



St Peter's Church, Surry Hills

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Fr. John Macdonald, Administrator

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

Feast Days – Thirty-fourth week in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Mon 22 Nov	Saint Cecilia
Tue 23 Nov	Saint Clement I, pope Saint Columban
Wed 24 Nov	Saints Andrew Dung-Lac and companions
Thu 25 Nov	Saint Catherine of Alexandria

Daily Mass: **Mon:** 7:30am, **Tues to Sat:** 10:00am

Sunday Mass: 9:00am & 10:30am (Sung Mass)

Confessions: **Wed** (10:30am – 11:30am) & **Fri** (6:00pm – 7:00pm) during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sat: 9:30am - 10:00am

We Pray For

Our sick and injured – Gian Pietro, Mafalda Triolo, Aimi McEwen, baby Dio Onero, Noel Allport, Louise McCann, Nerisa Williams, Nathan Essey, Marija Barclay, John Yo-un and Dan Southee.

Our deceased – Sylvia Abela (28/10), Bernard Laino (5/10 (Daniel Luke's brother)), Jane Ryan (24/10), Philip Adam, Charles Grech (25/9), Coralie Hinkley, Katie Brincat (27/7), 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 – Shirley Kennedy, Anna Maria, Myra Krcma 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



Speaking the truth in love
Eph 4:15

18 November 2021

Appointment of new Auxiliary Bishop, Fr Danny Meagher

My warm congratulations to Father Danny Meagher on his appointment by Pope Francis as auxiliary bishop of Sydney. His appointment will be very warmly received by the priests and people of Sydney.

I have worked with Fr Danny for many years. He was one of my chief collaborators working on World Youth Day in 2008 and back then I observed the very determined and practical, 'can do' man behind the spiritual priest.

One of my first tasks as Archbishop was to confirm his appointment as Rector of the Seminary of the Good Shepherd and he conducted his task with learning, confidence, charm and firmness. In my view he truly grew in the job and in his time there the seminary was a happy and holy place where young men were well nurtured and formed. He gave a great gift to the Church in Sydney and beyond in the many zealous and fruitful priests who came forth from the seminary in his time—and many of these sung his praises to me.

Fr Danny has had a very broad experience as a priest. In addition to being a seminary rector, he has ministered in the parishes of Mt Pritchard, Mosman, Gymea, Hoxton Park, Carnes Hill, North Leichhardt, Broken Hill, Penshurst-Peakhurst, Strathfield and Five Dock as a truly good shepherd.

He has also served on the Council of Priests, the College of Consultors and Trustees of the Archdiocese, and the Boards of the Catholic Weekly and CatholicCare. He has been a fellow and councillor of St John's College in the University of Sydney and a member of the Charitable Works Fund Appeals Tribunal, the Committee for Ongoing Formation of the Clergy, and the Commission for Ministries and Orders.

That he has achieved so much in his first 25 years as a priest is a tribute to his generosity as a man who gives his all for his Lord, his Church and the task at hand whatever it is. We can look forward to great things in the next 25 years!

It is a sign of his determination to "get to work" in building up God's kingdom that he is ready to be ordained bishop so soon, on 8 December 2021 at 7pm at St Mary's Cathedral.

It is with enthusiasm that I welcome him to the College of Bishops and look forward to working beside him in the Lord's vineyard.

Yours faithfully in Christ

Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP
Archbishop of Sydney

WORD ON FIRE INSTITUTE announces [Dei Verbum Reading Challenge](#), a free two-week guided reading journey through the Church's Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation.

The challenge starts on Monday, November 8th and will be led by Dr. Richard DeClue, the Word on Fire Institute Cardinal Henri de Lubac Fellow of Theology.

Dei Verbum, the "Word of God," is one of the most important documents of the Second Vatican Council.

It discusses the process by which God communicates with his people, drawing us into friendship with him, which is the essence of the spiritual life. Or, as the document itself puts it, "Through revelation the invisible God, out of the abundance of His love, speaks to men as friends and lives among them so that He may invite and take them into fellowship with Himself."

I encourage you all to deepen your faith and your understanding of scripture and divine revelation by taking the free 2-week [Dei Verbum Reading Challenge](#).

