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 10.30 am –1.30pm)

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

First Sunday in Lent Year A– 22nd February 2026

HAPPY ARE THEY WHO HOPE IN THE LORD

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him.' (1Cor).

Once again through our Lenten liturgy we hear Jesus calling us to open our hearts." REPENT, come back to me with all your heart". Ash Wednesday began our journey of renewal reminding us to daily reflect on our relationship with God, ourselves, our neighbours near and far away. STOP - LOOK - LISTEN to the presence of the Holy Spirit as we travel together in the shadow and footprints of Jesus especially throughout the next forty days and nights! - recalling and reflecting on the Paschal Mysteries namely the Passion. Death and Resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ. What is the meaning of all this and how does this affect my daily living? What do I choose to do to express and renew my faith and trust in Jesus. (Ps. 90) "I am with you; I shall let you see my saving power." When you call, I shall answer." The following Gospel passage from (Matt3: 11-17) preceded today's Gospel

As soon as Jesus was Baptized, he came from the water and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven;" This is my son, the beloved, my favour rests on him". Jesus wants us to be fired by the love and power of the Holy Spirit. Those who participate fully in the Word and sacramental life of the Church are purified and sanctified.

The Gospel for today's liturgy (Matt 4: 1-11) tells us that Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. Jesus spent forty day and nights in prayer. He would have been hungry, tired, weak and weary and ripe for Satan to attack and tempt Jesus to sins of pride and selfishness. Satan attempted to encouraged Jesus to sins of resentment against his Father's will. Idolatry, power, pride indulgence of this world's goods. Jesus' responses to Satan were 'Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." " You must not put the Lord your God to the test." "You must worship the Lord your God and serve Him alone." Why did Jesus allow Satan to tempt him to sin.? Where and when have you felt the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life recently. Stop, Look and Listen and may the peace of God rein in your hearts., Amen

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
6.00 pm:	**Friday**(Way of the cross)
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

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
St Mary's Cathedral Crypt, Hobart
6.00pm - Midnight: Friday

SACRAMENTS & DEVOTIONS
ENQUIRIES FOR BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGE PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE

safe communities Archdiocese of Hobart

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.

Music at Sunday Mass

Dear Parishioners,

Our Sunday and Saturday Vigil Choir groups have been developed and strengthened to better support and enrich our liturgy.

Beginning next week, the original **6.00 pm music group** will resume ministry at the **Sunday evening Mass**, starting on the **First Sunday of Lent**.

As we look ahead to 2026, we hope to continue building and strengthening music in the Cathedral. We are therefore seeking **new and experienced musicians**—both **singers and instrumentalists**—to join the music ministry at the **10.30 am and 6.00 pm Sunday Masses**.

We invite you to consider being part of this wonderful ministry and contributing to the community's liturgical prayer. **Younger people and children are very welcome.**

For further information or to express your interest, please contact **Clair Stanelos, Director of Music**, on **Phone/SMS: 0412 212 468**.

COMING UP

- **Rite Of Election** - 22nd February—3.00-4.00pm at the Cathedral.
- **Parish Lenten Program 2**—26th 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

PASTORAL CONFERENCE 2026

On Wednesday 25th, as the Pastoral Conference of Hobart Archdiocese takes place, we ask you to pray for our Archbishop and for all priests and clergy, that the Lord may strengthen and guide them in their ministry.

Please note that the **9:15am Mass at Sacred Heart Church will not be held** on this day.

Change in Parish Office Opening Hours

The Parish Office is open on Tuesdays and Fridays as usual, and on Wednesdays from 10:30am to 1:30pm.
We look forward to assisting you during these times.

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 RESOURCES: Sign up to the Cathedral Parish FORMED Subscription for free https://formed.org/

Formed is excited to present curated content to help the Church journey through this Lenten season. In this collection are resources to help the faithful deepen their understanding of various Lenten days, practices, and devotions. You can find resources on prayer, the mystery of Christ's Passion, the roots of Holy Week found in Judaism, and many things to help guide the faithful through the holiest days in our liturgical year—the Triduum. We pray that all of these resources draw us deeper into the mystery of Lent, Holy Week, and the Triduum as we look forward to the joy of the Resurrection.

NOTICE – PALMS NEEDED

As we prepare for Palm Sunday, we are looking for palm branches. If you have a palm tree, or know someone who does and would allow us to collect palms, please contact: Deacon Michael on 0403 741 913 or speak with him after Mass.

Thank you for your assistance.

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

From Our Anniversary Book:

Elizabeth Deegan, Monika Sirgunas, Maxwell Walker, Barry Kendall, William Absolom, Karlie Bollen, Margaret Allen, Pasqale Pace, Eleanor Blackburn-Berry, Anita and Ottavio Toffoli, Ernest Blazeley, Gertrude Dowd, Arthur Lacey, John Nolan, Walter Smallbone, Helena Donnelly, Amelia O'Brien, Edward Robinson, Kristine Reeve, Patricia Andrews, Josef Majcher, John Duggan, Wallace Fulton, Thomas O'Connor, Christina Davis, Paula Margaret Corcoran, James Waters, Leonard Hill, Maxwell Rainbird, William Kregor, Dorothy Wilson

May they rest in peace !

Lenten Reflection & Trivia

Lent is a sacred season of prayer, penance and preparation. As we journey toward Easter, here are a few meaningful insights into the traditions and practices of the Church during this holy time.

Why are there 40 days of Lent?
The forty days recall the time Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness in preparation for His public ministry. Throughout Scripture, the number forty signifies a period of testing, purification and renewal.

Are Sundays counted in the forty days?
No. Although Lent spans 46 days on the calendar, the six Sundays are not included in the forty days, as every Sunday is a celebration of the Lord's Resurrection.

