

LITURGY THIS WEEK

OLA Chapel, Cnr Jessie & Barney Sts, Armidale.

Changes to the schedule: Due to the Diaconate Ordination Mass this Monday 2 February at 10:30am, there are NO 9:15am or 12 noon Masses.

ORDINARY TIME

MONDAY 2 FEB – The Presentation of the Lord

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass

10:30 AM CATHEDRAL

DIACONATE ORDINATION MASS

TUESDAY 3 FEB – Weekday , Ordinary Time 4

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass

12:00 NN Cathedral Mass +Noel Bourke (anniv)

WEDNESDAY 4 FEB – Weekday , Ordinary Time 4

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass

09:15 AM Cathedral Mass +Elaine Harb

12:00 NN Cathedral Mass - O’CCC whole school attending

THURSDAY 5 FEB – St Agatha, virgin, martyr

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass

12:00 NN Cathedral Mass +Teresa Zerafa

FRIDAY 6 FEB – St Paul Miki & companions, martyrs

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass

09:15 AM Cathedral Mass

05:30 PM Cathedral Mass

SATURDAY 7 FEB – Weekday , Ordinary Time 4

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

09:00 AM Cathedral Mass

06:00 PM Cathedral Mass

SUNDAY 8 FEB – 5TH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

08:00 AM Cathedral Mass

10:00 AM Cathedral Mass

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

04:30 PM Solemn Vespers & Benediction

05:30 PM Cathedral Mass

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

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS			
	Actual	Target	Difference
1st Collection	\$2,039.80	\$2,114.00	-\$74.20 ☹
2nd Collection	\$4,431.00	\$6,350.00	-\$1,919.00 ☹

SUPPORTING OUR PRIESTS & PARISH

1<sup>ST</sup> 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

2<sup>ND</sup> 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

(Ref: Planned Giving Number and/or your name)

Thank you for your support!

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

DIACONATE ORDINATION

of

Mr Allem Alba & Br Maximilian Steher

This Monday 2 February 2026

in the Cathedral at 10:30 am.

Please keep them both in your prayers.

(Due to this special Mass there are NO 9:15 am or 12 noon Masses on this day)

IN YOUR CHARITY,PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Michael Zhu (Shanghai, China), Kathleen Beresford, Tom Polak , Paula Whitten, Patricia Campbell Hardwick, Shayne Hutchinson, Will Pearson, Emiliano Comanda (Fr Eli’s father), Robyn Barraclough, Beulaha Adams.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Bernard Swan, Noel Bourke

SICK: Monica Hinder, 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, , Aeron Ryan, Blake Ross, Gemma Milliken, Frederic Kelmeyer, Silvia & Ralph Bowles.

Due to privacy legislation, names of the sick can only be published with permission of the person himself or immediate family members.

1 FEBRUARY, 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME					
	6PM	8AM	10AM	11AM	5:30PM
Welcomer	KMcMahon	MBarry	TRimpici	APike	Turley
Reader 1	PBoston	FMiron	KFrazier	MVanGend	JMaher
Reader 2	DFittler	NRamazani	RMenz		NChin
PoF	WClark	LQuast	MSuluma		JChin
ExMin	CKhan	DMiron	BRobinson		KSteller

8 FEBRUARY, 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME					
	6PM	8AM	10AM	11AM	5:30PM
Welcomer	W Clark	Ana G	T Rimpici	APike	Chin
Reader 1	C Doherty	C Stephen	I Mittheu	MVan Gend	D Roff
Reader 2	A May	J Toakley	J Turner		J Roff
PoF	J Carson	A Rogers	P Hordern		P Turley
ExMin	K McMahon	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

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](mailto:armidaleparish@armidale.catholic.org.au) W: [www.smjccathedral.org.au](http://www.smjccathedral.org.au)

Administrator: Rev Fr Paul Chandler PhD | [frpchandler@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:frpchandler@armidale.catholic.org.au)


Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Elino (Eli) Comanda OSJ | [frelino@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto: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





MONTH OF FEBRUARY - DEDICATED TO THE HOLY FAMILY

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A/2) 1ST FEBRUARY 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Ps 105: 47

Save us, O Lord our God!

And gather us from the nations,

to give thanks to your holy name,

and make it our glory to praise you.

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 2:3,3:12-13

Seek the Lord, all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 145(146):6-10

R: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,

who is just to those who are oppressed.

It is he who gives bread to the hungry,

the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R:**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,

who raises up those who are bowed down,

the Lord, who protects the stranger

and upholds the widow and orphan. **R:**

It is the Lord who loves the just

but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever,

Zion’s God, from age to age. **R:**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Take yourselves for instance, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to

shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God’s doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: *if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.*

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Matthew 5:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;

your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12a

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.’

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Cf. Ps 30: 17-18

Let your face shine on your servant.

Save me in your merciful love.

O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.



## NEWS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PIETY STORE** will be open following the morning Masses this Sunday with Lenten stock available.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** | The first Armidale Men's Breakfast for this year will be held at 7:00am Saturday the 7th of February at the Armidale Ex-Services Club located at 137 Dumaresq St, Armidale, 2350. Contact Nirmal 0430871064.

### 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 5:30 - 7:00 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 resume with 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 Jantine Turner on 0416 767 866 if you are able to offer any help.

