

LITURGY THIS WEEK

OLA Chapel, Cnr Jessie & Barney Sts, Armidale.

ORDINARY TIME

MONDAY 19 JAN – Weekday , Ordinary Time 2

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass

09:15 AM Cathedral Mass

12:00 NN Cathedral Mass

TUESDAY 20 JAN – Weekday , Ordinary Time 2

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass

12:00 NN Cathedral Mass

WEDNESDAY 21 JAN – St Agnes, virgin, martyr

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass

09:15 AM Cathedral Mass

12:00 NN Cathedral Mass

THURSDAY 22 JAN – Weekday , Ordinary Time 2

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass

12:00 NN Cathedral Mass

FRIDAY 23 JAN – Weekday , Ordinary Time 2

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass

09:15 AM Cathedral Mass

05:30 PM Cathedral Mass

SATURDAY 24 JAN – St Francis de Sales, bishop, doctor

08:00 AM OLA Chapel TLM (Traditional Latin Mass)

09:00 AM Cathedral Mass

06:00 PM Cathedral Mass

SUNDAY 25 JAN – 3RD SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

08:00 AM Cathedral Mass

10:00 AM Cathedral Mass

11:00 AM Solemn Mass with Choir (Latin parts) Pro populo

04:30 PM Solemn Vespers & Benediction

05:30 PM Cathedral Mass Pro populo

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Cathedral)

MONDAY - THURSDAY 11:30 – 11:50 AM

FRIDAY 04:45 – 05:15 PM

SATURDAY 09:45 – 10:45 AM & 04:30 – 05:30 PM

IN YOUR CHARITY,PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Kathleen Beresford, Tom Polak (Geelong), Paula Whitten, Patricia Campbell Hardwick, Shayne Hutchinson

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Geoffrey Reid, Margaret Edgley, Beatrice Beresford, Carol & Frank Tobin, Marie & Tim Roe.

SICK: Vicki Caldwell, Kelemete Hefe, Tom Briggs, Brian Bible, Craig Elliott, Eric McLeod, Pauline Godschalk, Estela & Nelson Segovia, Joseph Hanna, Kristine Sevilla, James Righetti, Lisa Hallman, Elizabeth Williams, Cristina Arellano, Billy Steller, Jessie Hanson, Vanessa Hardy, Maria Grezl, Wili Suluma, Katrin Gödderz, Mary Peter, Carmen & John Gallagher, Bob Watson, Ferg Watson, Raymond Watson, Robert Watson, Maureen Campbell, Ann Haydon, Irene & Leigh Owen, Robyn Keogh, Robert Markeljic, Don Armatage, Molly Burke, Melissa Gamblen, Hannah Whitton, Tom Britt, Danny Jones, Michael Zhu, Aeron Ryan, Blake Ross, Gemma Milliken, Frederic Kelmeyer, Silvia & Ralph Bowles.

SUPPORTING OUR PRIESTS & PARISH

1ST COLLECTION (cash or eft only)

(supports the clergy: food, housekeeping, annual retreat & monthly stipend)

Account Name: St Mary’s Presbytery Account

BSB: 082-105 Acc. No: 001023527

2ND COLLECTION (cash, eft or tap & go - credit card)

(supports the Cathedral Parish: insurance, employees’ salary, repair & maintenance, office and church requisites, utilities, etc)

Account Name: St Mary’s Cathedral Parish

BSB: 082-105 Acc. No: 001006225

New to the Parish?

Welcome to Armidale Cathedral Parish!

We warmly welcome you to our parish family and invite you connect with us by providing your contact details. You can do this by emailing the Parish Office at : armidaleparish@armidale.catholic.org.au and requesting a parish registration form.

Planned Giving Program

It’s an easy way for you to give regularly to the work of the Catholic Church within your Parish. The contributions from this programme are used to helps us achieve our pastoral mission and meet our ongoing expenses.

You can register for the Planned Giving Program when you complete your parish registration form. Registering for Planned Giving allows our Finance Committee to plan for expenditure within the parish including all expenses associated with maintaining & repairing buildings and grounds, administration costs, church supplies and pastoral resources. The different ways you can give to the planned giving are with envelopes or by direct deposit either via online banking or through ADIG.

If you are currently giving by direct deposit through online banking and are not registered, please consider doing so.

