



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



Most Reverend Danny J Meagher: Bishop in Residence, Episcopal Vicar for the Northern Region

Fr. John A Macdonald: Administrator

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

Sunday Masses: 9:00am and 10:30am

Daily Mass: Mon: 7:30am; **Tue - Sat:** 10:00am;

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Tues – Thurs: 5:00pm – 6:00pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction: Fri: 5:00pm – 6:00pm

Confessions: Fri: 5:00pm – 5:45pm; **Sat:** 9:30am - 10:00am

Holy Rosary: Daily before Mass

Feast Days for the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Mon 31 Jul	Saint Ignatius of Loyola, priest
Tue 1 Aug	Saint Alphonsus Liguori, bishop, doctor
Wed 2 Aug	Saint Peter Julian Eymard, priest
Thu 3 Aug	Saint Dominic, priest
Fri 4 Aug	Saint John Vianney, priest

We Pray For:

Our sick and injured: John O'Brien, Greg Mason, Maximiliano Carias Suriano, (Jacqui's father), Roy Child, Roslyn Furber, Nerisa Williams, Sophie Marden, Grace Moon, Anna Seow, Ricardo Francisco, Gerry Cassar, Makram Nammour, Ana Teresa Rodrigues, Mafalda Triolo.

Our deceased: Pat McGannon, Helen McGannon, Geoff Stevens, Philomena Smith, John Rogers, Martin Bonke, Frederick, Edward & Margaret M Hailwood & Margaret D Hailwood.

Our Recently Deceased: Alan Dixon ((25/7) Brendan's father), Luxy Godfrey (11/7), Christopher Heffernan (14/7), Rose Ly-Schmitz (28/6)

Our house bound elderly: Bernadette Hailwood, Robert Pearce, Joyce Regoski, June Holt, Shirley Kennedy, Anna Maria, Patricia Wells.

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.

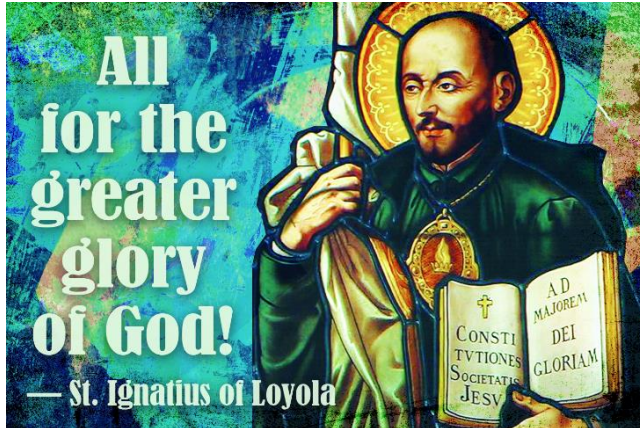
*Pope Francis
Catechesis on the Mass 2018*

Ignatius of Loyola: A Saint for Difficult Times, NCR, Jessica Pipes, 31 Jul 2020 (Feast day 31 Jul)

A famous sickbed conversion was only the beginning of his story of patience, perseverance and trust.

When Ignatius of Loyola found himself bedridden with a shattered leg, all of his big dreams and plans were history. Arrogant, stubborn and hot-tempered, Ignatius was a soldier to his core, and he excelled on the battlefield.

Until now, his life as a soldier of Spain had stretched before him: simple, straightforward and glorious. But this time, a flying cannonball had torn one of his legs to shreds. His glorious military career was over. Ignatius was at a dead end.



This was only the first of many dead ends, but they were ultimately part and parcel of the making of the saint. Sometimes it's all too easy to imagine that the saints' paths to holiness were uncomplicated, that whatever they may have suffered from sickness or the temptations of Satan, they at least knew clearly what God's will was for them. But for nearly 20

years after his conversion, Ignatius had very little idea what he was doing. He dealt with failure, disappointment, sickness and severe spiritual darkness. His journey gives us a battle plan for navigating our own dead ends.

A sudden end can be a new beginning. Many know the basic story of Ignatius' famous sickbed conversion: Bored and restless, he asked for novels of romance and chivalry, but he was given the *Lives of Christ and the Saints*. That soldierly fervour that had previously fed on knights errant and battles glorious found new energy in the selfless zeal of the saints. Ignatius unconditionally offered his life to Christ. What had initially seemed like the end of all his dreams suddenly became the door to a totally new life.

