

LITURGY THIS WEEK

OLA Chapel, Cnr Jessie & Barney Sts, Armidale.
 DLS Chapel, O'Connor Catholic College, Kirkwood St
 Ken Thompson Lodge (KTL) 86 Box Hill Dr, Armidale
 * The Mass attendance survey is being conducted at all
 Sunday Masses - Week 3 of 4

LENT

MONDAY 23 MAR – Monday of the 5th Week of Lent

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

TUESDAY 24 MAR – Tuesday of the 5th Week of Lent

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

WEDNESDAY 25 MAR – The ANNUNCIATION of the LORD

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

12:00 NN Cathedral Mass
THURSDAY 26 MAR – Thursday of the 5th Week of Lent

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

FRIDAY 27 MAR – Friday of the 5th Week of Lent

07:00 AM Cathedral Mass
09:15 AM Cathedral Mass Holy Souls in Purgatory
11:00 AM Mass at KTL
05:30 PM Cathedral Mass +Michael O'Connor, Pam O'Connor,
 Joyce Heferen, Christine Nugent

06:00 PM Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY 28 MAR – Saturday of the 5th Week of Lent

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

SUNDAY 29 MAR – PALM SUNDAY of the PASSION of the LORD

08:00 AM Cathedral Mass
10:00 AM Cathedral Mass Procession with palms
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	\$2,527.00	\$2,114.00	\$413.00 ☺
2nd Collection	\$4,350.50	\$6,350.00	-\$1,999.50 ☹

HOLY WEEK & EASTER LITURGIES

29 Mar Palm (Passion) Sunday 8am, 10am (with Procession/Palms)
 11am (Solemn Mass), 5.30pm
 Solemn Vespers 4.30pm
31 Apr Holy Tuesday 11am Chrism Mass
01 Apr Holy Wednesday 7.30pm Tenebrae
02 Apr Holy (Maundy) Thu 6pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
03 Apr Good Friday 10am Stations of the Cross,
 10.30am Confessions
 3pm The Lord's Passion
04 Apr Holy Saturday 10am Confessions
 8pm The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night
05 Apr Easter Sunday 8am, 10am, 5.30pm Mass of Easter Sun.
 11am Solemn Mass of Easter Sunday
 4.30pm Solemn Vespers of Easter Sun.

IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Maureen Farrell, Norma Courtney (99yrs, Murwillumbah), Noel Lockwood (Funeral prayers at Pddington's Chapel Friday 27 March at 2pm)

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Michael Berenger, Wadad Harb, Michael Cavell, Phillip McElroy

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 Markeljc, Don Armatage, Molly Burke, Melissa Gamblen, Hannah Whitton, Tom Britt, Danny Jones, Aeron Ryan, Blake Ross, Gemma Milliken, Frederic Kelmeyer, Silvia & Ralph Bowles.

22 MARCH, FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

	6PM	8AM	10AM	11AM	5:30PM
Welcomer	W Clark	J Toakley	T Rimpici		Turley
Reader 1	C Doherty	F Miron	A Dinh		J Maher
Reader 2	A May	Volunteer	K Frazier		N Chin
PoF	J Carson	L Quast	R Menz		J Chin
ExMin	T Dubois	D Miron	B Robinson		D Roff

29 MARCH, PALM (PASSION) SUNDAY

	6PM	8AM	10AM	11AM	5:30PM
Welcomer	MCarson	P Stier	T Rimpici		Chin
Reader 1	K McMahan	C Stephen	NBrennan	L Quast	D Roff
Reader 2	J Carson	J Toakley	J Turner	MVanGend	J Roff
PoF	P Boston	A Rogers	M Suluma		P Turley
ExMin	C Khan	D Miron	B Robinson		D Roff

PALM SUNDAY GOSPEL READERS

The rostered first reader on Palm Sunday will also be the Narrator for the Gospel reading with the Priest as Jesus, the choir as the Others and the congregation as the Crowd.

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)

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 MARCH - DEDICATED TO ST JOSEPH
 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A/2) 22ND MARCH 2026**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 42: 1-2

Give me justice, O God,
 and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
 From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
 for you, O God, are my strength.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 129(130)

R: With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
 Lord, hear my voice!
 O let your ears be attentive
 to the voice of my pleading. **R:**

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
 Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness:
 for this we revere you. **R:**

My soul is waiting for the Lord.
 I count on his word.
 My soul is longing for the Lord
 more than watchman for daybreak.
 (Let the watchman count on daybreak
 and Israel on the Lord.) **R:**

Because with the Lord there is mercy
 and fullness of redemption,
 Israel indeed he will redeem
 from all its iniquity. **R:**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit

of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 11:25. 26

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
 I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
 whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
 Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

John 11:1-45

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?' Jesus replied:

'Are there not twelve hours in the day?
 A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling
 because he has the light of this world to see by;
 but if he walks at night he stumbles,
 because there is no light to guide him.'

He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.' The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will

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

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believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas – known as the Twin – said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and wants to see you.' Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me,

but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY WEEK & EASTER ROSTERS | We are now preparing rosters for Holy Week and Easter Masses. A roster has been placed in the Cathedral foyer. If you are available and would like to provide ministry, please add your name alongside the preferred ministry.

COMMISSIONING OF CATECHISTS

Our catechists teaching in our state Primary schools will be commissioned this Sunday at 10am Mass so please pray for them in their important ministry as they are the face of Jesus in these children's lives.

The Cathedral Parish is still in need of catechists or assistants at Martins Gully on a Monday afternoon and Ben Venue on a Tuesday afternoon. Please contact Tina at the Parish Office on 67722218 if you would like any further information about becoming a catechist.

