



# St Peter's Parish, 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 – Twenty-third week in Ordinary Time, Yr. B:

Wed 8 Sep	Feast of The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thu 9 Sep	Saint Peter Claver Blessed Frederick Ozanam

### 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** – Mafalda Triolo, Esther Parsons, 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** – Josephine (Maria Gracen's cousin) (1/9), 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 Vorlicek, 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*

## Complaining, blaming others is a waste of time, pope says at Angelus

Aug 30, 2021 - by Carol Glatz,

VATICAN CITY — Complaining is a poison that causes anger, resentment and sadness, and closes one's heart to God, Pope Francis said.

"Let us ask in prayer for the grace not to waste time polluting the world with complaints, because this is not Christian," the pope told those gathered in St. Peter's Square Aug. 29 during his Sunday Angelus address.

"Jesus instead invites us to look at life and the world starting from our heart" because, by looking inside, people will find "almost all that we despise outside," he said.

When people sincerely ask God "to purify our heart, that is when we will start making the world cleaner" because the best way to defeat evil is "by starting to conquer it within yourself," the pope said.

The pope reflected on the Sunday Gospel reading from St. Mark in which Jesus explains why he does not follow some of the rituals of purification, saying God knows when people honour him "with their lips, but their hearts are far from me." Jesus told the crowd that the things that defile people do not come from the outside world, but from within themselves, from their hearts and "evil thoughts."

Francis said, "this also pertains to us. We often think that evil comes mainly from the outside: from other people's conduct, from those who think badly of us, from society." "How often we blame others, society, the world, for everything that happens to us! It is always the fault of 'others,'" including those who govern, misfortune and so on, he said.

But all that time spent blaming others "is wasting time," he said.

"We become angry, bitter and keep God away from our heart," he said. "One cannot be truly religious in complaining: complaining poisons, it leads you to anger, to resentment and to sadness, that of the heart, which closes the door to God."

The first step on the path of holiness, according to the first fathers of the church, was "to blame yourself," the pope said.

"It is wisdom: learning to blame yourself. Try to do it, it will do you good. It does me good, when I manage to do so, but it is good for us," he said. He prayed that Mary would help people purify their hearts by letting go of "the vice of blaming others and complaining about everything."

After the Angelus, the pope greeted members of the Laudato Si' Movement.

He thanked them "for your commitment to our common home, particularly on the World Day of Prayer for Creation" Sept. 1 and the Season of Creation that runs from Sept. 1 to Oct. 4.

"The cry of the earth and the cry of the poor are becoming ever more serious and alarming, and they call for a decisive and urgent action to transform this crisis into an opportunity," he said.



**Feast day 5 Sep: Saint Teresa of Calcutta** Due to lockdown the Sisters will not be able to invite parishioners to join them to celebrate Mother's feast day. The Sisters request that we continue to pray for their mission in Australia and also for the Sisters especially in Kabul, India and other parts of the world. We as Church continue to keep praying for the Sisters who continue to spread God's love to the poorest of the poor and their wonderful work in the public schools especially at our local Bourke Street Public School.

Selected from **The Novena to Saint Teresa of Calcutta - the First Day - Know the Living Jesus**

"Do you really know the living Jesus – not from books but from being with Him in your heart?"

"Am I convinced of Christ's love for me and mine for Him? This conviction is the rock on which sanctity is built. What must we do to get this conviction? We must know Jesus, love Jesus, serve Jesus. Knowledge will make you strong as death. We know Jesus through faith: by meditating on His Word in the Scriptures, by listening to Him speak through His Church, and through the intimate union of prayer."

"Seek Him in the tabernacle. Fix your eyes on Him who is the Light. Bring your hearts close to His Divine Heart and as Him to grant you the grace of knowing Him."

"Seek Him in the tabernacle. Fix your eyes on Him who is the Light. Bring your hearts close to His Divine Heart and as Him to grant you the grace of knowing Him."

**Thought for the day:** "Don't search for Jesus in far lands; He is not there. He is close to you; He is in you."

Ask for the grace of an intimate knowledge of Jesus.

## **[Prayer to Saint Teresa of Calcutta](#)**

Saint Teresa of Calcutta, you allowed the thirsting love of Jesus on the Cross to become a living flame within you, and so became the light of His love to all. Obtain from the Heart of Jesus ([here make your request](#)). Teach me to allow Jesus to penetrate and possess my whole being so completely that my life, too, may radiate His Light and love to other. Amen.

