



St Peter's Church, Surry Hills

235-241 Devonshire St (between Crown and Marlborough Streets),

Parish phone: (02) 9698 1948

Email: admin@stpeterssh.org.au

Website: www.stpeterssurryhills.org.au



Fr. John Macdonald, Administrator

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

Feast Days – Second Sunday of Advent (Year C)

Mon 6 Dec	Saint Nicholas
Tue 7 Dec	Saint Ambrose
Wed 8 Dec	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thu 9 Dec	Saint Juan Diego
Fri 10 Dec	Our Lady of Loreto
Sat 11 Dec	Saint Damasus I, pope

Christmas Mass times

Friday 24 Dec: 8:00 pm Vigil Mass

Saturday 25 Dec Christmas Day: 10:00 am Mass during the Day

Sunday 26 Dec: Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph: 10:00 am Mass

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 – Ana Teresa Rodrigues, Mafalda Triolo, Aimi McEwen, Louise McCann, Nathan Essey, Marija Barclay, John Yo-un and Dan Southee.

Our deceased – Noel Allport (2/12), Marisa Mandelli (23/11), Robert Armstrong, 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 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 – 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*

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

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

Neocatechumenal Way – Francis Room - Thursday: 7:30pm – 8:30pm

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

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

Marian and Divine Mercy Groups – before mass daily

Cenacle – Church – Tuesday after 10:00am Mass; Thursday 8:30 am

Liturgy Group – Francis Room – 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.

First Communicants

**We pray for Bali Raynor,
Beatrice Kirkman,
Daniel Nguyen,
Jupiter Castro and
Sebastian Ekajaya**

**who will be receiving their
First Holy Communion this
Sunday Dec 5 (Second
Sunday of Advent) at the
9:00 am Mass.**



J M J



REMINDER: First Sunday Christmas BBQ and cold drinks at 12 noon on Marlborough Street side of the parish property as part of our reach out to the Surry Hills community. Come along and be part of this parish community event.

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 'Evangelium' Young Adults. 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.



Catholic Mission: India COVID-19 Appeal

The aid agency, Catholic Mission, has launched an urgent appeal to provide immediate help for vulnerable communities devastated by COVID-19 in India. Well over 300,000 people have died from the illness in India and hospitals have been struggling to cope. Through donating to Catholic Mission, you will be playing a key role in supporting the valuable work of mission hospitals in the country. Donate online via the Catholic Mission website [here](https://cm.org.au/India-Mission)

Please help The Franciscan Sisters of Joseph today

The impact of COVID on our brothers and sisters in India has been overwhelming. St Thomas Hospital Chennai desperately needs your help to provide essential medical assistance and beds for patients. Your generosity will enable the Sisters to access additional beds, masks, oxygen, ventilators, medications and more.



Make your tax deductible donation now
cm.org.au/India-Mission

Become a Catechist or Helper in 2022

Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public primary and high schools. Share the hope and joy that Jesus brings with them and become a catechist or helper, ready to start in Term 1, 2022.

Starting off as a helper, you'll receive easy step-by-step lessons and hand out activity books in primary schools.

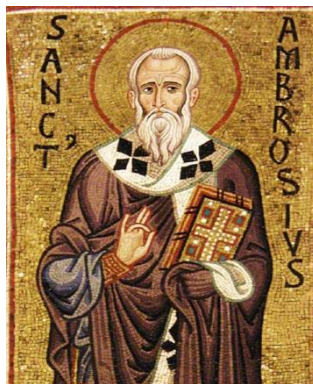
Find out more about the work catechists do here, whether at primary or secondary level: <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/>

Talk with Fr John as Parish Priest or Catechist Co-ordinator, Sr Hannahri.

Saint Ambrose: Feast Day 7 Dec

O Lord, who hast mercy upon all,
Take away from me my sins,
And mercifully kindle in me
The fire of the Holy Spirit.
Take away from me the heart of stone,
And give me a heart of flesh,
A heart to love and adore Thee,
A heart to delight in Thee,
To follow and enjoy Thee,
For Christ's sake, Amen.

