



St Mary's Cathedral Parish

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Cathedral Sacristan:
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Sacred Heart Church Sacristan:
Maureen Chisholm

Parish Secretary:
Jane McKeown

PARISH OFFICE:
(MONDAY - FRIDAY)

Limited hours.
Please ring 62344463 for
Office Hours



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

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD YEAR C - 2nd FEBRUARY 2025

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, celebrated on February 2nd, marks a significant moment in the life of Jesus. In obedience to the Law of Moses, Mary and Joseph bring the infant Jesus to the temple, offering Him to God as their firstborn (Luke 2:22-40). This moment is not just a ritual obligation but a profound act of faith and dedication. It reminds us that our lives, too, belong to God, and we are called to present ourselves before Him with openness and trust.

Jesus, the Light of the Nations

This feast is also known as *Candlemas* because of the prophecy of Simeon, who, upon seeing Jesus, proclaims that He is the "light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory for Israel" (Luke 2:32). Simeon, a devout man, had been waiting for the Messiah, and through the Holy Spirit, he recognises Jesus as the fulfilment of God's promise. His joyful declaration reminds us that Jesus is the true light that dispels darkness.

In our own lives, we often encounter darkness—uncertainties, struggles, and doubts. The Presentation of the Lord invites us to welcome Christ as our light, trusting He will guide us through every season of life. Just as Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus and rejoiced, we are called to be attentive to His presence in our daily experiences.

The Role of Simeon and Anna: A Call to Faithfulness

Simeon and Anna represent faithful perseverance. Simeon had been waiting for years, trusting in God's promise, and Anna, a prophetess, spent her life in prayer and fasting in the temple. Their patience and devotion bear fruit when they finally see the Lord.

This teaches us the value of waiting with hope. In our fast-paced world, patience can be difficult, especially when we seek immediate answers. But God's timing is always perfect. If we remain faithful in prayer and trust, like Simeon and Anna, we too will encounter Christ in unexpected and grace-filled ways.

Our Own Presentation before the Lord

This feast is also an opportunity to reflect on how we present ourselves to God. Just as Mary and Joseph offered Jesus, we are called to offer our lives—our time, talents, and efforts—for God's glory. It is a reminder that our faith is not just about receiving but also about giving.

Every day, we can present ourselves before the Lord through small acts of love, kindness, and self-sacrifice. Whether it is through service to others, moments of prayer, or simply trusting God in difficult times, our lives become an offering to Him.



MASS TIMES

St Mary's Cathedral Crypt, Hobart
7.30am Tuesday - Friday
Commencing Tuesday 11th February

St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart
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)
Mass Time for 2025
10.30am: Friday 7th February 2025

SACRAMENTS & DEVOTIONS

ENQUIRIES FOR BAPTISMS

AND MARRIAGE

PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE

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
Commencing Friday 21st February 2025

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN
BECOMING CATHOLIC (RCIA)**
Please contact 62086236



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."

WHAT'S NEW?

IN THE PARISH

Children's Corner:

What are some of the things families do after they have a baby?



Three empty rectangular boxes for writing answers.

ABC RN's *The Religion and Ethics Report* that takes you behind the headlines to the excruciating humanitarian need in Gaza. The interviewee is Caritas Australia's Humanitarian Emergencies Lead, Sally Thomas. The interview is good. Decent questions and clear, concise and meaningful answers.

<https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/religionandethicsreport/92-per-cent-of-homes-in-gaza-have-been-damaged/104843482>

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.



From Our Anniversary Book: Patrick Crisp, Maria Carr, Pamela Steele, Jack Murrawood, Aileen Stuart, Joan King, David Harris, Georgie Wilkes, Basilio Gabriel, 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, Eric O'Neil, Celeste Thomson, Charlotte Radford, Anne Byrne, Sr. Mary Dirkin, SSJ, Mary Howe, Francesca Sorgi, Anthony Foo, Anna Di Carlo, Elvie Turner, Sr. Mary Vincent Shelverton, Katheleen Crane, Nina Smith, Marguerite Wood, Amy Kennedy, Ray Alan Grant, Irene Burton, Helen Grinicias, Christopher White, Bernard Fahey, Youla Cosgrove, Betty Boutchard, Bethany Griggs, Peter Nielsen, Luigi Fraraccio, Antonietta and Domenico Matrisciano. **May they rest in peace!**



Dear Parishioners,
We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to assist with various parish activities and events. Your time and talents would greatly contribute to strengthening our faith filled community and serving our mission.



If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact the PARISH OFFICE.

Every small effort makes a big difference

Urgently Needed volunteers

- Sacristan to Sacred Heart Church
- Garden work at the Cathedral front compound
- Care taker for the Cathedral Bookshop
- Few volunteers for evening events

Registrations are now available for the 2025 St Mary's Cathedral Sacramental Program



For all children in Year 3 and upwards (Sacrament of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist).