"Though I walk through the valley of death, I will fear no evil." Inspired by the fervour of the saints, Ignatius immediately began an intense regimen of prayer, sacrifice and poverty. But his prayer was plagued by scruples and depression. Ignatius was so tormented that he was tempted to take his life, according to New Advent/Catholic Encyclopedia. Although overwhelmed by this darkness, Ignatius clung to the knowledge that any tendency to anxiety and despair was not from God. No doubt the knowledge offered little comfort at first, but Ignatius was slowly granted relief. By perseverance in prayer and total trust in the loving goodness of God, he had walked through what must have been the darkest nights of his life and come out the other end.

Great holiness is forged in daily sacrifice. Ignatius never lost his love for prayer and sacrifice, and the insights he gained in contemplation became his famous *Spiritual Exercises*.

The Jesuit order began as a group of university friends whom he gathered together to pray these “Spiritual Exercises.”

Through prayer, sacrifice and patient suffering, Ignatius had formed his own soul in virtue, and through his insights into prayer and sacrifice, he was able to lead many of the brightest young minds in Europe to a life dedicated to the Church.

Our talents are gifts from God; let him show us how to use them. From the beginning, Ignatius had longed to be a missionary. He was a natural leader and a soldier, with all the dynamism, conviction, courage and physical stamina necessary for the difficult missionary life. He dreamed of converting the Turks in the Holy Land. But this plan failed when he was denied entry to Jerusalem by the Franciscans charged with watching over the Christians there, according to Warren Carroll’s *The Cleaving of Christendom*.

Disappointed, Ignatius went back to Spain to preach and teach in his native land, but he was arrested by the Inquisition, which feared that an uneducated teacher might inadvertently spread heresy.

Yet his missionary fire was not quenched. And the Church desperately needed missionaries — just not in the way that Ignatius had imagined. Europe was reeling in the chaos of the Protestant Reformation. The people needed clear teaching and ardent examples of holiness to bring them back to the Church.

Ignatius had no education. He was hardly the man to found an order of teachers, and he certainly had no grand dreams of confronting the problems of Christendom. But he saw at least that if he was to be an effective missionary in the current culture, he must be well educated, and he certainly had the zeal and stubbornness necessary to take on the daunting task. So for the next 11 years he went to school, beginning in grammar school with schoolboys and proceeding to the study of philosophy and theology in Spain and France’s best universities.

It was during his years in university that the “Society of Jesus” was formed. These men were attracted to Ignatius’ zeal and holiness, and they came to him for advice and encouragement. He gathered them together, and soon a brotherhood was born. The friends were ordained priests and offered themselves in humble service to the Pope.

The Jesuits were sent on missions to teach and preach throughout Europe and in the new missionary lands in the Far East. Ignatius, however, was left alone in Rome to manage the business of the order. But he had always had a talent for leadership, and he instructed, encouraged and organized from afar.

Within a few years, the Jesuits were in demand everywhere. Ignatius had wanted to be a missionary in foreign lands, but he allowed the Lord to lead him back to his native Spain, to the arduous task of education, and to ultimately use his talents of conviction and charisma to become one of the leaders of the Catholic Reformation in Europe.

A patron saint for difficult times. St. Ignatius is a great patron for people facing difficult times. Whether making hard choices, recovering from unexpected events, going through physical sickness or spiritual darkness, Ignatius of Loyola faced a similar situation.

During the period of his life when he should have been settling into a steady career, earning money and honour, and preparing for comfortable retirement, Ignatius was reassessing his entire worldview. Not only did he do an about-face when he converted from soldier of Spain to soldier of Christ, but he then confronted many tribulations of sickness, persecution, doubt and failure. Ignatius gave his life totally to Christ, but this did not mean his vocation was clear.

In the end, it was through prayer, sacrifice and study that Ignatius became the saintly founder of the Jesuit order. Without any expectation of greatness, Ignatius dedicated himself to doing for the Lord what he did best. He formed his own soul in virtue, and with his inborn passion and flair for leadership, he began gathering and leading his friends in the same life of holiness. Almost by accident (and yet of course, by no accident at all), the group found themselves with a mission to serve the Church at a time when the Church desperately needed them.