Saint Ambrose of Milan (AD 339 – 397)



Why Do We Celebrate the Immaculate Conception?



Feast day – 8 December

In honour of the Basilica's patronal feast day, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, we asked Monsignor Rossi, Rector of the Basilica, to explain why this day is so important for the Catholic Church. Read his responses from our Q & A below!

["The Immaculate Conception" mosaic](#) at the Basilica, made of 250,000 individual pieces of natural stone

What is the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception and why is it significant for the Catholic faith?

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, defined by Pope Pius IX on December 8, 1854, states that "The Most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first instant of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace granted by God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the human race, preserved exempt from all stain of original sin"

(*Ineffabilis Deus*).

For us as members of the Catholic faith, the Immaculate Conception is not just significant, it is essential. Because of the grace of God, Mary was preserved from sin. Because Mary was preserved from sin, she was prepared to become the sinless Mother of Jesus, who by his life, death and resurrection, has ransomed us from sin. Because of Mary's Immaculate Conception, because of her "yes" to God, we have been redeemed, and given the promise of eternal life through the merits of Mary's Son, Jesus.

Why do we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception?

Since the beginning of the Church, the Blessed Virgin Mary has been regarded as the holiest and the most blessed of all disciples. The celebration of the Immaculate Conception began in

the 7th century under the title, "Conception of Mary by Saint Anne" and was changed to "Immaculate Conception" with the definition of the doctrine in 1854.

We can say that the Immaculate Conception was the beginning of our salvation and is now one of the central doctrines of our faith. Because of this, we celebrate the Feast Day to highlight the significant place Our Lady has in salvation history. This Feast is so essential that the Church has raised it to the rank of a Holy Day of Obligation.

How is the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception meaningful in the lives of Catholics today?

Mary Immaculate portrayed in the [Trinity Dome](#)
The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception places Our Lady before the faithful as an example of what God can do and what we can do, if like Mary, we put ourselves in God's hands and at God's service, always open to what God asks and always seeking to fulfil God's will.



The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception also encourages us to do our best to remain free from sin. Although we are all born with original sin and through the grace of Baptism are freed from sin, in the course of our life, because of human weakness, we fail and commit sin. The Immaculate Conception reminds us that if we cooperate with God's grace, as did the Blessed Virgin Mary, we can lead a life as free from sin as is humanly possible. The Immaculate Conception portrayed in stained glass opposite the Mother of Divine Providence statue located on the lower level of the Basilica.

Why is the Basilica dedicated to Mary under her title the Immaculate Conception?

Back in 1846, at the Sixth Provincial Council of Baltimore, the bishops of the United States petitioned Pope Pius IX to name Our Lady, under the title of the Immaculate Conception, patroness of the United States. When this request was granted in 1847, the bishops wanted to establish a "patronal church" in our nation's capital in honour of the Blessed Mother. More than 60 years later, Monsignor Thomas Shahan, then rector of The Catholic University of America, presented a plan to Pope Pius X to establish a national church in honour of the Blessed Mother in Washington. Pope Pius X not only gave his blessing, but gave a personal contribution to begin the construction of what we today know as Mary's Shrine.