18 JANUARY, 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME					
	6PM	8AM	10AM	11AM	5:30PM
Welcomer	W Clark	J Toakley	T Rimpici	APike	Chin
Reader 1	J Carson	N Ramazani	R Menz	MVanGend	J Maher
Reader 2	P Boston	L Quast	K Frazier		N Chin
PoF	D Fittler	C Stephen	P Hordern		J Chin
ExMin	KMcMahon	D Miron	B Robinson		K Steller
25 JANUARY, 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME					
	6PM	8AM	10AM	11AM	5:30PM
Welcomer	T Rice	P Stier	T Rimpici	APike	Steller
Reader 1	W Clark	J Toakley	I Mittheu	MVanGend	D Roff
Reader 2	C Doherty	A Rogers	J Turner		J Roff
PoF	A May	B Mackson	A Dinh		P Turley
ExMin	T Dubois	D Miron	B Robinson		D Roff

Cathedral Parish Child & Vulnerable Adults Protection and Safeguarding Statement

Commitment to Safety

Our parish is dedicated to creating a safe, respectful, and welcoming environment for all, especially children and vulnerable adults.

Zero Tolerance for Abuse

We have a strict zero-tolerance policy for any form of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of children or vulnerable adults.

Compliance with Safeguarding Standards

Our parish follows the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, Integrity in Our Common Mission, and adheres to the NSW Child Safe Standards to ensure our practices are

Please ensure that your children are accompanied when leaving the Cathedral during Mass to go to the toilet or for any other

Saints Mary & Joseph Cathedral Parish Armidale

Most Reverend Peter Mel Murphy Ph.D Bishop of Armidale

132 DANGAR St (PO Box 2025), ARMIDALE 2350, PH 6772 2218

E: armidaleparish@armidale.catholic.org.au W: www.smjcathedral.org.au

Administrator: Rev Fr Paul Chandler Ph.D | frpchandler@armidale.catholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Elini (Eli) Comanda OSJ | frelino@armidale.catholic.org.au

Parish Secretary Ms Tina Clarke | Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9am - 1pm

Principal, St Mary’s Catholic Primary School: Mrs Belinda Burton

Principal, O’Connor Catholic College: Mr Philip Gibney

Parish Finance Council Chair: Mrs Fiona Miron

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A/2) 18TH JANUARY 2026

FIRST READING

Isaiah 49:3,5-6

Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1:14. 12

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.

He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 1:29-34

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, ‘Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.’ John also declared, ‘I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, “The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit.” Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.’

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 39(40):2,4,7-10

R: Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry.

He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. R:

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear.

You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I. R:

In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will.

My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. R:

Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly.

My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. R:

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Secretary is on leave from Monday 12 January until Tuesday 27 January. During this period the Parish Office hours will be 9am to 1pm

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CATECHISTS 2026

Would you like to join our Catechists team for 2026 and make a difference to the lives of children in our State Primary Schools? Are you called to be a disciple to spread the mission of God? Can you spare an hour a week as a Catechist or an Assistant? Please contact Kerry Steller or Tina Clarke at the Parish Office on 67722218 for further information.

CLEANING ROSTER FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY

Volunteers are needed over the December/January period. There is a roster in the Cathedral foyer. Please add your name alongside the week/date that you are available to help. If you would further information, please contact the Parish Office 67722218.

FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS DEVOTION

Marian devotion on the first Saturday of each month. Next gathering this **Saturday 7th February at 9.30am**, immediately after the 9am Mass in the Cathedral.

FISHERS OF MEN PRAYER GROUP | meets in the Parish Meeting Room, Mondays 7:30 - 9:30 pm. For enquiries contact Nirmal on 0430871064.

HOLY FACE DEVOTION | Tuesday's at 5:45 pm in the Parish Prayer Room (formerly Adoration Chapel).

CATHEDRAL PARISH ADORATION PROGRAM

The Parish Adoration Program will be take a break from: Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday 24 December at 3pm through to Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Monday 9 February at 8am.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD UPDATE AND MORE HELPERS NEEDED

During 2025 we have been blessed to be able to run three groups of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) – two sessions for the 3-6 yr olds and one session for the 6-9 yr olds. Next year we hope to start an additional session for the 9-12 yr olds. If you would like your child to start attending CGS in 2026, please register your interest with Monica van Gend on 0431 385 524 (we have a waitlist for the 3-6 yr olds).

Also, we are in need of 2 more adult helpers for our sessions in 2026. All that is required is 1.5 hrs a week (or fortnight) and a WWCC, we will provide training. Please contact Janine Turner on 0416 767 866 if you are able to offer any help.

SACRAMENTS IN THE CATHEDRAL PARISH

BAPTISM can be arranged for any Saturday or by arrangement, by contacting the Parish Office during business hours or you can access a form online at our parish website smjcathedral.org.au/baptism

MARRIAGE can be arranged by making an appointment to speak with a priest. You can access a preliminary form online at smjcathedral.org.au/marriage and email to the parish at armidaleparish@armidale.catholic.org.au

CONFIRMATION | a parish program will run in the lead up to Pentecost when the sacrament is conferred. Details will be published in the bulletin soon.

RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

A parish program will run during term two. Again, details will be published in the bulletin prior.

ST AGNES - Feastday 21 January



St. Agnes of Rome was born in 291 AD and raised in a Christian family. Agnes was very beautiful and belonged to a wealthy family. Her hand in marriage was highly sought after. However, Agnes made a promise to God never to stain her purity. Her love for the Lord was great and she hated sin even more than death!

Whenever a man wished to marry Agnes, she would always say, "Jesus Christ is my only Spouse." According to legend, the young men she turned away became so

angry and insulted by her devotion to God and purity that they began to submit her name to authorities as a Christian follower.

In one incident, Procop, the Governor's son, became very angry when she refused him. He tried to win her for his wife with rich gifts and promises. When refused, in great anger, Procop accused her of being a Christian and brought her to his father, the Governor. The Governor promised Agnes wonderful gifts if she would only deny God, but Agnes refused. He tried to change her mind by putting her in chains, but her lovely face shone with joy.

Next he sent her to a place of sin, but an Angel protected her. At last, she was condemned to death. Yet, Agnes was as happy as a bride on her wedding day. She did not pay attention to those who begged her to save herself. Then she prayed and bowed her head for the death-stroke of the sword.

It is believed that her blood, which poured out to the stadium, was soaked up with cloths by Christians.

She died a virgin-martyr at the age of 12 or 13 on 21 January 304.

https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=106

SAINT SEBASTIAN the Martyr was buried in Rome along the Appian Way, where the basilica bearing his name now stands. Sebastian was a young nobleman who commanded a company of the Praetorian Guards, the special bodyguard of Roman emperors. His Christianity was discovered when, during the persecution, he encouraged two of his fellow officers to die rather than renounce their religion. Informed of this, Emperor Diocletian commanded Sebastian to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods, but he refused. He was then bound to a stake and shot by archers. Finding him half dead, Irene, a widow nursed him back to health. When recovered, Sebastian returned to the Emperor to accuse him of unjust treatment of the Christians. That was the last straw for the Emperor, who ensured that at this martyrdom, Sebastian was killed.

St Sebasitan is the patron saint of soldiers and athletes.

Jesus = Lamb of God

means VICTIM and

which means

HOSTIA = HOST

Then I saw a LAMB looking as if it had been slain, standing at the centre of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and elders.

Revelation 5:6

BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD



WHO TAKES AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD

Saint John reminds us that Christ is the ultimate sacrificial lamb that concluded the Old Covenant.

Now that God's divine Son has shed his precious blood on the Cross of Calvary we are blessed to possess the greatest Sacrifice and act of love the world has ever seen. No wonder Catholics have treasured the Mass - the re-presentation of Calvary in time and space forever and ever.

St Sebastian



From the Administrator

Thank you to all those who have so kindly welcomed me to the Cathedral parish. I have really appreciated your cheerful and friendly greetings. This is the third time I have been at the Cathedral; first in 2016 and then again in 2020. I feel very much at home.

In the handover process, it was suggested to me that it might be timely to re-examine the weekday Mass schedule.

Firstly though, the Church celebrates the holy sacrifice of the Mass, the sacred mysteries, every day since, by these mysteries, the salvation of the human race and the world is accomplished.

Then, it is important that daily Mass is available and at times that cater for those who work or attend school as well as those who may have fewer demands upon their time, and hence could be more flexible in what Mass they attend.

It appears that the 7am Mass provides for workers and students, and perhaps early risers, and the 12 noon Mass provides for those who work flexible hours, the Chancery staff, those who come in their lunch-break, and those retired.

So, the suggestion is that Monday to Friday there is a 7am Mass and 12 noon Mass. There would be NO 5:30pm Mass on Friday and there would be a 9:15am Mass on Wednesday in DLS chapel and 9:15am Mass in the Cathedral for St Mary's school, but these two Masses would be ONLY during school term weeks. Parishioners are always able to attend these Masses.

This new timing would be simpler to remember and to timetable. It is also worth noting that this new arrangement would make easier the availability of Mass at the various aged care facilities.

If you would like to make a positive and helpful contribution to this examination of the weekday Mass schedule, you may send me an email. Thank you and God bless.

DIACONATE ORDINATION INVITATION

Parishioners are warmly invited to attend the diaconate ordination of

Mr Alsem Alba and Br Maximilian Streher
at the Cathedral,

10.30am on Monday, 2 February.

Light refreshments will follow the ceremony in the Torreggiani Courtyard. For catering purposes please RSVP by Friday 23 January to the Chancery Office.

Phone 6771 8700 or

chancery@armidale.catholic.org.au