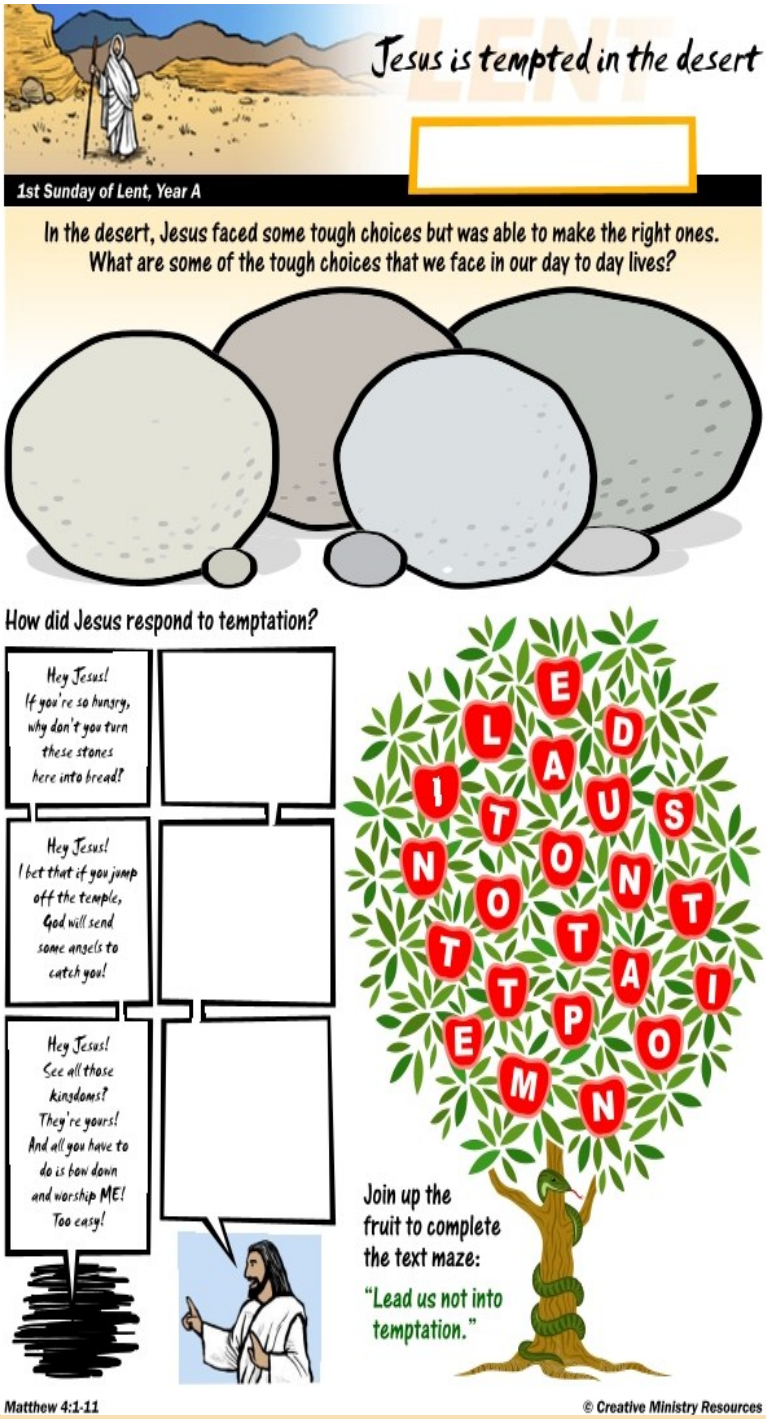
Why is purple the colour of Lent?
Purple symbolises penance, repentance and preparation. It also reflects the kingship of Christ, whom we follow more closely during this season.

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 Julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au at the Diocese of Ballarat so that you can be placed on the reserve list



Archdiocese of Hobart

Cordially invites parishioners to attend a

Mass of Thanksgiving and Farewell

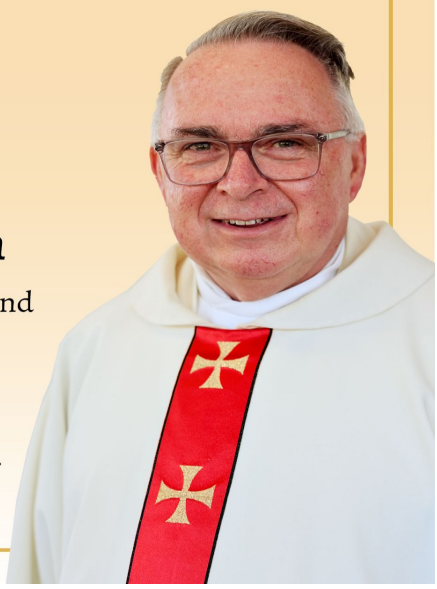
to honour

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.



READINGS OF THE DAY—1ST SUNDAY IN LENT - YEAR 1

First Reading **-** Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.
The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Responsorial Psalm **-** Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)

2. My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. (R.)

3. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)

4. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. (R.)

Second Reading **—** Romans 5:12-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.
Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel Acclamation **-** Matthew 4:4'

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel **-**Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'
The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'
Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:
You must worship the Lord your God,
and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday 23rd February	- Matthew 25:31-46
Tuesday 24th February	- Matthew 6:7-15
Wednesday 25th February	- Luke 11:29-32
Thursday 26th February	- Matthew 7:7-12
Friday 27th February	- Matthew 5:20-26
Saturday 28th February	- Matthew 5:43-48

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

First Reading	- Genesis 12:1-4
Responsorial Psalm	- Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22
Second Reading	- 2 Timothy 1:8-10
Gospel	- Matthew 17:1-9

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.