



St Mary's Cathedral Parish

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Administrator:
Fr Bernard Perera

Assistant Priest:
Fr Steven Smith

**Cathedral Parish Deacon
& Sacristan:**
Deacon Michael Smith

Pastoral Associate:
Sr. Monica Shelverton PBVM

Director of Music:
Clair Stanelos

Parish Secretary :
Angelica Thaddeus

PARISH OFFICE :

(Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday)
9am –3pm



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

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS 14TH SEPTEMBER 2025

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Every year on September 14, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. This feast reminds us that the cross, once a symbol of shame and suffering, has become for Christians the greatest sign of love, salvation, and victory. Through Christ's death and resurrection, the cross is no longer a mark of defeat but the very path to eternal life.

The origins of this feast go back to the early centuries of Christianity.

Tradition tells us that in the year 326, Saint Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine, discovered the true cross of Christ during her pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Constantine then ordered the construction of the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher, dedicated both to Christ's Passion and Resurrection. The Church later commemorated the dedication of this basilica on September 14, and the date became associated with the exaltation of the cross. It was not simply about finding a relic, but about celebrating the deeper meaning of the cross in God's plan of salvation.

The readings for this feast highlight this mystery. In the Book of Numbers, the people of Israel, bitten by serpents in the desert, were saved when they looked upon the bronze serpent lifted on a pole. Jesus Himself explains this image in the Gospel of John: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life" (Jn 3:14–15). The cross is thus not only a reminder of Christ's suffering but also a proclamation of His saving power.

To exalt the cross is to lift it high before the eyes of the world as the sign of our faith. For Christians, it is a call to embrace the cross in our daily lives — not with fear, but with hope. Every struggle, sacrifice, or act of love can be united with Christ's offering on the cross, transforming our pain into a source of grace. The cross teaches us that God's power is revealed in weakness and His glory shines most brightly through self-giving love.

The feast also challenges us to look at the world differently. Where others see failure or defeat, faith sees the possibility of redemption. The cross tells us that even the darkest moments of human history can become the seed of new life. It invites us to stand with the suffering, to forgive those who wrong us, and to believe that love is stronger than hatred and life is stronger than death.

When we make the sign of the cross, when we venerate it in our liturgies, or when we wear it around our necks, we are proclaiming the mystery of our salvation. We exalt the cross not as a piece of wood, but as the throne of the Crucified and Risen Lord.

On this feast, let us renew our devotion to the cross of Christ. May it remind us of God's immense love, strengthen us in trials, and guide us on the way to resurrection.



MASS TIMES

St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart

7.30am: Tuesday - Friday
5.00pm: Saturday
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*

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC? RCIA is held every second Monday .Please contact the Parish office for more information.

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



Pope Francis has declared 2025 a Jubilee Year for our Church, themed "*Pilgrims of Hope*", a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the climate crisis. As Pope Francis states "the forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, Pilgrims of Hope."

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

A heartfelt thank you to all who have generously volunteered their time and talents to support and enrich our Parish community. Your contributions are deeply appreciated. There are always many ways to get involved if you're willing! We are currently in need of **readers for all our Masses**. If you've ever considered it, please know—it's not as hard as you might think, and your help would be most welcome. You can also leave your **name and contact number** at the Parish Office, or get in touch with **Deacon Mick** directly—either in person or by text on **0403 741 913**.

"We would love to hear from YOU !!"

THIS WEEK

Sun September 14 Safeguarding Sunday

Fri September 19 Adoration 6pm– 12 am, Cathedral Crypt.

September 19 Movie night, Cathedral 1st floor.

September 19 Epiclesis 4 Step Retreat, Bellerive Church

COMING UP

September 22 RCIA Session, Cathedral 1st floor.

September 23 Chatter that matters, Fr Shami Perera

Cathedral 1st Floor

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.

RCIA Session

We are delighted to welcome Tony Brennan, Director of Mission at Calvary Hospitals, as our special guest speaker for the next RCIA session on the 22nd of September at 6:30pm on level 1 in the Cathedral Centre.

Tony will share his experience on the topic of "Faith in Action: Living the Catholic Mission in Healthcare." He will provide insights into how Catholic faith and values are put into practice within a hospital setting, illustrating the connection between our beliefs and their tangible impact on the world. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to deepen our understanding of what it means to live out our faith beyond the walls of the church.

We encourage all RCIA catechumens, candidates and parishioners to join us for this inspiring talk.



Discover Palms Volunteering

Develop community self-reliance and create lasting change!

Discover Palms International Volunteering [online](#) in this special session where you'll chat with past Palms volunteers and hear how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities. Explore our [unique opportunities](#) and match your life experience to the experience of a lifetime!

Venue: Online- Scan the QR or register at palms.org.au/events

Date: Thursday 30 October 2025

Time: 7 pm – 8.30 pm AEDT (NSW/VIC/ACT/TAS)

02 9560 5333

palms@palms.org.au



Celebrate National Child Protection Week
7-13 September 2025

"SHIFTING CONVERSATION TO ACTION"

Safeguarding Sunday
14 September 2025



www.napcan.org.au

From Our Anniversary Book: Giovanni Gazzignato, Mary Downey, Doris Cross, Gladys McVilly, Fr. Peter Rushton, William Verrell, James Pollock, 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 Sr Agnes Webster (PBVM), Sr Brieda Hennessy (PBVM) and Sr Catherine Murphy (PBVM),

May they rest in peace!