Register at the Parish Office by:

Phone: 03 62344463 or

Email: cathedral@aohtas.org.au

Information and Enrolment Night is 6pm **Tuesday 11th February 2025** at St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart



SCHOOL ESSENTIALS APPEAL

We're collecting donations of school supplies to make sure every Tasmanian child has the opportunity to do well at school.

Due to cost-of-living pressures, many parents and carers are struggling to afford school items, including backpacks, lunchboxes, stationery, and more.

Can you help? Simply bring in a donation and we'll get it to a family in need.

Thank you



For financial donations, scan the QR code or visit www.donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-tas/school-essentials-appeal-tas



2025 Enrolments are open

Study scripture, theology, pastoral ministry and spirituality

- Introductory or further studies available
- Face-to-face or online modes available
- Audit, undergraduate or postgraduate level

For more information:

[view our 2025 Prospectus](http://view.our.2025.Prospectus.ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/)
ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/

WHAT'S
NEW?

IN THE DIOCESE


Annual Marriage Mass

Hobart: Sunday 9th February 2025. St Mary's Cathedral @ 10:30am (<https://events.humanitix.com/marriage-mass-hobart-2025>)

Married couples celebrating 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 70th anniversaries are invited to renew their marriage vows and receive a special blessing from the Archbishop.


Register online, or by contacting Mark Griffin (Director - Office of Life, Marriage & Family) - Mobile: 0461 512 495 or email: mark.griffin@aohtas.org.au

We hope to see many couples there, witnessing to the wider community the gifts that they have received and share through this beautiful sacrament.



Marriage Mass Renewal of Vows

Sunday 9 February, 2025
St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart 10.30am
Sunday 16 February, 2025
Church of the Apostles, Launceston 10.30am



A blessing for the new school year

May the gift of each day be a new chance to learn.
May our kindness and compassion be a moment to teach each other.
May the fragility of students, parents and staff be a place to build community.
May listening and encouragement be the well-spring of leadership.
May the passion of young people keep our hearts alive.
May the wisdom of older people keep our feet on the ground.
May laughter and joy spread like branches above us
May prayer and gratitude be our deepest roots.
May justice and peace ripen like fruit as we grow in generosity reaching out beyond our familiar world to help those in need.
In this Year of Jubilee, may we be Pilgrims of Hope.
May we find God in every class, recess, game, performance, meeting, discussion, assignment, friendship and lunch.
May we find God's love and grace in even our most ordinary days.
Amen.

Written by Michael McGirr (2025)



Cathedral Restoration Works (6 January – 4 April 2025)

During the period 6 January – 4 April 2025 significant structural refurbishment of the Cathedral's organ/choir loft will be undertaken as part of the Cathedral's ongoing restoration program. The works schedule will present some unavoidable inconvenience to ensure completion by the commencement of Holy Week. Saturday evening and Sunday Masses will take place at the Cathedral as normal for the duration of the works. However, there will be no weekday Masses in the Cathedral between 6 January and 11 February 2025.

Notably also, the Cathedral's weekly livestream will not be available during this period. We appreciate your patience as we work to enhance the dignity of our extraordinary building and improve the facilities from where our choir works tirelessly each week to bring such beautiful sacred music to our liturgies.

HEALING MASS – THE COMMUNITY OF THE RISEN LORD

Please note a venue change for the Healing Mass during the months of February, March and April.

The Healing Mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Church, New Town – 1 Cross Street, New Town. Carpark access is off Clare St.

February Mass

7pm – Friday 7th February 2025



GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

A ceasefire means more aid can assist people affected in Gaza. Your support is urgently needed.



DONATE NOW

www.caritas.org.au/gaza
1800 024 413



The Jubilee Year (the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of our Lord) will offer the faithful opportunities to participate in various jubilee events at the Vatican and in their own dioceses. The great tradition of opening the Holy Door began when Pope Francis opened the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica on December 24, 2024. Other holy doors will be opened at the Rome basilicas of St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major and St. Paul Outside the Walls. For pilgrims who cannot travel to Rome, bishops around the world are expected to designate their cathedrals or a popular Catholic shrine as special places of prayer for Holy Year pilgrims, offering opportunities for reconciliation, indulgences and other events intended to strengthen and revive faith.



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 Jane McKeown (03) 6234 4463.

READINGS OF THE DAY – THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD YEAR C

First Reading Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 23:7-10. R. v.10

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

1. O gates, lift up your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
2. Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war. (R.)
3. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
4. Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory (R.)

Second Reading Hebrews 2:14-18

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the light of revelation to the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 2:22-40

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by

the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------|
| Monday 3rd January | - | Mk 5:1-20 |
| Tuesday 4th January | - | Mk 5:21-43 |
| Wednesday 5th January | - | Mk 6:1-6 |
| Thursday 6th January | - | Mk 6:7-13 |
| Friday 7th January | - | Mk 6:14-29 |
| Saturday 8th January | - | Mt 6:30-34 |

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

| | | |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------|
| First Reading | - | Isaiah 6:18 |
| Responsorial Psalm | - | Psalm 137:1-5,7-8 |
| Second Reading | - | 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 |
| Gospel | - | Luke 5:1-11 |

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.