Little did Ignatius know on that long-ago day when his leg was shot out from beneath him that, in the same year, the Church's four-year attempt to reconcile with Martin Luther had come to a climax. Unable to persuade Luther to recant his heresy, the Church had formally excommunicated him. The spiritual battle for Europe had begun.

At this moment in history, God needed a missionary and reformer with the courage, zeal and practical experience to confront the confusion and chaos of Europe and bring the faith into newly discovered lands. He chose Ignatius of Loyola.

Saint Alphonsus Ligouri, CNA (Feast day 1 Aug)

St. Alphonsus Liguori is a doctor of the Church who is widely known for his contribution to moral theology and his great kindness.

He was born in 1696 in Naples to a well-respected family, and was the oldest of 7 children. His father was Don Joseph de' Liguori, a naval officer and Captain of the Royal Galleys, and his mother came from Spanish descent. He was very intelligent, even as a young boy. As a boy of great aptitude, he picked up many things very quickly. St. Alphonsus did not attend school;



If we would give full satisfaction to the heart of God, we must bring our own will in everything into conformity with His.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

DailySaintsWisdom.com

rather, he was taught by tutors at home where his father kept a watchful eye. Moreover, he practiced the harpsichord for 3 hours a day at the heed of his father and soon became a virtuoso at the age of 13. For recreation, he was an equestrian, fencer, and card player. As grew into a young man, he developed

an inclination for opera. He was much more interested in listening to the music than watching the performance. St. Alphonsus would often take his spectacles off, which aided his myopic eyes, in order to merely listen. While theatre in Naples was in a relatively good state, the young saint developed an ascetic aversion to perhaps what he viewed as gaudy displays. He had strongly refused participation in a parlour play.

At the age of 16, he became a doctor of civil law on January 21, 1713, though by law, 20 was the set age. After studying for the bar, he practiced law at the age of 19 in the courts. It is said in his 8 years as a lawyer, he never lost a case. Although, he resigned from a brilliant career as a lawyer in 1723 when he lost a case because he overlooked a small, but important, piece of evidence.

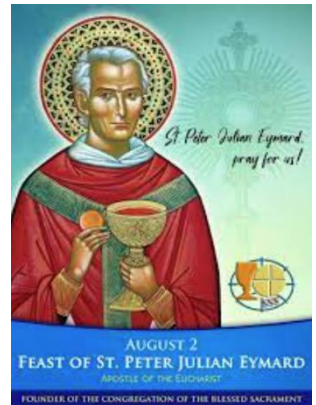
His resignation, however, proved profitable for the Church. He entered the seminary and was ordained three years later in 1726. He soon became a sought-after preacher and confessor in Naples. His so sermons were simple and well organized that they appealed to all people, both learned and unlearned. However, his time as a diocesan priest was short-lived: in 1732, he went to Scala and founded the Redemptorists, a preaching order.

He was a great moral theologian and his famous book, "Moral Theology", was published in 1748. Thirty years later, he was appointed bishop, and he retired in 1775. He died just over 10 years later in 1787, and was canonized in 1839.

Saint Peter Julian Eymard, (Feast day 2 Aug)

"The Eucharist is the life of the people. The Eucharist gives them a centre of life. All can come together without the barriers of race or language in order to celebrate the feast days of the Church. It gives them a law of life, that of charity, of which it is the source; thus it forges between them a common bond, a Christian kinship"

-- Peter Julian Eymard



St. Dominic and his order's legacy of holiness, America, (Feast day 3 Aug)

*This article originally appeared in the December 2, 1916 issue of **America** to commemorate the Order of Preachers' 700th Anniversary on December 22, 1916.*

To have had a saint for a mother, not merely a saintly mother, but one actually raised to the altars, to have one's own brother beatified, and to have enjoyed the friendship of men like Simon de Montfort and Francis of Assisi was a distinction, not altogether unusual in the early centuries of Christianity, but extremely rare in the Middle Ages, ages of faith though they were. Yet this was the distinction given to Dominic Guzmán. All that was necessary to complete the story was that he should be canonized himself, and leave behind him a posterity of saints. Both of these privileges were accorded the founder of the Order of Preachers. Children in the flesh he had not, for he consecrated his virginity to God; but children in the Lord were his in legion; the day would fail the tongue that would attempt to tell their names, for they literally crowd seven centuries of the Church's calendar. Not the least of them is our first American saint, the gentle Rose of Lima.