Women's Retreat

With the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia

Saturday, 4 October 2025 | 9am - 3:30pm
Our Lady of Victories Shrine, Lutana
(12 Ashbolt Cres, Lutana)



Limited spaces, book now! For more information, or to book your place, scan the QR code or visit:
<https://events.humanitix.com/dominicans-womens-retreat>
Registrations close 27 September, 2025



Spiritual formation opportunities

Servant Leadership - more than foot washing
2 day retreat in Hobart, 15 & 16 September.

Topic "Boundaries; Where Love and Wisdom meet"
by **Judi Richardson**

Followed by Group sharing, Worship & Prayer ministry.

Friday 19th September 2025 (7.00pm - 8.30pm)

At Corpus Christi Church, O'Loughlin Room, Bellerive.

For details: scbwera@gmail.com

All are welcome!

Catholic Theological College

Online Information Session

Monday 27 October at 7pm (AEDT) 7.30pm. Register via our website:

ctc.edu.au/information-session

Knox Public Lecture

Wednesday 15 October at 7.30pm

For more information: ctc.edu.au/knox-public-lecture/

Engaging Your Faith in October 2025

From \$25 per session

For more information :

ctc.edu.au/information-session

For more information contact: ctc@ctc.edu.au

Laudato Si' Event

Saturday, 20 September 2025

9.00 am - 3.30 pm

Arrive by 9.00 am to start on country at the Clarence Foreshore Trail (Rosny College carpark end).

[Click here for trail map and information](#)

We will move for morning tea and the remainder of the program to John Paul Catholic School Hall, 161 Mockridge Road, Rokeby

Parking: Available on-site at both venues

Catering: Tea, coffee, light lunch provided

Donation: A minimum of \$20 is suggested

Registration: Please register via the QR code or weblink provided

Enquiries: luch.brighella@catholic.tas.edu.au



<https://forms.gle/orDCeefaJJGa7uh7>

Get ready for a night of faith and film!

Join us for a special movie night fundraiser at the St Mary's Cathedral Parish in Hobart, featuring the animated film, King of Kings. This isn't just a movie night—it's a chance to make a real difference. Your donations will directly support our young people in the parish, helping them attend and participate in the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Melbourne.

Entry is by donation, so please give what you can—every contribution helps! Let's come together for a evening of community, inspiration, and cinematic storytelling, all ages welcome and encouraged to come!!!

When: Friday, September 19th, 2025 at 5:30 pm

Where: St Mary's Cathedral Centre, Level 1.

We can't wait to see you there!

Please go to the following link if you would like to see a trailer for the movie:

[https://youtu.be/HDhet3EVRac?](https://youtu.be/HDhet3EVRac?si=um-NCet55m4Ae6vk)

[si=um-NCet55m4Ae6vk](https://youtu.be/HDhet3EVRac?si=um-NCet55m4Ae6vk)



FOLLOW UP TO EPICLESIS 4 STEP RETREAT
BOUNDARIES; WHERE LOVE AND WISDOM MEET

Join us for an evening of Fellowship, Worship and Renewal. Judi Richardson will be sharing on "Boundaries: Where Love and Wisdom Meet".

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Tea, Coffee, & refreshments provided

Friday 19 September 2025
7:00 pm- 8:30 pm
Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Bellerive (O'Loughlin Room)

For more information - scbwera@gmail.com



Help support our seminarian students who are in preparation for entering the priesthood.

Archdiocese of Hobart

Education of Future Priests Appeal
Sat 27 & Sun 28 September

Appeal envelopes available in your parish, or you can donate at hobart.catholic.org.au

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY



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.

READINGS OF THE DAY THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

First Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

On the way through the wilderness, the Israelites lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'
At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 77:1-2. 34-38. R. v.7

(R.) Do not forget the works of the Lord!

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past. (R.)
2. When he slew them then they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer. (R.)
3. But the words they spoke were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant. (R.)
4. Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have stirred up his rage. (R.)

Second Reading

Philippians 2:6-11

The state of Jesus was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are, he was humbler yet,

even to accepting death,
death on a cross.

But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by
your cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 3:13-17

Jesus said to Nicodemus:
'No one has gone up to heaven
except the one who came down from heaven,
the Son of Man who is in heaven;
and the Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.
Yes, God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.'

GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday 15th September	-	John 19:25-27
Tuesday 16th September	-	Luke 7:11-17
Wednesday 17th September	-	Luke 7:31-35
Thursday 18th September	-	Luke 7:36-50
Friday 19th September	-	Luke 8:1-3
Saturday 20th September	-	Luke 8:4-15

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading	-	Amos 8:4-7
Responsorial Psalm	-	Ps 112:1-2. 4-8. R. see vv.1. 7
Second Reading	-	1 Timothy 2:1-8
Gospel	-	Luke 16:1-13

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.