



St Mary's Cathedral Parish

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ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY J. IRELAND

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.stmaryscathedralhobart.org.au>

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Have you thought about the penitential act?

It is one of the most persistent cries of the human heart:
*Why doesn't God just fix this? Why doesn't He simply remove
the evil and brokenness from our world right now?*

Like the frustrated servants in the Gospel, we want a swift, decisive
purging of the bad.

Yet, when we gather for Mass, the liturgy immediately confronts us
with a humbling reality.

As we speak the words of the Penitential Act, we are forced to look
inward. The Parable of the Weeds and the Wheat ceases to be a
story about "us versus them." We are reminded that each of us is a
field where both wheat and weeds are deeply entangled.

We cannot ask God to brutally root out all evil without realizing
where that line is drawn. If God were to instantly eradicate all evil
on this earth, He would have to eliminate those who commit it—
which means He would have to eliminate us. As the ancient,
enduring wisdom reminds us: *"If God were to destroy all evil tonight,
where would you and I be tomorrow?"*

Instead, God holds back out of mercy. In the Gospel, the Master
commands patience: *"No, because when you weed out the darnel you
might pull up the wheat with it."* God protects the good within us at
all costs, He sees the complexity of our hearts and refuses to
abandon the harvest.

This brings us to the profound reassurance of the First Reading from
the Book of Wisdom, which completely upends our human
understanding of authority: *"Your justice has its source in strength,
your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all."*

In our world, absolute power corrupts absolutely and usually creates
a cold courtroom of strict judgment, where no hint of mercy can be
seen unless mistaken for weakness. If you expose your weakness to
a powerful authority, you invite punishment. But the liturgy flips this
dynamic. Because God's sovereignty is so immense, He has nothing
to prove, his power is so absolute that its natural expression is a
profound, patient leniency.

Therefore, the Penitential Act at the start of the Mass is not a legal
proceeding. It is not a cosmic courtroom where we grovel before a
tyrant. Rather, it is an act of pure love and divine healing from God,
which we partake in. We bring our tangled, messy fields before a
Master who already knows the weeds are there, and who uses His
almighty power not to crush us, but to give us "good ground for
hope." It is a space of total safety where the Divine Physician gently
tends to our souls, clearing the guilt so that the wheat of His grace
can grow.



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*

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

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.

Mass for the National Day of Peru

His Grace Archbishop Anthony Ireland will be offering the vigil Mass on Saturday, 25 July at St Mary's Cathedral, on the 205th Anniversary of the Independence of Peru, we will warmly welcome the Ambassador of Peru to Australia, who will join us for this mass.

Following the Mass, the Ambassador will address the congregation with a few words. The Peruvian National Anthem will also be sung after the Mass as part of the celebration.

All members of the Spanish-speaking communities, especially those of Peruvian heritage, are warmly invited to attend and join us in giving thanks to God for the people and nation of Peru, praying for God's continued blessings, peace, and prosperity.

We look forward to welcoming all who wish to celebrate this special occasion with us in prayer and fellowship.

Readers Needed

Saturday Night, Sunday Night and 8:30 am Sacred Heart and 10:30 am Cathedral Sunday Morning Masses are all looking for new readers all the time.

The Lord implores us to "Be Not Afraid" We all have it within us to proclaim the Word of God, now is the time and we have the place.

Fr Bernard, Fr Steven and Deacon Mick would all be happy to talk to you about this ministry within your Church.

The CC's are happening

The companions of the Cathedral have been meeting every Wednesday afternoon at 12:30pm on level 1 of the parish centre for the last few months.

We have enjoyed each other's company over a cuppa and cake and then undertaken various activities which enhance, not only the appearance of our Cathedral but also the community aspect which all churches strive to encourage.

We are always trying to bring others into this community so if you have the time and the inclination then come along and join us.

Morning Prayer with His Grace and Clergy

Parishioners are warmly invited to join His Grace and the priests attending the Under 10s Conference for a special morning of common prayer. Please join us next Friday, 24th July, at St Mary's Cathedral. Morning Prayer will begin at 7:10 AM (booklets provided), followed immediately by the parish morning Mass at 7:30 AM. All are most welcome to attend this beautiful opportunity to gather in prayer together.

From Our Anniversary Book

Gina Colla, Stella Stafford, John & Mary Hanrahan, Mary Sheehan, Catherine Carroll, Bruno Giudici, Gina Vivarelli, John Davis, Michael Carroll, Ila Cox, Gertrude Cosgrove, Francis Shelverton, Christina McGuire, Trevor Williams, Maria Fantini, Kiaus Assman, Cyril Shirley, Giovanni Di Monda, Vincenzo and Sebastiano Allocca, Martin McShane, Ernest White, Sheila Stephens, Richard Darcey, Ellen Nolan, William Hogan, Donato Palermo, David Donaghy, Mary Langdale, George Wilson, Harry Thompson, Yvonne Brierley, Lucy Jarvis (SSJ), Barbara Morgan, Margaret Amy Carty, John Fahey, Mary Jeffrey, Mary Lily Power, James Sexton, Sante Cerone, Molly Shelverton, Rodney Howell, John Green, Catherine McErvale, Rigney Dance, Raymond Ryan, Lidia Degaspero **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.

