



Sunday 28 September 2025

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



"The Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man," Workshop of Domenico Fetti, between 1618 and 1628. Oil on panel, National Gallery of Art, Samuel H Kress Collection, Washington USA

This painting powerfully illustrates the dramatic gulf between wealth and poverty depicted in St Luke's gospel for this Sunday. The work portrays the opulent banqueting of the unnamed rich man in stark contrast to the suffering of Lazarus outside his gates, rendered with striking emotional clarity. This visual narrative encapsulates the Gospel's urgent message: the grave moral responsibility to recognise the needs of the poor and marginalised and the dire consequences of indifference. Through its somber palette and direct storytelling, the painting compels believers to self-examination, echoing the Gospel's call to true acts of compassion and justice.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Recently Deceased: Terry Meagher Emiliano Betancourt, Paul Christie, John Prescott, Tony Yeldham, Jose Henrique Dardis, Dorothy Furhagen, Dennis Philips, Paul Gusses, Vitauts Adamsons, Twinning Cruz, Katharine, Duchess of Kent

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Pray for the sick: Emily Brooks, Christopher McSweeney

Mass Intentions: Roy Pease (21/09), Paul Lam Han, Kathleen Kevin, Leslie Patrick Musgrave, Catherine Mary Alexander, Irene (Timmy) Harding, Dennis O'Brien, Xavier Sedger

We especially remember: Molly Dominguez, Matthew Slade-Smith, Giulia Lombardo

Newly married: Kathy Tanevska & Guiliana Pessotto (9 August 2025)

ST CANICE'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

We have made it easier for you to make an offering for the needs of our parish and our priests. **Please scan the QR code (see right) to donate**



LITURGICAL CALENDAR & ANNIVERSARIES

Monday, 29 September 2025 Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels (F) **No Mass Anniversary - Amanda Jane Barwell**

Tuesday, 30 September 2025 St Jerome, Priest & Doctor (M) **Mass 8:00 am**

Wednesday, 1 October 2025 St Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin & Doctor (M) **Mass 8:00 am**

Thursday, 2 October 2025 The Holy Guardian Angels (M) **Mass 8:00 am**

Friday, 3 October 2025 Friday of the 26th Week in Ordinary Time **Mass 8:00 am**

Saturday, 4 October 2025 St Francis of Assisi (M) **Mass 9:00 am**

SUNDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2025 TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASSES: 6:00 PM (SATURDAY VIGIL MASS), SUNDAY 8:30 AM AND 10:00 AM

HYMNS AND MUSIC

Processional: The Church's One Foundation (256)

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord, My Soul!

Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Communion: Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (J S Bach); Jesus My Lord My God My All (132)

Recessional: I Know That My Redeemer Lives (115)

PARISH CLERGY

Fr Dave Braithwaite SJ Parish Priest
pp@stcanice.org.au

Fr Dave Ryan SJ Assistant Parish Priest
dave.ryan@stcanice.org.au

PARISH HUB

Open Tuesday to Thursday 10 am to 3 pm
contactus@stcanice.org.au

+61 2 9358 5229

www.stcanice.org.au

24 Roslyn Street

Rushcutters Bay NSW 2011

NEW TO ST CANICE'S?

Please scan the **QR code (see right)** to stay in touch with the various apostolates, services and events in our parish.

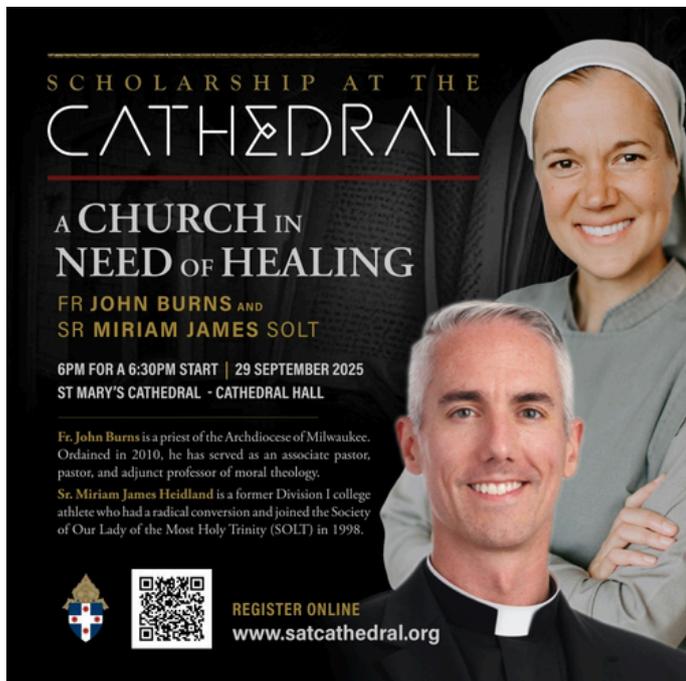
We would love to keep you in the loop.