***Immaculate heart of Mary,  
Cause of Our Joy,*** pray for me.

***Saint Teresa of Calcutta,*** pray for me.

## **Pope Francis encourages participation in 2021 Season of Creation**

Pope Francis urges the participation of the faithful as the 2021 Season of Creation kicks off. The Season runs from 1 September - 4 October. As part of initiatives for the celebrations, the Laudato Si' Movement invites Christians to sign and promote the "Healthy Planet, Healthy People" Petition, which will be presented to world leaders at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), scheduled to take place in Glasgow, Scotland in November.

By Vatican News staff writer

The ecumenical celebration of the [2021 Season of Creation](#)—themed "A home for all? Renewing the Oikos of God"—runs from 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, through 4 October, the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology.

During this annual celebration of prayer and action for our common home, Christians across the globe will come together for a time of restoration and hope, and to discover radically new ways of living with creation.

Pope Francis invites participation

Pope Francis has called on Catholics to take action for our common home during the Season of Creation. In the Pope Video for the month of September, he encourages everyone to question the way we live, and to turn "towards lifestyles that are simpler and more respectful of the environment."

The Holy Father has also stressed that the “cry of the earth and the cry of the poor are becoming increasingly serious and alarming,” urging Catholics to take “decisive, urgent action to transform this crisis into an opportunity.”

Furthermore, at the weekly General Audience on Wednesday, he recalled the celebration of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and the beginning of the Season of Creation. He noted that a message for the occasion - to be released in coming days - had been prepared together with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury.

“Together with our brothers and sisters of different Christian denominations, let us pray and work for our common home in these times of grave planetary crisis,” the Pope said.

The 2021 Season of Creation comes just a few weeks before the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), scheduled to take place from November 1-12 in Glasgow, Scotland. It also comes on the heels of a dismal, recently-released UN climate report which makes it clear that we are running out of time to avert the worst effects of the ecological crisis and the climate emergency.

#### Participating in the Season of Creation

A statement from the Laudato Si’ Movement further invites participation in the “annual celebration of prayer and action for our common home,” pointing out that Christians make up more than 25 percent of the world’s population, and “they truly have the potential to change their communities and the world for good during the next five weeks.”

The 2021 Season of Creation will be officially launched with a global ecumenical prayer service on Wednesday, broadcast live on the Season of Creation’s social media channels. The prayer service will feature prayers from the tradition of Native American Christians, inviting attendees to more fully explore the theme of this year’s celebrations.

The faithful are also encouraged to make use of the [Season of Creation Celebration Guide](#) “to show the global Christian family how they are taking action by registering their events at the Season of creation website.”


## Healthy Planet, Healthy people Petition

In addition to individual and communal efforts during the Season of Creation, the Laudato Si' Movement is inviting Christians to advocate for the least among us by signing the "[Healthy planet, Healthy People](#)" petition ahead of the COP 26 meeting, in order to tell "world leaders how they should care for God's creation."

In this regard, Monsignor Bruno-Marie Duffé, the former Secretary for the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, invited Catholics to promote the petition, noting that "this Season of Creation will also be a critical moment for Catholics to lift up the voices of the most vulnerable and advocate on their behalf."

Further resources to help Catholics gather signatures and host petition-signing events, both online and in-person are available on the Season of Creation website.

## [A Prayer for and with Frédéric Ozanam \(Feast day 9 Sep\)](#) - by [Aidan R. Rooney, C.M.](#)



Living the Gospel message  
by serving Christ in the poor  
with love, respect, justice and joy.

Lord,

You made [Blessed Frédéric Ozanam](#) a witness of the Gospel, full of wonder at the mystery of the Church.

You inspired him to alleviate poverty and injustice and endowed him with untiring generosity in the service of all who were suffering.

In family life, he revealed a most genuine love as a son, brother, husband and father.

In secular life, his ardent passion for the truth enlightened his thought, writing and teaching.

His vision for our society was a network of charity encircling the world and he instilled St Vincent de Paul's spirit of love, boldness and humility.

His prophetic social vision appears in every aspect of his short life, together with the radiance of his virtues.

We thank you Lord, for those many gifts and we ask, if it is your will, the grace of a miracle through the intercession of Blessed Frédéric Ozanam.

May the Church proclaim his holiness, as a saint, a providential light for today's world!

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory Be.

### **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 “Father’s Day” presented by Isaac Spencer Zoom details as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85429524136?pwd=WUhhVlFvZ2pCZzhjMTFwQVJNZC9udz09>

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**

We continue to keep little Dio in our prayers. Little Dio is now at the Children's Hospital and will have a nice Father's Day.

Aimi will be undergoing chemotherapy in 5 weeks' time. Please remember Aimi in your prayers.

Louise had a good start with chemotherapy and is doing well. Louise is grateful for your prayers.

## 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.



**Catholic Weekly Digital Edition: Have a look at this link currently available during lockdown** - <https://weeklycatholicnews.com.au/2021/09/05/>



### **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](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.