Learn more at wordonfire.institute/dei-verbum-reading-challenge



Novena prayer and litany – The Citizen of NSW group invite you to offer your time to join them in these prayers from Nov 21 to Nov 29, for our new NSW premier, Dominic Perrottet. For this Novena, we ask that you consider offering:

- 1) A complete AM Fast – from midnight to midday (or as suitable to your situation)
- 2) Daily pray the following litany to St Joseph and the daily novena prayer, with your family (if possible)

Copies of the Daily Novena prayer and the Litany of St Joseph are available on the COVID sign in tables. If you prefer an electronic copy, please contact the parish office.



CWF Parish Appeal: The **Charitable Works Fund (CWF) August Appeal** will be happening this weekend and we need your help!

Your donations will help those most struggling this winter – single mothers facing homelessness, those struggling with mental health and our Aboriginal communities. You will also be building a culture of support and encouragement for our hospital and university chaplaincies, and our future priests at the Good Shepherd Seminary.



Special envelopes are available at the parish. Alternatively, you can learn more and donate securely at www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf. **Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.**

PARISH GROUPS can resume meeting on the parish property provided everyone is fully vaccinated

RCIA – Thursday: 6:30pm – 7:30pm (fortnightly) (Online)

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

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

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

Marian and Divine Mercy Groups – before mass daily

Cenacle – Church – Tuesday and Thursday after 10:00am Mass

Liturgy Group – B16 – after Sunday lunch

Special prayer petitions

Our Lady of Guadalupe, we pray for your holy intercession, especially for all mothers-to-be that they carry their babies to full term and keep them protected under your blue mantel.

We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide our premier, Mr Dominic Perrottet that in making fair and just decisions, and that his decisions will be respected by the members of the NSW parliament. St Joseph, watchful defender of Christ intercede for us.

Artes Christi – Carols in the City which will be hosted by St Peter's on Sunday 19 December 2021

Sydney City Catholics - Annual Lessons & Carols (and BBQ)

St Peter's is thrilled we can again co-host our annual Lessons and Carols, together with the Parishes of the Sydney City Deanery.

Date: Saturday 18 December, 2021

Time: 6.30pm (doors open 6pm)

Location: St Benedict's Church, Broadway (note the rotating location), cnr Broadway & Abercrombie St, Broadway NSW 2007



The evening will be hosted by the young adults of the City Deanery, including our own Saint Peter's. Following the Lessons & Carols, all are invited to a BBQ dinner in the adjacent courtyard (BYO alcohol).

Special guests include Bishop Brady, and will feature the scholas of St Peter's Parish, Surry Hills and St Benedict's, Broadway.

For catering and registration purposes, we ask for the small contribution of \$5, to be booked in advance via the [Trybooking link](#).

Please note that due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions capacity limits are in place and bookings are essential.

Reach out to **Gerard Horsfall** or **Sarah Moody** with any questions.

The Feast of Christ the King was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as an antidote to secularism, a way of life which leaves God out of man's thinking and living and organizes his life as if God did not exist. The feast is intended to proclaim in a striking and effective manner Christ's royalty over individuals, families, society, governments, and nations.

Today's Mass establishes the titles for Christ's royalty over men: 1) Christ is God, the Creator of the universe and hence wields a supreme power over all things; "All things were created by Him"; 2) Christ is our Redeemer, He purchased us by His precious Blood, and made us His property

and possession; 3) Christ is Head of the Church, "holding in all things the primacy"; 4) God bestowed upon Christ the nations of the world as His special possession and dominion.



Today's Mass also describes the qualities of Christ's kingdom. This kingdom is: 1) supreme, extending not only to all people but also to their princes and kings; 2) universal, extending to all nations and to all places; 3) eternal, for "The Lord shall sit a King forever"; 4) spiritual, Christ's "kingdom is not of this world". — Rt. Rev. Msgr. Rudolph G. Bandas



Christ the King as Represented in the Liturgy -

The liturgy is an album in which every epoch of Church history immortalizes itself. Therein, accordingly, can be found the various pictures of Christ beloved during succeeding centuries. In its pages we see pictures of Jesus suffering and in agony; we see pictures of His Sacred Heart; yet these pictures are not proper to the nature of the liturgy as such; they resemble baroque altars in a gothic church. Classic liturgy knows but one Christ: the King, radiant, majestic, and divine.

