



St Peter's Parish, Surry Hills

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Parish phone: (02) 9698 1948
Website: www.stpeterssurryhills.org.au
Email: admin@stpeterssh.org.au



Fr. John Macdonald, Administrator

Fr. Nicola Falzun OP, Priest in Residence for the *Missio ad gentes* of the Neocatechumenal Way

Feast Days – Twenty-second week in Ordinary Time, Yr. B:

Sun 29 Aug	Martyrdom of Saint John the Baptist (in other years)
Fri 3 Sep	Saint Gregory the Great, pope, doctor
Sat 4 Sep	Saint Rose of Viterbo
Sun 5 Sep	Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Saint Peter's Church - temporary COVID closure

In line with the directive of the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Sydney, Saint Peter's Church at Surry Hills will be closed until further notice.

We Pray For

Our sick – Aimi McEwen, baby Dio Onero, Noel Allport, Louise McCann, Nerisa Williams, Nathan Essey, Mira Krcma, Josephine Finneran, Marija Barclay, John Yo-un and Dan Southee.

Our deceased – Katie Brincat (27/7), Johnny Heard (20/7), David Patrick Watson(18/7), Charles Xavier ((13/7), William Winterton (8/6), Peco Mitrevski (30/6/21), Muriel Rosemary Goddard [Tyrrell] (2/7)(Paula's mother), Helen McGuirk, George Vorliceck, Lourdes Eulalia Martinez (10/6), Anne Kelly (Deborah White's mum (14/5), Betty Harkins (12/5), Frederick, Edward & Margaret M Hailwood, Margaret D Hailwood, Joyce Hailwood & Marge Heaney, Joan McEvoy and June Veronica Hailwood.

Our house bound elderly – Anne Maria, Myra and Robert Pearce

Partaking in the Eucharist commits us to others, especially the poor, teaching us to pass from the flesh of Christ to the flesh of our brothers and sisters, in whom he waits to be recognised, served, honoured and loved by us.

*Pope Francis
Catechesis on the Mass 2018*



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

Catholic Church urges action to care for the earth, the poor

MEDIA RELEASE

August 5, 2021

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has made an historic commitment to work towards a more sustainable Church in its annual statement promoting social justice.

In the Social Justice Statement 2021-22 launched today, *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, the bishops commit to a seven-year journey towards seven Laudato Si' Goals.

"We are facing an ecological crisis and Pope Francis wants the whole Church globally to act with a greater sense of urgency," said Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, chair of the Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service.

"In Australia, passionate individuals, religious institutes, schools and organisations have been working on ecological issues for a long time. I want to affirm and thank them all, and to urge the whole Catholic community to join them."

Bishop Long pointed out that "Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been caring for country from time immemorial. The rest of us need to listen, and to learn how we can walk together to care for the whole of creation – including one another."

The statement explains that the Laudato Si' Goals "aim to put Pope Francis' [2015] encyclical into practice, making communities around the world sustainable in the spirit of the integral ecology of *Laudato Si'*".

The bishops invite Catholics to "uncover the sacramentality of creation" in recognising the divine presence in the world, and to respond with wonder and awe. They call for a "profound conversion expressed in a new way of living, both personally and collectively".

"We are being called to a new way of thinking, feeling, understanding and living," the statement says.

Speaking during the online launch of the statement, Bishop Long said: "My hope is that *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor* will encourage ever deeper and more effective Christian responses to the urgent cries of the earth and of the poor."

The statement urges families, schools, parishes, dioceses and organisations to join the bishops in signing up to the Laudato Si' Action Platform.

The platform, an initiative of the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, will gather ideas for action from around the globe to help participants in their journeys. The Bishops Conference's Office for Social Justice has been involved in developing the platform.

At the statement's launch, Bishop Long also announced a new name for that agency – now known as the Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace – affirming "social justice, ecology and peace are inseparable".

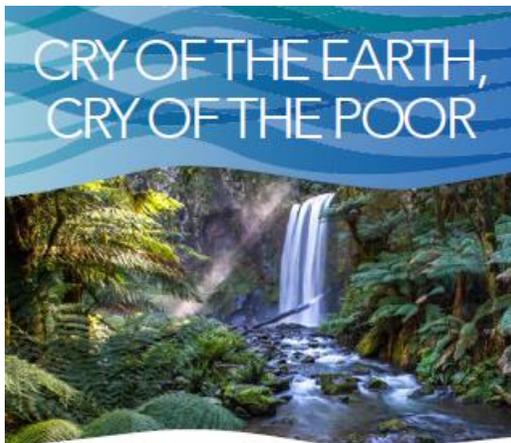
Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor and associated resources can be downloaded at www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