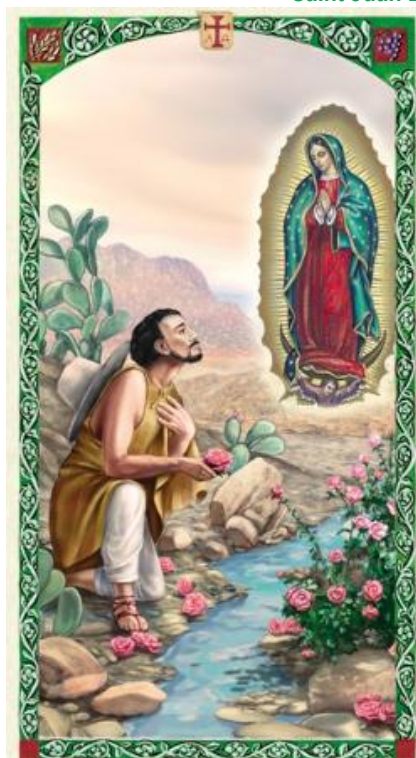
The year 2020 celebrated two centennial anniversaries for this National Shrine. May 16 of this year marked the 100th anniversary of the blessing of the land on which the Shrine was built, and on September 23 we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the placing of the Shrine Foundation Stone. Because of COVID-19, all of our commemorations were dramatically scaled down. I pray that 2021 brings a resurgence of life and that we will be able to close out our Jubilee Year in a more celebratory manner!

- 4 Dec 2020

- The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

During Mass at Saint Mary's Cathedral this Wednesday evening for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Fr Danny Meagher will be ordained bishop. Fr Danny has contacted the parish to extend his invitation to all our parishioners to his episcopal ordination. Fr Danny said that he has fond memories of the six months he spent living in Saint Peter's Parish The Mass, with Archbishop Fisher presiding, will begin at 7:00 pm on Wed 8 Dec.

Saint Juan Diego: Feast day 9 Dec



Prayer to St. Juan Diego

Dear St. Juan Diego, at Tepeyac Our Lady told you, "I am your mother. Are you not under my protection? Why do you fear, if you are in my mantle, and in my arms?" In your humility, you were 'altogether necessary' in God's plan. Confidently you faced a skeptical Bishop Zumarraga, presenting him with roses which miraculously grew on the hillside. Wondrously, the image of the Virgin appeared on your tilma! Because of your faithfulness, the Gospel of Our Lord spread through Mary's image, and many people came to believe in Him. Your devotion lives on in the people of Mexico, the Americas, and the whole world. O St. Juan Diego, please pray for me (mention your request). May Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the true God, bring all peoples to Jesus, Her Son. Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.



HC9-300E



7 45720 97261 8



PRINTED IN ITALY

Our Lady of Loreto: (Feast day of Our Lady of Loreto 10 Dec)

In the Catholic Church there are thousands of prayers contained in her rich treasury of spiritual writings. Among them, the Litany of Loreto is one of the most popular and well-known prayers. It is a beautiful prayer, one that has a rich history.

While some spiritual writers claim that it can be traced back to St. Gregory the Great or even to the Apostles, most historians believe that the Litany of Loreto was composed in the late 15th to early 16th century.

According to the [Catholic Encyclopedia](#), “The most ancient printed copy hitherto discovered is that of Dillingen in Germany, dating from 1558; it is fairly certain that this is a copy of an earlier Italian one, but so far, in spite of much careful research, the oldest Italian copy that the writer has been able to discover dates from 1576.”



It is believed that the litany was initially adopted by the miraculous shrine in Loreto, Italy, where tradition claims the original house of the Virgin Mary was transported. The shrine was immensely popular in the 15th and 16th century, attracting pilgrims from all over Europe. As a result, many of these pilgrims took the litany they heard with them and it became very popular in their hometown churches.

Shortly after the litany was composed it was in danger of being forgotten forever, as the pope at the time did not especially like it. However, the priests of the shrine preserved it and it was sung every Saturday in Loreto. By the 17th century the litany became popular in the city of Rome and was sung frequently at the Basilica of St. Mary Major. Ever since, it has remained one of the most popular litanies of the Church.



The Parish would like to thank “Quique” Segura for the preparation and installation of the Litany of Loreto within our Parish Shrine of Mary Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia.

Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Litany of Loreto)

(revised by Pope Francis 20 June 2020)

V. Lord, have mercy on us.

R. Christ have mercy on us.

V. Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, hear us.

