14-29
Saturday 7th February	-	Mark 6:30-34

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

First Reading	-	Isaiah 58:7-10
Responsorial Psalm	-	Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4
Second Reading	-	1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Gospel	-	Matthew 5:13-16

**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.**