



St Mary's Cathedral Parish

180 Harrington Street
Hobart 7000

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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>

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR A

In Matthew 15:21-28, we witness a remarkable encounter between Jesus and a Canaanite woman—a story that, on the surface, appears harsh, yet reveals a profound depth of faith, humility, and spiritual wisdom.

When the woman first cries out for her daughter, Jesus responds with complete silence. Many would react to such divine quiet with resentment or despair. Instead, this woman draws nearer. Moving past the disciples' impatience, she throws herself at His feet—the Greek verb used here is προσεκύνει (*prosekynēsen*), denoting total, reverent worship due to God alone.

Before the disciples fully understood His divine nature, this outsider recognised His sovereign authority and knelt in adoration.

When Jesus speaks of the boundaries of His mission, saying it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs, He uses a subtle word: κυνάριον (*kynarion*). Rather than the harsh term for wild street scavengers (*kyōn*), Jesus uses the diminutive form meaning "little house pet". He shifts the setting from an exclusionary street scene to an intimate domestic home where pets sit beneath the family table.

The woman's response demonstrates extraordinary spiritual agility and humility. Where pride would take offence, her faith sees an open door. In the original Greek, her reply begins not with an argumentative "but", but with καὶ γάρ (*kai gar*), meaning "Yes, Lord, for even..." She does not dispute His statement; she wholeheartedly accepts it and uses His own words as the foundation for her plea. She essentially answers: "Yes, Lord, you are right—and because even the house pets belong inside under the table, they eat the scraps that fall!"

Her response reveals two timeless truths:

Unwavering Humility: She claims no personal merit, entitlement, or status. She approaches Christ relying solely on His generosity, content with whatever He gives.

Profound Faith: She recognises the infinite abundance of God's grace. She knows that even a single "scrap" of Christ's mercy is more than enough to cast out evil and restore her daughter completely.

Jesus commends her publicly: "Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted." Her insight connects her directly to the broad vision of Isaiah 56 and Psalm 66, where God's house becomes a house of prayer for all nations.

When met with divine silence or feeling unworthy, her example guides us: to kneel in true worship, surrender our pride, and trust that even the smallest drop of the Lord's mercy is abundantly sufficient for our deepest needs.

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 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.

St Mary's Cathedral Concert Series hosts:

A Piano Recital with Luke Frost

2pm Sunday, 16 August | St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart

Local pianist Luke Frost presents a classical piano recital featuring works by Beethoven, Brahms, Chopin, and Scriabin. This concert will also include a guest performance by pianist Jennifer Marten-Smith.

Everyone is welcome. Purchase your ticket via **Humanitix** Website and Tickets are also available at the door (cash only).

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.**
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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.**

Sick & Retired Priest Fund Annual Collection



Saturday 22 & Sunday 23 August 2026

The **Sick & Retired Priest Fund** was established to ensure that all **diocesan priests incardinated into the Archdiocese of Hobart**

would receive adequate accommodation, healthcare and support needed in their retirement, or should they become ill.

Your priest has supported you... Please support them in their retirement or time of need.

Sick & Retired envelopes are available in all parishes, or you can donate securely by scanning the QR code.



Flowers

Flowers are starting to bloom again and if you have a garden, we at the Cathedral would happily accept any Donations of Flowers that you are happy to give.

You can leave them at the Parish centre at any time Friday's and Saturday's.