With an ever-growing desire, all Advent awaits the "coming King"; in the chants of the breviary we find repeated again and again the two expressions "King" and "is coming." On Christmas the Church would greet, not the Child of Bethlehem, but the *Rex Pacificus* — "the King of peace gloriously reigning." Within a fortnight, there follows a feast which belongs to the greatest of the feasts of the Church year -- the Epiphany. As in ancient

times oriental monarchs visited their principalities (theophany), so the divine King appears in His city, the Church; from its sacred precincts He casts His glance over all the world....On the final feast of the Christmas cycle, the Presentation in the Temple, holy Church meets her royal Bridegroom with virginal love: "Adorn your bridal chamber, O Sion, and receive Christ your King!" The burden of the Christmas cycle may be summed up in these words: Christ the King establishes His Kingdom of light upon earth!

If we now consider the Easter cycle, the luster of Christ's royal dignity is indeed somewhat veiled by His sufferings; nevertheless, it is not the suffering Jesus who is present to the eyes of the Church as much as Christ the royal Hero and Warrior who upon the battlefield of Golgotha struggles with the mighty and dies in triumph. Even during Lent and Passiontide the Church acclaims her King. The act of homage on Palm Sunday is intensely stirring; singing psalms in festal procession we accompany our Saviour singing: *Gloria, laus et honor tibi sit, Rex Christe*, "Glory, praise and honour be to Thee, Christ, O King!" It is true that on Good Friday the Church meditates upon the Man of Sorrows in agony upon the Cross, but at the same time, and perhaps more so, she beholds Him as King upon a royal throne. The hymn *Vexilla Regis*, "The royal banners forward go," is the more perfect expression of the spirit from which the Good Friday

liturgy has arisen. Also characteristic is the verse from Psalm 95, *Dicite in gentibus quia Dominus regnavit*, to which the early Christians always added, a ligno, "Proclaim among the Gentiles: the Lord reigns from upon the tree of the Cross!" During Paschal time the Church is so occupied with her glorified Saviour and Conqueror that kingship references become rarer; nevertheless, toward the end of the season we celebrate our King's triumph after completing the work of redemption, His royal enthronement on Ascension Thursday.

Neither in the time after Pentecost is the picture of Christ as King wholly absent from the liturgy. Corpus Christi is a royal festival: "Christ the King who rules the nations, come, let us adore" (Invit.). In the Greek Church the feast of the Transfiguration is the principal solemnity in honour of Christ's kingship, *Summum Regem gloriae Christum adoremus* (Invit.). Finally at the sunset of the ecclesiastical year, the Church awaits with burning desire the return of the King of Majesty. We will overlook further considerations in favour of a glance at the daily Offices. How often do we not begin Matins with an act of royal homage: "The King of apostles, of martyrs, of confessors, of virgins — come, let us adore" (Invit.). Lauds is often introduced with *Dominus regnavit*, "The Lord is King". Christ as King is also a first consideration at the threshold of each day; for morning after morning we renew our oath of fidelity at Prime: "To the King of ages be honour and glory." Every oration is concluded through our Mediator Christ Jesus "who lives and reigns forever." Yes, age-old liturgy beholds Christ reigning as King in His basilica (etym.: "the king's house"), upon the altar as His throne.

—Excerpted from *The Church's Year of Grace*, Pius Parsch



Prayer to Saint Cecilia

O glorious saint, who chose to die instead of denying your King. We pray you please to help us as His fair praise we sing! We lift our hearts in joyous song to honor Him this way, and while we sing, remembering, to sing is to doubly pray. At once in our hearts and in our tongues we offer double prayer sent heavenward on winged notes to praise God dwelling there. While in our hearts and tongues we try with song to praise God twice, we ask dear saint, to help us be United close with Christ!

Feast Day: 22nd November

It is impossible to run away from God: Philip Kosloski, 24 Oct 21 (Saint Clement 1: Feast day 23 Nov)

We may try to hide ourselves and our sins from God, but the harder we try, the closer he is to us.

Sometimes we may think to ourselves that we can hide from God. Since we don't see God with our eyes, it is tempting to think that God is not there.

This is one of the reasons why many of the most grievous sins we commit are at night time, in the dark. We think that the darkness can somehow hide us from God's presence.