The Laudato si' Congress will be accessible virtually to facilitate participation from all over the country caring for the earth and the poor. Here is the link to the media release: <https://www.catholic.org.au/acbc-media/media-centre/media-releases-new/2328-media-release-catholic-church-urges-action-to-care-for-the-earth-the-poor/file>

In the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement, ***Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor***, the Church is called to have "... a new way of thinking, feeling, understanding and feeling.". Furthermore, at the Laudato Si Action Platform launch, Bishop Long affirmed that "... social justice, ecology and peace are inseparable." For more information: ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or tel. (02) 6201 9845.

The following link also provides a video of the Bishops launching the Statement, as well as other materials associated with it:

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2021/06/24/social-justice-statement-2021-22/>



*By listening with an open heart
to those who are most affected,
we can begin, with the help of the Holy Spirit,
to discern the signs of the times.*

**Social Justice Statement 2021-22:
Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor**



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Unplugged/Shirley Bittinger

Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear:
the bush grown more silent,
the birdsong less vibrant,
the stream's sluggish ripple.
Have mercy and open our ears.

Lord, when we look with your eyes we see:
the soil depleted,
the sky smudged,
the oceans rubbished and the great currents slowed.
Have mercy and help us to see.

Lord, when we look with your eyes we see:
the workers who struggle to get by,
the women subjected to violence,
the people who are excluded.
Have mercy and help us to see.

Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear:
the sound of hungry children,
the distress of the mentally ill,
the silent pain of homeless women and men.
Have mercy and open our ears.

Send your Spirit upon us Lord to renew our sight,
to restore our hearing,
and to reclaim your reign of justice for all people
and peace for creation.

AMEN

Pope: *Laudato si'* is not only a 'green' Encyclical but also a 'social' Encyclical - by Vatican News staff writer

Pope Francis greets members of the *Laudato si'* Inter-University Congress and highlights the importance of promoting social awareness to the care of our common home.

Pope Francis has sent greetings to the members of the *Laudato si'* Inter-University Congress scheduled to hold from 1-4 September in Argentina.

In the [video message](#) delivered in Spanish, he expressed hope that the initiative will “advance social awareness and consciousness” for the care of our common home.

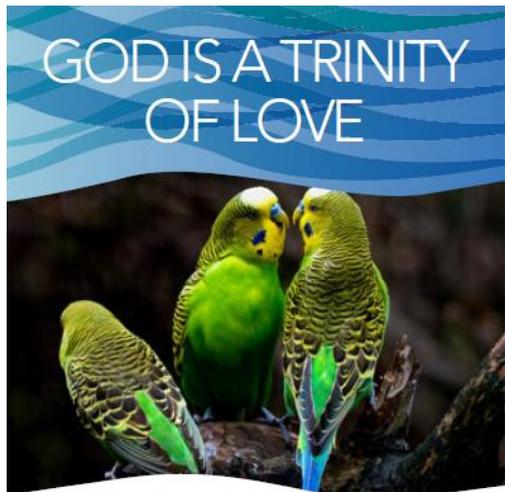
“The Encyclical *Laudato si'* is not only a 'green' Encyclical, it is also a 'social' Encyclical,” the Pope said, hoping that the Congress will help its scope and consequences to become more visible.

Finally, with a request for prayers for himself, the Pope blessed the participants at the Congress.

The Congress is organized by the National Inter-University Council (CIN) and the Council of Rectors of Private Universities (CRUP), in conjunction with the Bishops Conference of Argentina (CEA) on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the encyclical [Laudato si'](#).

The conferences, talks, and other activities, put together under the theme “Caring for the Common Home,” will promote dialogue on some of the main themes of the 2015 encyclical, including fraternity, personal dignity, intercultural dialogue, the environment, and integral development of people, among others.

The Congress will bring together both national and international experts that will share their expertise on the multidimensional complexities of the various themes in order to foster dialogue about joint action in the future.



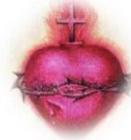
The three-person God is a Trinity of love. Every creative act and every part of creation emerges from this divine interplay of love.

**Social Justice Statement 2021-22:
Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor**



“Mary, give me your Heart
so beautiful, so pure,
so immaculate;

Your



Heart

so full of love and humility
that I may be able to receive
Jesus in the Bread of Life
and love Him as you love Him.”