It was a high mission that Honorius III intrusted to the little band of men, solemnly approved as a Religious Order on December 22, 1216. They were to be, in the words of the Pope, "champions of the Faith and lights of the world." During the seven centuries that have come and gone since he defined their work, they have manfully stood to their task. Dauntless, uncompromising defenders of orthodoxy, ever battling for the truth, they have been Crusaders in the best sense of the term. They have dealt valiantly with heresy, and had a lion's share in preserving the integrity of the Faith. Some idea of their devotedness to the Holy See may be gained from the fact that three thousand members of the Order have been

bishops. Of these ninety were cardinals; twenty-five, legates a latere; ninety, apostolic representatives in the courts of kings and princes; while four were popes. Such was the gift of St. Dominic to the Church, or rather a small portion of his gift, for greater than all these are the unnumbered saints and scholars who have lived and toiled and suffered and died for Christ, and have wished their names to be forgotten and unknown. They were also to be "lights of the world," keeping alive the spark of revealed doctrine and kindling the fire of charity.

The white scapular, which is the distinctive mark of St. Dominic's sons and daughters, not only symbolizes the purity of their ideals, the innocence of their lives and the favour of the Queen of Heaven, it also typifies the white light of truth, which they have contributed so much to keep unclouded and undimmed for so many hundreds of years. The crystallization of the highest ideals of Christian art in the work of Fra Angelico has its counterpart in the permanency of form given to theological thought by the surpassing genius of the Angel of the Schools. And who that has read at all has not wondered at the mysticism of St. Catherine of Siena, counsellor of popes, the zeal of Las Casas, defender of the Indians, the labours of St. Louis Bertrand, evangelist of New Granada, St. Raymond of Peñafort was one of the most eminent of jurists, St. Antoninus one of the founders of sociology, Lacordaire one of the most eloquent of preachers and publicists. In our own land Edward Fenwick, first Bishop of Cincinnati, and Luke Concannon, first Bishop of New York, were among the most apostolic pioneers of our American episcopate. But these men and women, though more distinguished than their brethren, were, after all, only types of the great body of Dominicans. With the month of December the white-robed army of St. Dominic will enter on the eighth century of its loyal service of the Church. Throughout the month, and especially in the days immediately preceding Christmas, days that mark the anniversary of the solemn approval of the Order, Catholics the world over will be offering felicitations on the happy completion of another cycle of fruitful labour. **America**, speaking for the sons of St.



Ignatius and for its editors and its readers, desires to add its voice to the general chorus of congratulation and to express its confident hope and its sincere good wishes for the fulfillment of St. Teresa's prediction, that the Dominicans, because they have been found good and faithful servants, will be set over still greater things until the end of time.

Saint John Vianney, Franciscan Media, (Feast day 4 Aug)

A man with vision overcomes obstacles and performs deeds that seem impossible. John Vianney was a man with vision: He wanted to become a priest. But he had to overcome his meager formal schooling, which inadequately prepared him for seminary studies.

His failure to comprehend Latin lectures forced him to discontinue. But his vision of being a priest urged him to seek private tutoring. After a lengthy battle with the books, John was ordained.

Situations calling for “impossible” deeds followed him everywhere. As pastor of the parish at Ars, John encountered people who were indifferent and quite comfortable with their style of living. His vision led him through severe fasts and short nights of sleep.

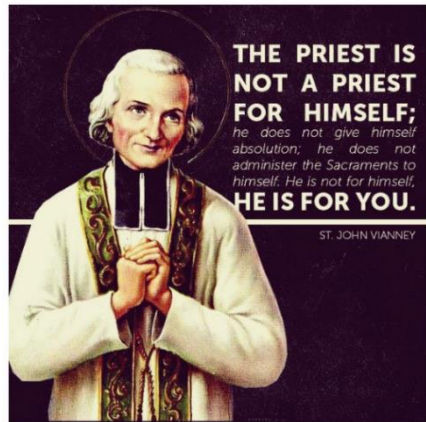
With Catherine Lassagne and Benedicta Lardet, he established La Providence, a home for girls. Only a man of vision could have such trust that God would provide for

the spiritual and material needs of all those who came to make La Providence their home. His work as a confessor is John Vianney’s most remarkable accomplishment. In the winter months he was to spend 11 to 12 hours daily reconciling people with God. In the summer months this time was increased to 16 hours. Unless a man was dedicated to his vision of a priestly vocation, he could not have endured this giving of self day after day.