### CATECHISTS

Join our amazing team of Catechists to help our State Primary School children learn about their faith. Training and mentoring will be provided for this ministry.

Contact Kerry Steller or Tina Clarke for further information on 67722218 or come along to our next meeting.

**A Catechist meeting and morning tea will be held on Tuesday 3rd February at 10.00am in the Parish Centre.**

### WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

to be held at

The Cottage, 86 Barney St,  
Saturday 21st February 8.30am. \$27.50.

Guest speaker: Phil Gibney,

Principal: O'Connor Catholic College.

Please confirm your booking by 17 February  
with payment to:

**Majellan Mothers Club,  
BSB: 082105,**

**ACC: 001061469, Reference with name only.**

For **more** information contact:

Margaret Carson 0488776610

or [mcarsonma1952@gmail.com](mailto:mcarsonma1952@gmail.com)

Glenda Fittler 0427332954 or [vfittler@bigpond.com](mailto:vfittler@bigpond.com)

### PASTORAL ADVISORY GROUP

Nominations are called for membership of a Pastoral Advisory Group to assist Fr Paul in preparing for a synodal meeting of the Parish during Lent. This is the desire of Bishop Murphy and can model a process that could be taken up by the parishes of the Diocese. Since the Interim Pastoral Council has concluded its task, a new group is needed to prepare the Cathedral Parish for this event.

Please send an email to

[frpchandler@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:frpchandler@armidale.catholic.org.au) indicating your willingness to be considered and the reasons for your interest. Someone may nominate another, but the one being nominated should be willing to accept this nomination.

**Please send nomination emails by February 9th.**

### The Presentation of the Lord [reflectionsonthesacredliturgy.com](http://reflectionsonthesacredliturgy.com)



The Presentation of the Lord, also known as the Feast of the Purification, is celebrated on February 2. This feast commemorates the first presentation of Jesus in the Temple, honoring the obedience and humility of both Jesus and Mary as they submitted to the Mosaic Law of ritual purification, even though they were not obliged to do so.

The feast is also referred to as Candlemas, due to the blessing of candles that takes place on this day, symbolizing Christ as the light of the world. The event recalls the moment when Simeon, a just man who had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would see the Messiah before his death, recognized Jesus and proclaimed Him to be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" and "the glory of your people Israel."

In summary, the Presentation of the Lord signifies the fulfillment of the Law, the recognition of Jesus as the Messiah, and the call for Christians to be "lights" in imitation of Him. ([mastercatechism.com](http://mastercatechism.com))

### AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

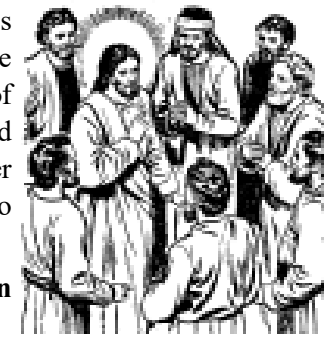
**Congratulations to two of our parishioners:  
in the category of senior/elder citizen of the  
year, both Carol Khan & David Steller were  
nominated with David being awarded as  
winner.**

**Two very deserving citizens. Well done & thank  
you for all that you do.**

## SERMON ON THE MOUNT

### The Eight Beatitudes are Divine Blessings

**CCC 1718** The Beatitudes respond to the natural desire for happiness. This desire is of divine origin: God has placed it in the human heart in order to draw man to the One who alone can fulfill it.



#### 1). "Blessed are the poor in spirit..."

Poverty was often thought of as merely misfortune. Jesus does not call mere physical poverty blessed. He speaks of a poverty in spirit, that is, in detachment from the things of this world, so one does not allow them to get a hold with their pulls.

#### 2). "Blessed are the meek..."

The meek are those who are unassuming, disciplined, considerate, and far from the spirit of revenge, which desires evil to another so it may be evil to him. Even in this life, meekness often brings returns.

#### 3). "Blessed are those who mourn..."

Jesus opens a new perspective on sorrow and pain: if accepted as part of following after Him. We all have a cross to carry.

#### 4). "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst..."

God's supreme holiness loves everything that is right; in this beatitude a soul imitates Him in this. "Seek first the Kingdom of God and the rightness He loves, and all these things will be added to you."

#### 5). "Blessed are the merciful..."

The merciful here mean those who help in all sorts of need, and forgive those who offend against them. God who loves all that is right, will do the same for them.

#### 6). "Blessed are the pure in heart..."

The purity spoken of here is complete moral purity - not merely sexual purity but the clean of heart. Just as much sin dims one's perception of spiritual things, so constant adherence to what is morally right makes spiritual eyesight grow clearer.

#### 7). "Blessed are the peacemakers..."

Hebrew shalom means not only peace, but well-being in general. The angels at the birth of Christ announced peace. After His resurrection He told the Apostles: "Peace be with you." This includes our right relation with God, and with one another. Those who work for this, cooperate in the work of Christ are children of the Father.

#### 8). "Blessed are those who are persecuted..."

"We are heirs together with Christ, provided we suffer with Him, so we may also be glorified with Him." The Church from the beginning has seen the special application of this verse to the martyrs. But the beatitude applies not only to martyrs, but to all who suffer for Christ, for what is right.

## OUR BODIES ARE GOD'S TEMPLES

### - VESSELS OF HIS GRACE -

because we [body & soul = person] are God's adopted children and we belong to the Lord. He paid the debt of our redemption.

**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.

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