Blessed Mother Teresa
(Feast day 5 Sept)

Act of Perfect Contrition:

O my God, I am sorry
and beg pardon for all my sins
because they have crucified my loving Saviour Jesus Christ
and most of all because they have offended your infinite goodness to me.
I firmly resolve by the help of your grace
never to offend you again
and to avoid the occasions of sin. Amen.

(This is the standard of Contrition which, together with our intention to go to the sacrament of reconciliation when we are next able to do so, ensures forgiveness for our sins. During the pandemic Pope Francis has encouraged those Catholics unable to go to the sacrament of confession to make a perfect act of contrition for the forgiveness of their sins.)

Spiritual Holy Communion:

As Fr. John mentioned in his Sunday's homily, Jesus Christ comes to us in Word and Sacrament: We always have access to Jesus as the Word of God via Sacred Scripture (see the attachment to this email or the parish website for this Sunday's readings). Moreover, when we do not have access to the Sacraments, we can make an act of perfect contrition (see homily) and a "spiritual communion".



Communion Prayers

The following prayers before and after Holy Communion may be helpful in normal times, and currently in the form of a "**spiritual communion**".

Prayers before Communion

Heavenly Father, you offer me the living and life-giving food that is Christ your Son. Humbly, I accept and I pray that this divine food may deepen, strengthen and make flourish the superantural life in me and in all who receive Him at this Mass.

Jesus, you became the Lamb of God, the victim for our sins. May I receive you with gratitude and love. May I absorb something of your love for the Father and of your love for all; and may all of us who receive you be filled with your Spirit and become more like you.

Holy Spirit of God, abiding in me, help me to receive with great reverence and love of this gift of the Father. Help me to surrender myself to Jesus and through him to the Father, and make stronger and more conscious the bond that unites us to one another in Christ Jesus.

Prayers after Communion: Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father, You have given me this divine gift under the form of bread because you intend Him to be food for me. May, then, this living Bread give me life, his divine strength replace my weakness, his nourishment promote my spiritual health, his perfection transform me into the likeness of Jesus, Himself.

In You, Jesus, we are all united. Sharing your life, we are made one with you and with one another. How wonderful the bond that invites, how wonderful the charity that should animate us. Make my love for others a reflection of your love for us all.

May the Holy Spirit, the soul of the Mystical Body, dwell in my soul and enkindle it with the flame of true love.

Mary, Mother of Jesus and my mother, at this moment when I am so closely united with him help me to give him the love and worship that are his due. You knew him so intimately in his earthly life; you know him so wonderfully in glory: teach me to know him better:

Help me to become more like him in my thinking, in my imagining, in my desiring and in my living.

Sunday Mass collections – The parish kindly asks that we keep in mind the ongoing costs and expenses of the parish in the absence of the Sunday Mass collections. Please consider donating via i) a direct transfer to the parish church account **BSB**

No: 062 784 Acc. No: 10000281 or ii) by clicking on the yellow **“Support us”** button on the top right hand corner of the Homepage of the parish website.

Evangelium – The usual time and the topic this Sunday is **“Getting beyond God the vending machine”** presented by James Parker. Zoom details as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85429524136?pwd=WUhhJVlFvZ2pCZzhjMTFwQVJNzc9udz09>

Meeting ID: 854 2952 4136

Passcode: 175175

Parishes for Mission Day – This has been postponed. St Peter’s Parish will host the neighbouring parish of Redfern, Rosebery and Waterloo for a “parishes for mission” day between 9:00am to 4:00pm. Fr. John is calling for expressions of interest any parishioners who would like to attend. This event which will be held in our parish Hall (1880). Program for the day will be aimed at helping to form us for the Archbishop’s missionary project **“Go Make Disciples”**. There is no cost associated with this event and lunch will be supplied.

University of Notre Dame (UND) Catholic Interfaith Group – Parishioner and UND Law Student Rebecca Rogan is seeking to establish a Catholic Interfaith group at UND. In order to satisfy one of the university’s requirements for the establishment of the group, Rebecca needs four current UND students to simply declare their signed support for the group.

Interfaith dialogue is a core requirement for every Catholic diocese. We commend Rebecca for her initiative at UND and ask any students who would like to declare their support for her project to contact the Parish by phone or email.

