

LITURGY THIS WEEK

OLA Chapel, Cnr Jessie & Barney Sts, Armidale.

DLS Chapel, O'Connor Catholic College, Kirkwood St
 * The Mass attendance survey is being conducted at all Sunday Masses over the next four weekends.

LENT

MONDAY 9 MAR – Monday of the 3rd Week of Lent

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass
 12:00 NN Cathedral Mass

TUESDAY 10 MAR – Tuesday of the 3rd Week of Lent

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass
 12:00 NN Cathedral Mass

WEDNESDAY 11 MAR – Wednesday of the 3rd Week of Lent

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass
 09:15 AM DLS Chapel Mass
 12:00 NN Cathedral Mass

THURSDAY 12 MAR – Thursday of the 3rd Week of Lent

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass
 10:30 AM Mass at Autumn Lodge Chapel
 12:00 NN Cathedral Mass

FRIDAY 13 MAR – Friday of the 3rd Week of Lent

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass
 09:15 AM Cathedral Mass
 05:30 PM Cathedral Mass
 Holy Souls in Purgatory
 +Michael O'Connor, Pam O'Connor,
 Joyce Heferen, Christine Nugent

SATURDAY 14 MAR – Saturday of the 3rd Week of Lent

08:00 AM OLA Chapel TM ((1962 Missal)
 09:00 AM Cathedral Mass
 06:00 PM Cathedral Mass

SUNDAY 15 MAR – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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)

30 MINUTES BEFORE MASS (for 20 mins)
 as well as

FRIDAY 04:45 – 05:15 PM
SATURDAY 09:45 – 10:15 AM &
 05:00 – 05:45 PM

**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 aligned with best-practice safeguarding principles.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

	Actual	Target	Difference
1st Collection	\$2,404.00	\$2,114.00	\$290.00 ☺
2nd Collection	\$3,629.00	\$6,350.00	-\$2,721.00 ☹



HEART OF PEACE (HOPE OUTREACH) is the charitable arm of our Diocese. HOPE's primary function is to support and care for those in need of assistance who have "fallen through the net". One initiative of HOPE is the serving of hot midday meals each Wednesday to the community in Tamworth—last year it also expanded to Moree. Now it's our turn in Armidale. HOPE Kitchen is looking to start in Armidale in 2026. We are looking for volunteers to either help with cooking or serving a meal. Contact George at george@adig.com.au for more information.

IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Maureen Farrell, Bernie Callinan,
DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Barbara Stephen, John Boulous, Wesley Stahlhut, Anthony Ryan, Rose Hanlan
SICK: Robert Loh, 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.

8 MARCH, THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

	6PM	8AM	10AM	11AM	5:30PM
Welcomer	MCarson	Ana G	T Rimpici	APike	Turley
Reader 1	C Doherty	N Ramazani	K Frazier	MVanGend	N Chin
Reader 2	A May	L Quast	R Menz		J Chin
PoF	J Carson	C Stephen	M Suluma		D Roff
ExMin	T Dubois	D Miron	B Robinson		D Roff

15 MARCH, FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

	6PM	8AM	10AM	11AM	5:30PM
Welcomer	T Rice	D McGrath	T Rimpici		Chin
Reader 1	P Boston	J Toakley	I Mittheu		J Roff
Reader 2	D Fittler	A Rogers	J Turner		P Turley
PoF	W Clark	B Mackson	PHorden		R Camilleri
ExMin	C Khan	D Miron	B Robinson		D Roff

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

(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.

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.smjccathedral.org.au



Administrator: Rev Fr Paul Chandler PhD | frpchandler@armidale.catholic.org.au
 Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Elino (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



**MONTH OF FEBRUARY - DEDICATED TO ST JOSEPH
 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (A/2) 8TH MARCH 2026**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 24: 15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord,
 for he rescues my feet from the snare.
 Turn to me and have mercy on me,
 for I am alone and poor.

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:3-7

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?'

Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' the Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 94(95):1-2,6-9

R: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
 hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks,
 with songs let us hail the Lord. **R:**

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
 let us kneel before the God who made us:

for he is our God and we
 the people who belong to his pasture,
 the flock that is led by his hand. **R:**

O that today you would listen to his voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
 as on that day at Massah in the desert
 when your fathers put me to the test;

when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R:**

SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-2,5-8

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. And this hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf John 4:42. 15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
 Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
 give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
 Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

John 4:5-42

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

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'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'Go and call your husband' said Jesus to her 'and come back here.' The woman answered, 'I have no husband.' He said to her, 'You are right to say, "I have no husband"; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know: for salvation comes from the Jews.

But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants.

God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

At this point his disciples returned, and were surprised to find him speaking to a woman, though none of them asked, 'What do you want from her?' or, 'Why are you talking to her?' The woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town to tell the people. 'Come and see a man who has told me everything I ever did; I wonder if he is the Christ?' This brought people out of the town and they started walking towards him.

Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, do have something to eat; but he said, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples asked one another, 'Has someone been bringing him food?' But Jesus said:

'My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work. Have you not got a saying: Four months and then the harvest? Well, I tell you: Look around you, look at the fields; already they are white, ready for harvest! Already the reaper is being paid his wages, already he is bringing in the grain for eternal life, and thus sower and reaper rejoice together. For here the proverb holds good: one sows, another reaps; I sent you to reap a harvest you had not worked for. Others worked for it; and you have come into the rewards of their trouble.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL MASS ATTENDANCE SURVEY | will be conducted over the next four weekends. The welcomers will be counting during the first collection

ROSTERS | Rosters are done two weeks at a time allowing for new parishioners to join a ministry at any time. If you are going to be away from the parish & don't want to be rostered, please contact the Parish Office by phone or email. If you would like to become a reader or welcomer or are interested in any parish ministry, please contact the Parish Office.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS | Fridays in lent, the Way of the Cross will be prayed at **6pm**, following the 5:30pm Mass.

CATHEDRAL PARISH ADORATION PROGRAM
8am - 8pm Monday-Friday and then Friday from 8pm - Saturday 8am - a total of 72 hours a week. Rosters are managed by the Sisters of the Immaculata who can be contacted at: armidaleadoration@gmail.com

FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS DEVOTION
Marian devotion on the first Saturday of each month . Due to **Saturday 4th April being Holy Saturday the next gathering will be 2nd May 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 at 5:45 pm in the Parish Prayer Room (formerly Adoration Chapel).

CHRISM MASS - 31ST MARCH
Each year during Holy Week, the holy oils used in the sacraments of Baptism and Anointing of the Sick are blessed and the oil of Chrism is consecrated in the Mass of the Chrism. During this Mass, priests and deacons renew the promises made at their sacred ordination.

You are invited to attend this special Mass, which is a gathering of the diocese around our bishop.

If you are attending and staying for the light lunch served in the Torregianni Courtyard, please contact the Parish Office to register. Numbers are needed for seating arrangements in the Cathedral and also for catering purposes.

Please register by 13th March.

THE ARMIDALE YOUTH FUTURES (AYF) FUNDRAISING DINNER will be held on Saturday 28th March at the Bowling Club at 6pm and tickets are \$65. \$30 goes directly to AYF to support the Secondary Christian SRE (Scripture) teacher , Matt Mulready, at Armidale Secondary College and Guyra Central School, and the Primary Coordinator, Peter Clarke, in all the Primary schools. AYF's mission is to teach the Gospels in all our State Schools, delivering hope and purpose into the lives of our children. We hope to have a Sts Mary and Joseph Cathedral table to join all our churches in Armidale to support this event. Please contact our Catholic table host Cameron Cowley on 0424 074 567 or go to ayf.org.au and choose your table to join if you would like to attend and support this fundraiser.

On Friday

What will you be doing?

- BOX WATCH**
[code word for TV] or
- CROSS WATCH**
There are **ONLY a few weeks in Lent. Stations of the Cross,**

In the Cathedral following the 5:30pm Mass at 6pm.



SAMARITAN WOMAN AT THE WELL



Any conversion involves stages. The bigger the conversion the greater the incremental stages of grace needed. Note these for the Samaritan Woman.

- 1). **Encounter with the Lord.**
- 2). **Gradual awareness of the truth.**
- 3). **Thirst for God's grace.**

An encounter with God consists of truth, authority and respect. The Samaritan woman's respect increased with her appreciation of Christ's authority. When the Lord talked of eternal truths she stopped calling him a Jew and referred to him as Sir or Lord, after which she calls him Christ - Messiah.

**EVERY SINNER HAS A FUTURE
EVERY SAINT HAS A PAST**



Living Water = Divine Grace

Moses strikes the rock (Christ)

LIVING WATER = GOD'S GRACE

Water was chosen because it has 3 properties:

- a). washes and cleanses
- b). refreshes and cools
- c). quenches thirst

God's Sanctifying Grace

- a). washes the soul from its sins
- b). cools the vices and passions
- c). quenches the soul's thirst for truth.



**Saint Patrick
Patron of Ireland**

**March 17th
Missionary and
Visionary:
man of great prayer
and penance.**



**Third Sunday of Lent
7-8 March 2026**

Monoranjon lives in a village in Bangladesh close to the sea, where floods and storms often damage his crops and his home. With support from Project Compassion, he learnt climate-resilient farming techniques and new ways to diversify his income, helping his family survive and build a safer, more sustainable future.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*



Eucharistic Adoration

Our Lady of the Angels Chapel

Monday – Friday 8am – 8pm

Friday 8am – Saturday 8am (overnight)

Can you commit to/a Holy Hour each week and be a Guardian of the Blessed Sacrament?

Monday: 12pm, 2pm

Tuesday: 9am, 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm

Wednesday: 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 4pm

Thursday: 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm

Friday: 9am, 10am, 11am, 1pm, 3pm,

4pm, 5pm, 7pm

Saturday: 3am, 4am, 5am

Contact the Armidale Adoration Team:
armidaleadoration@gmail.com

0459 089 778