Many people look forward to retirement and taking it easy, doing the things they always wanted to do but never had the time. But John Vianney had no thoughts of retirement. As his fame spread, more hours were consumed in serving God’s people. Even the few hours he would allow himself for sleep were disturbed frequently by the devil.

Who, but a man with vision, could keep going with ever-increasing strength? In 1929, Pope Pius XI named him the patron of parish priests worldwide.

Reflection: Indifference toward religion, coupled with a love for material comfort, seem to be common signs of our times. A person from another planet observing us would not likely judge us to be pilgrim people, on our way to somewhere else. John Vianney on the other hand, was a man on a journey, with his goal before him at all times.



Second CWF August 2023 Appeal for the year, this will run on **5th and 6th Aug weekend**. Your kind donation will go towards keeping the many ministries alive in helping those in need.



Donate to the Charitable Works Fund August 2023 Appeal
5th & 6th August 2023 is our parish appeal.

Help keep alive vital ministries of the Church in service to those who need it most. In hospitals, churches, schools, communities and families, your donation is making our world a loving, caring and compassionate place.

Give generously. Your tax-deductible gift changes lives. Thank you!

Donate at www.ourfaithourworks/give-to-cwf
Or complete the parish envelope.



Overshadowed: Filled with the Power of the Holy Spirit, 18-20 August 2023

Join the MGL Sisters in a weekend retreat exploring what happens we say yes to the Holy Spirit.

Experience the life-changing power of deepening in God's love, surrendering to Jesus and living under the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Venue: Carmel House, 345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW

Booking: <http://www.trybooking.com/CFBQX> (by 11 August)

Contact: Katherine - mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com

Meditation Day at St Benedict's Monastery, 20th August 2023

Invitation to St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia, on Sunday - 20th August, for our Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day.

Timetable:

Arrival from 10 am to register for a 10:30 am start, presentations, introduction to meditation, periods of meditation, Mass, information exchange, and conclusion around 3 pm.

Book display and morning tea provided, BYO picnic lunch.

Masks are optional, recommend social distancing and vaccination for one's own personal protection.

Enquiries: Ann Lomas, atlomas@bigpond.com / 9653 2637

For possible accommodation in the Monastery Guest House please get in touch with Fr Michael Kelly:

mkelly@silvestrini.org / 0455 329 607

Oremus: Online Prayer Series

Strengthen your faith in Christ, your prayer life, and your confidence to pray with others. Join us online for this 3-week series on the Foundations of Prayer:

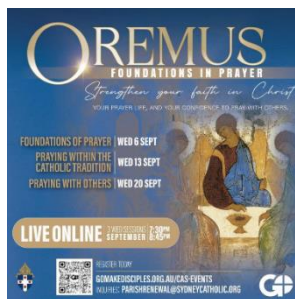
When: Wednesdays 6, 13 and 20 September 2023

Time: 7:30 – 8:45 pm. **Cost:** Free

Optional in-person retreat to follow on Saturday, 28 October, at St Martha's Leichhardt, 10 am – 4 pm, \$28.50 (+booking fees).

Register for either or both opportunities at

www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events. All welcome.



Sunday 10:30am Mass Readers' Roster

Sun 30 July	John O'Brien and Patrizia O'Brien
Sun 6 Aug	James and Geneviève McCaughan
Sun 13 Aug	Isabella and Annaloussie

(If there is a fifth Sunday of the month, readers will be arranged ad hoc for that day.)

NB: if you are unable to read on your rostered Sunday, and you have been unable to find a replacement, please contact the parish office. Other parishioners are welcome to contact the office if they wish to read at either of the Sunday Masses.

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney: Parish Safeguarding volunteer Online Induction Training, working With Children Check & Code of Conduct



The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office of the Archdiocese of Sydney advises that any person performing any role in the life of the Parish (e.g., readers, servers, collectors, welcomers) is required to comply with Safeguarding Volunteer Online training as per the details below: Registration to complete the Online Safeguarding Induction Training via this

link <https://forms.gle/9ebT3voEAfP7P8R9> or you can register to attend a Zoom Safeguarding Induction Training session by emailing safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org for further information and dates.