PARISH GROUPS should meet online until further notice

RCIA – The Duffy Hall – Thursday: 6:30pm – 7:30pm (fortnightly)

Neocatechumenal Way – B16 - Thursday: 7:30pm – 8:30pm

Mother’s Group – Courtyard – Friday: 2:30pm

AA Surry Hills Group – Duffy Hall – Tuesday: 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Christian Life Community (CLC) – B16 Room - Tuesday: 7:30pm (fortnightly)

Young Adults – Sun 11:30 – 2:00pm (morning tea, Angelus, Evangelium & pub lunch)

Marian Group – before mass daily

Divine Mercy Group – before mass daily

Cenacle – Church – Tuesday: 10:30 am (Thur 9:00am)

Liturgy Group – B16 – after Sunday lunch

Legion of Mary – To be announced

Home visits during COVID - Fr John is available to visit parishioners in their homes in Surry Hills. This is allowable according to the lockdown regulations. If anybody would like to be visited by Fr John, or would like to recommend that he visits somebody else, please contact the Parish. Fr John also invites anybody to request a phone conversation with him.

Again, simply contact the Parish and Fr John will be in touch with you.

Special Prayer intentions requested by parishioners

Baby Dio who is 10 days old, is currently in RPA intensive care unit has shown improvement. Little Dio is responding to the hand of his father. Please continue to pray for little Dio's recovery

Please remember Aimi in your prayers. Aimi will be undergoing surgery at the Chris Life O'Brien centre. We pray for Aimi's speedy recovery and healing.



Family Prayer

God made us a family.

We need one another.

We love one another.

We forgive one another.

We work together.

We play together.

We worship together.

Together we use God's word.

Together we grow in Christ.

Together we love all men.

Together we serve our God.

Together we hope for Heaven.

These are our hopes and ideals.

Help us to attain them.

O God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.



Safeguarding our Parish

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 93905810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

MEDIA RELEASE - **Afghan Refugee Appeal**

Sydney Catholic Archbishop, Anthony Fisher OP, has launched the Archbishop's Afghan Refugee Appeal. The appeal will raise desperately needed funds and commit the Archdiocese resources of education, health and welfare to Afghan families and individuals fleeing their homeland in the wake of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan.

Twenty years ago Australia was one of the first nations to join the US-led intervention in Afghanistan to remove the Taliban. Over the last two decades Australia made promises to protect and promote democratic freedoms, human rights, the rule of law, the rights of women, and minority groups. Australia's commitment contributed to an education for millions of Afghan girls, women being able to work, a vibrant and free press, and improved protection for minority groups.

As the Taliban tightens its grip on the nation, these achievements are being laid to waste in plain view of the watching world.

"We are grateful the Morrison government has described its initial commitment to take 3000 friends and allies from Taliban-controlled Afghanistan as a floor and not a ceiling," Archbishop Anthony Fisher of Sydney said. "We pray that all those who need to flee to safety do make it out of the country before all avenues are closed and do find a safe haven.

"Those lucky enough to make it to Australia seeking protection will need all the support that we can give. So today I am launching the Archbishop's Afghan Asylum Appeal and committing the resources of our Catholic schools, health and welfare agencies to support our Afghan friends when they get to Australia," concluded Archbishop Anthony Fisher

"We have all watched over the last few weeks as the situation in Afghanistan and around Kabul collapsed into total chaos," said Fr Peter Smith, Promoter of Peace and Justice, Sydney Archdiocese. "And all of us have had the same thought, 'what can I do to help?' This appeal will not only raise needed funds but will also give those who need it access to healthcare, education and welfare support as they make their home among us.

"I have been inundated by requests from people across our community to do something to help. This is that something right now. The Justice and Peace Office will work to ensure the money gets to those who need as quickly and directly as possible," concluded Fr Peter Smith.

The UN and aid agencies are preparing for a Syria scale refugee crisis. The appeal means that those who find their way to Australia will have support and resources waiting for them. These dark times remind all of us that we really are our brother and our sisters' keeper.

For further information contact

Fr Peter Smith Justice and Peace Office 0408 613 709

For your donations please click here: [Archbishop's Afghan Refugee Appeal](#)

For further information go to: <http://justiceandpeace.org.au/> Thank you on behalf of the Archbishop and those most vulnerable people for your support.



Prayer during pandemic

In this challenging time

Lord Jesus Christ, our true physician and healer, be merciful to us and bring us your aid in these troubled times. Heal all our sickness and every affliction of your people.

Drive out our infirmities of soul and body; free us from all disease and especially from this pestilence. We place in your gentle Heart the elderly, the frail, people with disability, children, young people and families, our indigenous peoples, those who are poor, lonely and isolated. As you walk with us, free them from fear, and give them patience and hope together with our loving care.

In your mercy deal also with the causes of our pitiful condition, that in curing our lack of faith and spiritual weakness, you may also remedy our bodily ills.

We place our trust in you, the risen Lord, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.