

wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, ‘Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, “We have Abraham for our father,” because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.’

Communion Antiphon **Baruch 5:5; 4:36**
Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

More Adam & Eve

The story of Adam and Eve was being carefully explained in the primary Vacation Bible School class. Following the story, the children were asked to draw a picture to illustrate some part of the story. Little Emily was most interested and drew a picture of a car with three people in it. In the front seat behind the wheel was a rather large man and in the back seat, a man and a woman. The teacher was at a loss to understand how this illustrated the lesson. But little Emily was prompt with her explanation. “Why, this is God driving Adam and Eve out of the garden.”

World’s Greatest Collection of Church Jokes, compiled by Paul Miller



Prayer for Sainthood of Eileen O’Connor
Great and Merciful God,
through the maternal love of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
you inspired your servant Eileen O’Connor,
to care for the sick and dying poor and to serve your Church
through spiritual and corporal works of mercy.
Listen graciously to our prayers
and grant that Eileen may be raised to the glory of your altar.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



Prayer for the Year of Hope Jubilee 2025
(Year of Jubilee of Hope officially opens on 24 December at 7pm)
Father in Heaven, may the Faith you have given us in Your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of Charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of Your kingdom.
May Your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within, both humanity and the whole cosmos, in the sure expectation of a new Heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, Your glory will shine eternally.
May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of Heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To You our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

Catholic Parish of Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Enmore
Archdiocese of Sydney
Serving the suburbs of Enmore, St Peters, Sydenham & Tempe

Second Sunday of Advent – Year A **7 December 2025**

Entrance Antiphon **Cf Isaiah 30:19,30**
O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

First Reading **Isaiah 11:1-10**
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. v.7**
R/ Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

- 1.O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king’s son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. **R/**
- 2.In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to the earth’s bounds. **R/**
- 3.For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. **R/**
- 4.May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. **R/**

Second Reading **Romans 15:4-9**
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Christ, the hope of all people.
Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from



the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God’s glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

Gospel Acclamation **Luke 3:4. 6**
Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel **Matthew 3:1-12**
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.
In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.’ This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. This man John



Parish Administrator—Reverend Father Christopher Higgins
(available Tuesday to Sunday)
Parish Permanent Deacon – Reverend Mister Alfredo Bouroncle
Parish Secretary—Bernadette Hickey
(Office hours—Tuesday 8-3pm & Thursday 8-5pm)



*Our Parish respectfully acknowledges the Gadigal people of Eora nation
as traditional caretakers of the land.*

Parish Office Address—209A Edgeware Rd, Enmore 2042
Parish Church Address—St Pius V Church, 256 Edgeware Rd, Enmore 2042
Postal Address—PO Box 3266, Marrickville Metro 2204
Telephone: 9557 1815 | Email: admin@enmoreparish.org.au
Parish website: www.enmoreparish.org.au

St Pius V Catholic Primary School, Enmore

209 Edgeware Rd Enmore 2042
Principal: Mrs Caroline Boulis
Telephone: 9557 4027 | Email: info@stpenmore.catholic.edu.au

MASSES AND SACRAMENTS

Masses	Tues 9 Dec – 5pm & Thurs 11 Dec – 9:15am (<i>see notices</i>) Saturday—5:00pm – (6:30pm – Portuguese) Sunday—9:30am – (12:00 noon - Indonesian)
Confessions	Saturday 4:15—4:45pm <i>or</i> by appointment
Adoration & Benediction	Mon 3:00 – 3:50pm, Tues to Fri 8:00 – 9:00am & Sun 9:00—9:25am
Baptisms (2 nd & 4 th Sundays)	By appointment—about 1 month's notice required
Marriages	By appointment—about 6 months' notice required

COLLECTIONS for weekends from 15/16 & 22/23 November 2025

1st collection	2nd collection	Envelopes	Candle offerings
\$767.05	\$741.90	\$262.00	\$146.70
(supports the priest's expenses)	(for running of parish)	(part of 2nd collection)	(part of 2nd collection)

Masses for: Ivan Jilwan, Norma & Mauna Alam, souls of Jilwan & Alam families. Moetoto (50th birthday), Punou (36th birthday), Nikikola (50th birthday), Lasitani (40th birthday), Suzana Jesus, Conceição Santos, Nelson Afonso, Emanuel Cruz, João Manuel.

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: 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 and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. (*Archdiocesan permanent notice*)
Safeguarding Children information can be found in folder at the back of the church.