ANNUAL MASS ATTENDANCE SURVEY | will be conducted over the next four weekends. The welcomers will be counting during the first collection. Last Sunday is 28/29 March.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (CGS) for 9-12 year olds | In term 2 (end of April), we will be starting a new session of CGS for children 9-12 years old. The session will be at the Parish Centre on a Thursday afternoon from 3:30pm-5pm. If you would like to know more, or your child is interested in attending, please contact Janine Turner 0416 767 866.

PARISH CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

45 minute lessons between 9am & 10 am will be held in the Torreggiani Room on Sundays 22 March, 19 & 26 April, 3, 10 May & the final lesson including a rehearsal will be 17 May. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Pentecost Sunday 24 May at the 11am Mass. All enquiries to the Parish Office 67722218 or armidaleparish@armidale.catholic.org.au

CHOIR FOR EASTER

For those interested in singing for the liturgies of the Sacred Triduum there will be rehearsals in the cathedral on Saturdays 21st and 28th of March, 9:30-10:30am. All welcome.

LEGION OF MARY ACIES CEREMONY

An annual gathering where members renew their consecration to Mary. Saturday 28th March, 2pm in the Cathedral. All are welcome to attend.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY | April 12th, the Second Sunday of Easter, is Divine Mercy Sunday. From 3:30pm - 4:30pm, the Divine Mercy devotions will be available. Beginning with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:30pm and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, it will conclude with Solemn Vespers and Benediction at 4:30pm. Confessions will be available during that hour as well as before the 8am and 10am Mass.

STUDY GROUP with Bishop Peter Murphy on the Compendium of the Catholic Church, Wednesday evenings, 7:30 - 8:30 pm in the Ursula Room (Chancery Building), commencing Wednesday 18 February. Please contact the Chancery Office for any enquiries on 67718700.

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

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).

Lazarus & Resurrection

There was a growing conviction among the people that the messianic times had now arrived, first through the Baptist's testimony, then through the words and signs performed by Jesus, especially because of the raising of Lazarus, which had occurred a few days before the entry into Jerusalem. The miracle is a response to the faith of Martha and Mary; it arouses faith in the disciples. The miracle was the catalyst that leads to Calvary. It would provoke Jesus' arrest and demise on the Cross. Death is not the worst thing in the world but the cause of death, that is sin. Christ died for our sins and rose again, unlike Lazarus in a glorified body. We too, if we are faithful and confess our sins are promised with him the bodily resurrection that awaits all at the end of time.



MOMENTO MORS

Memento Mors = Remember Death.

Most people do not want to talk about their death or even plan for it. We plan our careers, our retirement, even our funerals, but seldom does one plan their death [suicide being the ugly exception]. I suppose the majority of folk are apprehensive, if not about the reality of death and what lies beyond.

As we ponder the death and resurrection of Lazarus we ought to note some characteristics concerning death -

- 1). universality - it applies to all humans;
- 2). finality - there is no second chance;
- 3). imminence - can occur whenever;
- 4). unavoidable - it must eventuate.

Death actually occurs when the soul definitively separates from the body. This personal event is the consequence of sin and not originally willed by God. The Lord has taught us how to live and how to die. After death we shall all be judged by Christ for all that we have done and failed to do. After which salvation or damnation, heaven or hell, awaits us for all eternity. Thank goodness we have Lent and Confession, Anointing of the sick, to help us prepare for that moment of our lives.

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.



Caritas AUSTRALIA | **PROJECT COMPASSION**
Fifth Sunday of Lent
21-22 March 2026

Since October 2023, Caritas Jerusalem staff in Gaza have endured displacement, personal loss, and danger alongside the communities they serve. Despite unimaginable challenges, they remain committed to providing lifesaving support, standing in solidarity with families enduring this conflict.



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.*

Adoring Jesus Perpetually Is 'Good for Your Soul,' Says 93-Year-Old Adorer

from the National Catholic Register

John Angerer, 93, has been adoring Christ in the Blessed Sacrament at St. Augustine, in Barberton, Ohio, for an hour each week for the past 63 years — since the parish began perpetual adoration on All Saints' Day 1962.

"It's good for your soul," Angerer said, "a beautiful way to talk to God with no disturbances."

"The year before going perpetual, we had adoration from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.," he recounted. "A group of us men decided we'd do the night hours. Then, we went two by two around the neighbourhood, inviting people to sign up for adoration. Some wanted time to think about it, and we'd go back to see them again. We had three people an hour..."

Although he retired long ago, John maintained adoration during his years working 27 years in home finance and another 20 with a company building homes for the handicapped.

"About five years ago, I had to stop driving at night, so I switched to Saturday morning," he explained. "But I can't tell you what a blessing the night hours are, and honestly, I had more energy the next day..."

Read the whole article at <https://www.ncregister.com/features/93-year-old-perpetual-adoration>

MASS OFFERINGS FOR SPECIAL INTENTIONS

The suggested donation for a Mass offering is now \$20.

If you would like a Mass offered for a special intention, envelopes are available in the Cathedral foyer and at the Parish Office.

Please take the Sunday Bulletin home with you. It is printed for that reason. However, if you don't take it with you, we ask that you return it to the table at the entrance so as to keep the Cathedral tidy. Thank you.

Please also refrain from reading the bulletin during Mass and the homily. Thank you.

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



Monday: 12pm

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

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

Thursday: 11am, 12pm, 2pm

Friday: 9am, 10am, 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 7pm

Saturday: 3am

Contact the Armidale Adoration Team:
armidaleadoration@gmail.com