



St Mary's Cathedral Parish

180 Harrington Street

Hobart 7000

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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>

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A – 8th February 2026

Salt of the Earth, Light of the World

On the 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A, Jesus speaks words that are both affirming and demanding: *"You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world."* These are not future promises or distant ideals. Jesus does not say *"you will become"* salt and light. He says *you are*. With these simple images, Jesus reveals the identity and mission of every Christian.

Salt, in the time of Jesus, was precious. It preserved food, added flavor, and prevented decay. A small amount made a big difference. When Jesus calls us the salt of the earth, he is reminding us that our presence in the world matters. Through kindness, honesty, justice, and compassion, Christians are called to preserve what is good and to resist what diminishes human dignity. Yet Jesus also warns us: salt can lose its taste. Faith that is reduced to words alone, without action, slowly becomes ineffective.

Light, too, exists not for itself but for others. A lamp is not lit to be hidden, but to brighten the whole house. In the same way, faith is never meant to be private or invisible. Christian discipleship must be seen—not through loud self-promotion, but through quiet, consistent witness. When our lives reflect mercy, forgiveness, humility, and service, God's light shines through us.

The first reading from the prophet Isaiah makes this connection very practical. True worship, Isaiah says, is not only prayer and fasting, but caring for the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked. When we act with justice and generosity, *"your light shall break forth like the dawn."* Faith becomes credible when it touches real human suffering.

Saint Paul, in the second reading, echoes this humility. He reminds the Corinthians that he did not rely on clever speech or human wisdom, but on the power of God. This is an important reminder in a world that values influence, popularity, and recognition. The light we offer is not our own brilliance, but the presence of Christ working through ordinary people.

In our daily lives, being salt and light may look very simple: listening patiently to someone who is struggling, choosing integrity over convenience, offering forgiveness instead of resentment, standing up for the vulnerable, or serving quietly without expecting praise. These small acts, done with love, can transform families, parishes, and communities.

This Sunday invites us to examine ourselves gently but honestly. Are we adding flavour to the world around us, or blending in unnoticed? Are we reflecting God's light, or hiding it out of fear or indifference? The good news is that Jesus trusts us with this mission. He believes that even our small, faithful efforts can illuminate the darkness.

May this Eucharist renew our commitment to live what we believe, so that through our words and actions, others may see the light of Christ and give glory to God.



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*



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.

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

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.



COMING UP

- **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

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

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 19th 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.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL- HOBART

- **7.30 AM**
- **6.00 PM**

SACRED HEART CHURCH-NEWTOWN

- **9.15 AM**



Help Us Prepare for Ash Wednesday: We invite you to bring in the palm crosses given last year and place them in the boxes at the front of the church or hand them in to the parish office during office hours. These will be used to make the ashes for our Ash Wednesday service.

From Our Anniversary Book:

Joseph Fisher, Leo Brooks, Maria Ausilia, Pompeo Marino, Domenico D'Angelo, Ottavio Giusti, Ernest Williams, Phyllis Burke, Monica O'Kane, Leon Brue, Nell Cox, Bruce Hudson, Errol Power, Fr. Clem Kilby, Ronald Williams, Lance Fitzgerald, Thomas Landers

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.

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.

Episcopal Ordination and Installation of Bishop-Elect Mark Freeman for the Diocese of Ballarat

The Episcopal Ordination Mass will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 11.00am. Due to limited seating capacity in the Cathedral, attendance will be by invitation and entry card only.

The Mass will be livestreamed online, and into St Patrick's Hall, adjacent to the Cathedral. Seating in the Cathedral cannot be guaranteed for those attending the Mass without an entry card.

To assist with accommodating as many people as possible, please register your name and email address with Julie [Boyd](mailto:Julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au) Julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au at the Diocese of Ballarat so that you can be placed on the reserve list

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



Archdiocese
of Hobart

Cordially invites parishioners to attend a

Mass of Thanksgiving and Farewell

to honour

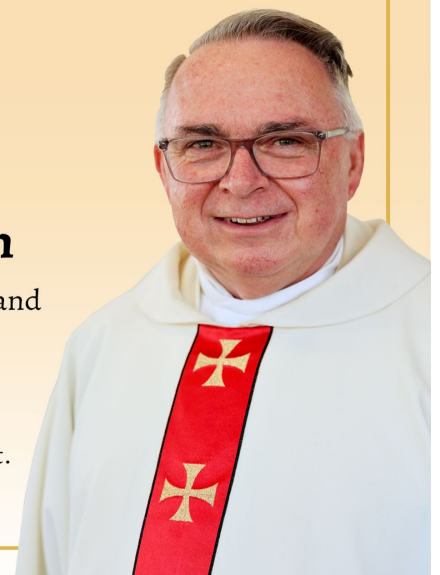
Bishop-Elect Mark William Freeman

Mass will be celebrated by His Grace, Most Reverend Anthony J. Ireland



Monday 2 March, 2026 | 6pm
St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart

Following Mass, a reception will be held at Best Western Hobart.
Reception attendance is by RSVP only, for catering purposes.
Please RSVP by 20 February 2026 by scanning the QR code.



First Reading

Isaiah 58:7-10

Thus says the Lord:
Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.
Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'
If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour. **(R.)**
2. The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. **(R.)**
3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.
'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'



GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday 9th February	- Mark 6:53-56
Tuesday 10th February	- Mark 7:1-13
Wednesday 11th February	- Mark 7:14-23
Thursday 12th February	- Mark 7:24-30
Friday 13th February	- Mark 7:31-37
Saturday 14th February	- Mark 8:1-10

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

First Reading	- Sirach 15:15-20
Responsorial Psalm	- Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1
Second Reading	- 1 Corinthians 2:6-10
Gospel	- Matthew 5:17-37

Pray and Reflect on the Word of God