R. Christ graciously hear us.

V. God, the Father of heaven,

R. *Have mercy on us.*

V. God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

R. *Have mercy on us.*

V. God the Holy Spirit,

R. *Have mercy on us.*

V. Holy Trinity, one God,

R. *Have mercy on us.*

V. Holy Mary,

R. *Pray for us. (Repeat after each invocation)*

Holy Mother of God,

Holy Virgin of virgins,

Mother of Christ,

Mother of the Church,

Mother of Mercy,

Mother of Divine Grace,

Mother of Hope,

Mother most pure,

Mother most chaste,

Mother inviolate,

Mother undefiled,

Mother most amiable,

Mother most admirable,

Mother of good counsel,

Mother of our Creator,

Mother of our Saviour,

Virgin most prudent,

Virgin most venerable,

Virgin most renowned,

Virgin most powerful,

Virgin most merciful,

Virgin most faithful,

Mirror of justice,

Seat of wisdom,

Cause of our joy,
Spiritual vessel,
Vessel of honour,
Singular vessel of devotion,
Mystical rose,
Tower of David,
Tower of ivory,
House of gold,
Ark of the covenant,
Gate of heaven,
Morning star,
Health of the sick,
Refuge of sinners,
Solace of migrants,
Comforter of the afflicted,
Help of Christians,
Queen of Angels,
Queen of Patriarchs,
Queen of Prophets,
Queen of Apostles,
Queen of Martyrs,
Queen of Confessors,
Queen of Virgins,
Queen of all Saints,
Queen conceived without original sin,
Queen assumed into heaven,
Queen of the most holy Rosary,
Queen of families,
Queen of Peace.

V. Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world.

R. Spare us, O Lord.

V. Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world.

R. Graciously hear us O Lord.

V. Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world.

R. Have mercy on us.

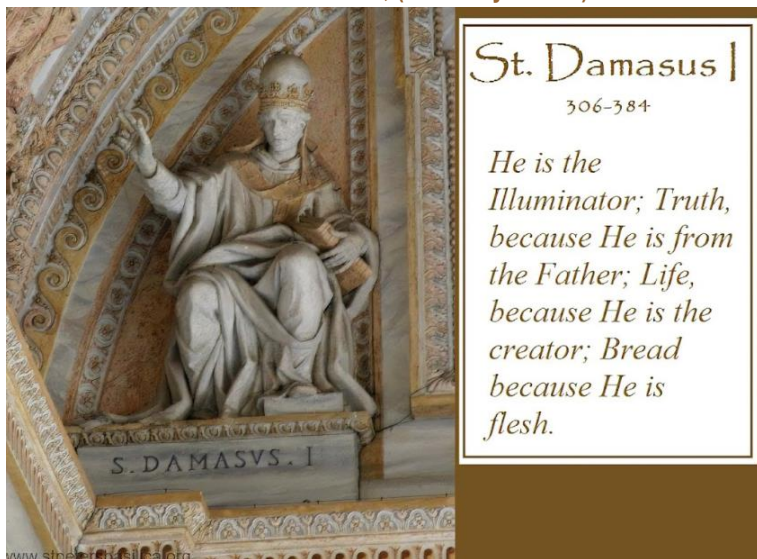
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. Grant we beseech you, O Lord, that we, your servants may enjoy perpetual health of mind and body, and by the glorious intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, be delivered from present sorrows and enjoy eternal gladness, through Christ Our Lord. **Amen**

Parishioners and visitors are encouraged to pray the Litany of Loreto when they visit our parish shrine of Mary Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia.

Saint Damasus I; (Feast day 11 Dec)



Inter alia, Pope Damasus commissioned Saint Jerome with the great task of translating the Bible from Greek to Latin.



ARTES CHRISTI 13th Annual
Carols [CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY](#)

The full details for this event are:

CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY (Sydney)

Date: Sunday 19 December (5.30pm)

Venue: St Peter's Catholic Church, Surry Hills

Address: 235 Devonshire St, Surry Hills

ENTRY: \$20 or by Donation ~ but due to COVID, seats are a STRICTLY LIMITED so

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL [Here](#)