Yet, that is not possible. God is always with us, as a **letter of St. Clement** to the Corinthians explains.

*Since all things lie open to his eyes and ears, let us hold him in awe and rid ourselves of impure desires to do works of evil, so that we may be protected by his mercy from the judgement that is to come. Which of us can escape his mighty hand? What world will give asylum to one who deserts him? Where will I go, where will I hide from your face? If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go to the limits of the earth, your right hand is there; if I lie down in the deep, your spirit is there. **Where, then, can one go, where can one escape to, from the presence of him whose hands embrace the universe?***

This goes not only for our exterior actions, but also our **interior thoughts**.

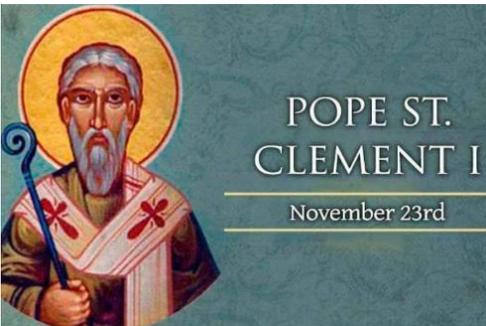
*Let us observe how near he is, and that **nothing escapes him: not the thoughts we think, not the arguments we construct**. It is right, therefore, that we should not be deserters from his will.*

While it might feel oppressive to always be in the presence of God, it is meant to be a reassuring reality.

God is always with us, ready to comfort us as a loving and merciful Father. He watches us and looks after our every need.

It is good news that we can't escape his presence!

We are never alone, and even if we feel abandoned by God, he is in fact there, right beside us. Instead of trying to run away from God, let us run to God, as the Prodigal Son ran to his loving father. When we embrace the presence of God, we no longer try to live a lie.



We should let God be the One to praise us and not praise ourselves. For God detests those who commend themselves. Let others applaud our good deeds.

- Pope Clement 1

"The most enthusiastic and insightful defender of the council among millennial Catholics..." Here's what people are saying about [Reclaiming Vatican II](#)

"The great missionary vision of Vatican II remains largely unrealized. [This book](#) shows how to recover it, primarily by returning to the council's four major constitutions. Fr. Blake Britton is an able guide, radiant and thoughtful, with an infectious joy and love for the council. He stands on the vanguard of a new generation tasked with finally bringing the council's vision to fruition. I warmly commend [this book](#) to anyone wanting to understand Vatican II, but especially to young Catholics confused about the council and those skeptical about its relevance today."

Bishop Robert Barron: Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles and Founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries

Fr. Blake Britton, the most enthusiastic and insightful defender of the council among millennial Catholics, guides us through this confusion to show why the Second Vatican Council remains one of the Holy Spirit's greatest gifts to the Church. He explains why the council was needed, what the texts taught and intended, and how they were sadly misimplemented. More importantly, he shows how we can get the conciliar reforms back on track by returning to the texts themselves. We've desperately needed [a book like this](#). It's timely, clear, charitable, inspiring, faithful to the Church, and strikes all the right notes. If every Catholic read this book and followed its path, liturgies would become more reverent, biblical studies would be renewed, the Church would be more confident about her identity, and evangelization would flourish—exactly what Vatican II had in mind!" -

Brandon Vogt: Senior Publishing Director at Word on Fire Catholic Ministries

"[This timely little book](#) could not come at a more opportune moment. Polarization over the Second Vatican Council has reached a new degree of intensity, at least in the public eye. I continue to have the faith that, as Fr. Blake Britton suggests, the documents of Vatican II—spirit, content, and all — can still today provide the inspiration for meaningful reform in the Church and for the evangelization of the modern world." - **John C. Cavadini:** Director of the McGrath Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame

"The ongoing debate within the Church about the Second Vatican Council serves as a microcosm of our age: well-meaning, passionate people have divided themselves into camps, so sure of their own positions that they are unable to hear the truth spoken by the other. Fr. Blake Britton offers [a balanced, grounded response](#) that our Church desperately needs. Correctly identifying Vatican II as a 'kerygmatic' council, he invites the reader to let go of half-truths and learn from the documents themselves in order to behold the splendour of the Church." - **Fr. Casey Cole, O.F.M.** Creator of Breaking in the Habit Media