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.**



PARISH KEY AUDIT

St Mary's Cathedral Parish is currently conducting an audit of all keys issued for access to parish premises, including the Cathedral, Sacred Heart Church, Parish Centres, and other parish facilities.

An email regarding this key audit has been sent to parishioners and volunteers who may hold parish keys. If you have received the email, please complete the online Key Audit Form by 24 July 2026.

If you have not received the email but currently hold any parish keys, please kindly scan the QR code or use the link provided to complete the form.

If you no longer require any parish keys, please return them to the Parish Office by 31 July 2026.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we work to maintain accurate records and ensure the security of our parish facilities.

<https://forms.office.com/r/gq9bFtviTH?origin=lpLink>



The Piety Shop

For those interested the piety shop now has copies of Pope Leo's Encyclical back in stock.

Also with the Sacramental program on the Horizon the shop has many items pertaining to first communion and reconciliation along with prayer cards, books, statues and etc. Why not stop by and check it out after every weekend mass and 10am to 2pm on Thursdays.



'Be Thou My Vision' - Reflection Day

You are invited to a reflection day based on the traditional and popular hymn Be Thou My Vision. Saturday 8th August, 10am - 3pm at the Launceston Catholic Pastoral Centre. Cost \$50 including morning tea. BYO lunch.

Bookings and enquiries to Belinda Chapman (facilitator) ph: 0418 141 171 or email belindachapman.sd@gmail.com or visit website: belindachapman.square.site.

Venezuela Earthquake Appeal

Please keep the people of Venezuela in your prayers following the devastating earthquakes that have claimed many lives and left thousands injured, displaced, or missing. Caritas is providing emergency assistance, including food, clean water, shelter, medical care, and ongoing support to affected communities.

If you would like to support the **Caritas Australia Venezuela Earthquake Appeal**, please visit www.caritas.org.au/venezuela or call **1800 024 413**.

Thank you for your generosity and prayers.

60th Ordination Anniversary of Fr. Peter O'Loughlin

Fr Peter O'Loughlin will celebrate his 60th priestly ordination anniversary with a Concelebrated Mass at Corpus Christi Church, Bellerive at 11am, Monday 20th July 2026.

During his 60 years he has served the Church in Tasmania in 5 parishes - Church of Apostles (Launceston), New Norfolk, Bridgewater/Brighton, Kingston and Bellerive / Lindisfarne.

He has been actively involved in Catholic Education, Marriage Encounter and many other Diocesan and parish ministries.

All are invited to celebrate and give thanks for Fr Peter's 60 years of Priestly life and ministry,

Safe Communities Newsletter

Copies of the **July edition** of the *Safe Communities Newsletter* are now available at the foyer.

Alternatively, you can scan the QR code below to read the latest safeguarding news, updates, and resources from the Safe Communities Office.

Scan here to access the Newsletter :



Helping to create safe, welcoming and inclusive parish communities.

But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:17

Ruach WORSHIP NIGHT

FRIDAY, 31 JULY

6:30PM

An evening of **WORSHIP** with a sharing of testimony on the power of Thanksgiving in Praise.

PIZZAS AND A CUPPA AVAILABLE FROM 6.30PM
WORSHIP BEGINS 7:00PM



THE UTAS CATHOLIC STUDENTS' SOCIETY

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CHURCH HALL
61 ADELAIDE ST, SOUTH HOBART

utaschaplaincy@aohtas.org.au
or scbwera@gmail.com



CHILDREN'S CORNER



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

What are some of the "weeds" in our lives that stop us from growing?

Circle the things plants need in order to grow.



Write down or draw some of the things we need to make ourselves grow.



READINGS OF THE DAY SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

First Reading - Wisdom 12:13.16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.

Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)

2. All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. (R.)

3. But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation - Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.**

Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 13:24-30 (Shorter form)

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."



GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday 20th July	- Matthew 12:38-42
Tuesday 21st July	- Matthew 12:46-50
Wednesday 22nd July	- John 20:1-2. 11-18 (St. Mary Magdalene)
Thursday 23rd July	- Matthew 13:10-17
Friday 24th July	- Matthew 13:18-23
Saturday 25th July	- Matthew 20:20-28 (St. James Apostle)

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 26th July 2026

First Reading	- 1 Kings 3:5.7-12
Responsorial Psalm	- Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97
Second Reading	- Romans 8:28-30
Gospel	- Matthew 13:44-52

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.