From Our Anniversary Book

Nicolina Rinaldi, Anne O'Loughlin, Honora Devitt, Francis Sexton, Ivan Thiessen, Peter Huigsloot, Margaret Northam, Thora Chaplain, Hugh Sullivan, Stephen Craig Garlick, Massoud Abraham, Cyril Green, Peter Nichols, Sr. Kathleen Twomey, Pasquale D'Amato, Marianne Sidebottom, Ronald Glenn Peters, Mariannina Mangione, Palma Di Tommaso, Ferreira Peter, Adamo Franov, Fred Radford, Joan Braithwaite, Joan Verrell, Ellen Josephine O'Brien, Beatrice Mackey, Denis Conlan, Barbara Mundy, John Ashwood, Bette Usher, Garry Willis, Ernesto Schiro, Ellen O'Brien, Kathleen Andrews, Kathleen Terry, Ethel Hanlon, Lauretta Di Domenico, Norah Youl, Sr. Mary Gabrielle Dillon, Mary Foster, Catherine Cape, Giovanna Taglieri, Rex Mundy. ***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 August edition of the *Catholic Standard* is available at the foyer now.

Here are some of the highlights from this edition:

- * 'Conversations in the Spirit': Gearing up for Synod 2027
- * Tasmania's first completed Housing Australia Future Fund project
- * Baptisms a cause of great joy for West Coast Parish
- * 'A hopeful and grace-filled time together': Under 10's priest gathering
- * Faith and heritage unite at Peru Independence Day Mass
- * Joyful celebrations for Fr Jonas Donasco MLCC
- * Keeping watch in prayer for vocations
- * Warm welcome awaits as Alpha shares the Good News (Kings Meadows)
- * First class day as former staff share living history (OLOL Devonport)
- * Presentation schools keep Nano Nagle's light burning bright



'Born Alive Left to Die' Join us in a daytime showing of this 25 min documentary, produced by ACL.

Date: Aug 22nd 2026, Venue: 'The Chalet' Springhaven, 1 Kirkham Place (off Gordon's Hill Rd), Lindisfarne. Tea and Coffee provided; BYO Lunch. Time: 10 am for a 10.30 am start.

RSVP: Anne Sherston at president@hlpstas.com.au

Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2027 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Mongolia.

Applications close October 31st, 2026. Send us an enquiry - www.cagliero.org.au or lhichaba@salesians.org.au.

Catholic Earthcare Season of Creation Gathering 2026

Caritas Australia and Catholic Religious Australia warmly invite you to participate in the Catholic Earthcare **Season of Creation Gathering 2026: Listen, Reflect, Act**, a national online event on **3-4 September 2026**. The Gathering offers inspiring keynote presentations and practical workshops to help participants deepen their faith and respond to the call to care for our common home.

Parishioners can register individually for **\$20**.

Learn more and register: www.caritas.org.au/soc-gathering

"Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down, and it was completely calm."

Mark 4:39

Living Water Gathering

PEACE IN THE MIDST OF THE STORM



Join us for an evening of prayer, praise and sharing of the word by Fr. Kasun Dananjaya

ALL WELCOME!

Tea, Coffee, & refreshments provided

21 August 2026

7:00 pm

Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Bellerive (O'Loughlin Room)

For more information - scbwera@gmail.com



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE



ST MARY'S COLLEGE

Cocktail Fundraiser and Auction

Enjoy a night out while supporting the College's future building works. See artwork on the night celebrating 250 years of the Presentation Sisters.

SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

5.00pm-7.30pm

THE NAGLE CENTRE, ST MARY'S COLLEGE
TICKETS \$40 PP

COCKTAIL DRESS
BE BOLD AND BRIGHT! PRIZE FOR BEST DRESSED
WITH CANAPÉS, DRINKS AND LIVE MUSIC

Please RSVP via
www.smc.tas.edu.au/events/cocktail-event/
For any enquiries, call 03 6108 2560

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

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1.6-7

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)

2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.**

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.



GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday 17th August	- Matthew 19:16-22
Tuesday 18th August	- Matthew 19:23-30
Wednesday 19th August	- Matthew 20:1-16
Thursday 20th August	- Matthew 22:1-14
Friday 21st August	- Matthew 22:34-40
Saturday 22nd August	- Matthew 23:1-12

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 23rd August 2026

First Reading	- Isaiah 22:19-23
Responsorial Psalm	- Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8
Second Reading	- Romans 11:33-36
Gospel	- Matthew 16:13-20

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.