Lord Jesus, Strengthen and guide us as we strive to make our Catholic communities a safe place for all, especially the children and vulnerable adults you entrust to our care. We also pray for those who have been harmed. We ask this through Christ, our Lord, Amen

We thank Jean, Senya, Truman & Jack, who helped put up the nativity scene & Christmas decorations.

Advent is a time of penance. One of the ways we observe this is by not having flowers in the church. **We thank the Portuguese ladies** for organising the Advent candles.

Side altar votive candle stands at Fatima altar & St Anthony/Mother Teresa altars It was discovered during the week that these stands are made of plastic. One of the them caught fire. They are no longer to be used and will be removed. We will get new ones.

CWF November Appeal Please return your donations by 14 December.

Mass Times	Tuesday 9 December 5pm (Year 6 Graduation – all welcome) Thursday 11 December 9:15am (Healing Mass) Tuesday 16 December 9:15am (School End-of-Year Mass – all welcome) Thursday 18 December 9:15am (Parish Mass – school staff attending)
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Christmas Mass Times	Christmas Eve: 5:15-5:45pm – Confessions 6:00pm - Christmas Vigil Mass Christmas Day: 9:30am - Christmas Day Mass Boxing Day: No Mass
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ACU Centre for Liturgy Newsletter with an interesting article on the importance of the Reader at Mass. *Copy at the back of the church*

Adoremus at St Benedict's, Broadway You are invited to join us for an evening of adoration, formation, vespers, and fellowship. **Every Wednesday from 5:30pm to 7:00pm** at St Benedict's Church, Broadway. Everyone is welcome.

iWitness Conference 2025 – Young Adults (18–35 yrs) The annual iWitness Conference will be held from **11–14 December 2025** in Cobbity, Sydney. Since World Youth Day 2008, iWitness has been helping young adults grow in their Catholic faith, make lasting friendships, and experience the joy of living out their faith together. For more information and registration, visit www.iwitnessaustralia.com or search *iWitness Australia* on Facebook/Instagram.

Caritas Australia: Be a light in the darkness for families facing adversity this Christmas. This Christmas, we are inviting Australians to “be a light in the darkness” for families who are living through the trauma of war, displacement, and poverty. The intensity of the conflict in Ukraine has increased and more people are experiencing displacement and poverty. Our partner, Caritas Ukraine are on the ground working hard to prepare food kits, emergency shelter kits and psychosocial assistance to families facing adversity. Donate today at <https://www.caritas.org.au/christmas-appeal/be-the-light-in-darkness/>

Carols at the Cathedral 2025 It is that time of the year again! Join the Cathedral Choir alongside Sinfonia Australis as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, through music. Featuring a performance by international operatic Tenor, Diego Torre, Carols at the Cathedral is an event you do not want to miss! Date: Tuesday, 16 December 2025 Time: 11:00 AM Matinee / 7:00 PM Evening Performance Venue: St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney To purchase tickets, visit: <https://stmaryscathedral.org.au/carols2025>

Christmas at the Cathedral 2025 Mark your calendars! Christmas at the Cathedral returns next month from 17 to 25 December! Join family and friends at the forecourt of St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, for nine fun-filled nights of market stalls, delicious food, roaming entertainment and live performances. Experience stunning light projections that bring the beloved Christmas song "The Little Drummer Boy" to life, transforming the cathedral into a beautiful spectacle. **DETAILS: Date: 17 - 25 December 2025 Time: 5:30 – 10:30 PM** with lights on at 8:30 PM each night Venue: Forecourt of St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney For more information, visit <https://christmasatthecathedral.org.au>.

Christopher West's Theology of the Body: Head and Heart Immersion Course Deepen your understanding of the human person and God's beautiful plan for life, love, and healing. From **18–23 January 2026**, world-renowned speaker Christopher West will lead the TOB 1: Head and Heart Immersion retreat at the Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, bringing St John Paul II's Theology of the Body to life. This 5-day experience includes daily Mass, Adoration, and 30 hours of engaging teaching. Places are limited. **DETAILS: Date:** Sunday 18 January - Friday 23 January 2026 **Time:** 3 pm Sunday to 1 pm Friday **Venue:** Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Grose Vale, NSW **Who:** Adults only event (18+) For more information and to register, visit <https://tobi.sydneycatholic.org/tob-1-immersion-course/> For enquiries, contact TOBI@sydneycatholic.org.