CURIOUS GRACE KNITTING GROUP - THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER 2025 10:30 AM TO 1:00 PM

The Curious Grace Knitting Group meets in the church hall on the third Thursday of each month. . The group continues to thrive and will next meet in the Church Hall on Thursday, 16 October 2025. All are welcome! You may contribute "Curious Grace Love Rugs" by knitting/crocheting 20 x 20cm squares (10 or 8 ply minimum, acrylic yarn) at home or join us for chat, cuppa and cake as we work together. Each rug needs 35 squares, so coordinating colours and patterns with friends is encouraged. All rugs raised go to support Curious Grace and St Canice's Kitchen. New members are always welcome, whether experienced or just learning. If you knit or crochet, please consider joining us and helping with our Rugs with Love project. **For more details, please contact Jen: +61 429 966 492**

SCHOLARSHIP AT THE CATHEDRAL



SCHOLARSHIP AT THE CATHEDRAL

A CHURCH IN NEED OF HEALING

FR JOHN BURNS AND SR MIRIAM JAMES SOLT

6PM FOR A 6:30PM START | 29 SEPTEMBER 2025
ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL - CATHEDRAL HALL

Fr. John Burns is a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Ordained in 2010, he has served as an associate pastor, pastor, and adjunct professor of moral theology.

Sr. Miriam James Heidland is a former Division I college athlete who had a radical conversion and joined the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT) in 1998.

REGISTER ONLINE
www.satcathedral.org

NEXT CURIOUS GRACE - SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER 2025

Our next Curious Grace will not be held on the first Sunday of October. Instead, our next gathering will be a special celebration for the Feast of St Canice on Sunday, 12 October 2025, when Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will be attending. After 10:00am Mass, join us for painting, drawing, plant pots, knitting, hand massage and a splendid morning tea- all our usual activities brought together for this festive occasion.

For more details: Sonia +61 414 376 868 or curiousgrace@stcanice.org.au

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE HOUSEBOUND:

If you, or someone you know, is unable to attend Mass due to age, illness, or injury and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, **please contact Stephen Fulham at +61 411 626 262 to arrange.**

POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

For our relationship with all of creation

Let us pray that, inspired by St Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect www.popesprayer.va

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (RECONCILIATION)

Sunday 9:30 am

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT (FIRST FRIDAYS)

You are warmly invited to spend time in the peaceful presence of Jesus during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the First Friday of each month. **Next Adoration Evening: Friday, 3 October 2025 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

CONTACT ST CANICE'S PARISH HUB

To contact St Canice's about:

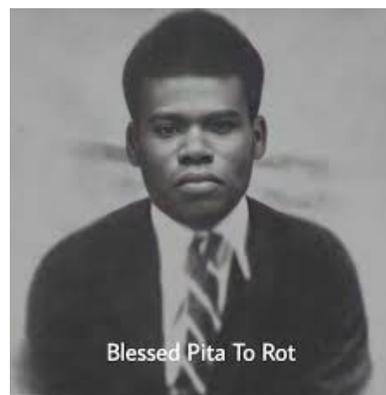
- St Canice's Columbarium
- St Canice's Sanctuary Guild
- St Canice's Altar Service
- Anointing of the sick
- Deceased anniversaries
- Prayers for an ill friend or family member
- Mass intentions
- David's Place
- Curious Grace @ St Canice's
- St Canice's Kitchen
- Railaco Timor Leste
- Colombière Social Enterprises
- Holy Communion for the housebound
- Sharing God's Word at St Canice's
- St Canice's Op Shop
- St Canice's Bequests

please scan the Parish Hub QR code



WELCOMING PAPUA NEW GUINEA'S FIRST SAINT

On 19 October 2025, the Church will celebrate the canonisation of Blessed Peter To Rot (1912-1945), the first saint from Papua New Guinea. Peter, a lay catechist and martyr, was killed in 1945 for his defence of faith and married life. His canonisation signals hope for Papua New Guinea and for Oceania, and stands as a witness that holiness arises in every land, especially in places of suffering and resilience. Peter's courage invites all to steadfast faith and self-giving love.



NEWS FROM NOSSEF SCHOOL IN TIMOR LESTE

A recent Jesuit newsletter highlights the journeys of two graduates from NOSSEF secondary school in Timor Leste's Railaco district with which St Canice's has enjoyed a connection for many years.

Umbelina (picture below) grew up in Railaco and returned to NOSSEF as a teacher after graduating from the National University of Timor-Leste.



Nurtured by the support of the school's director and fellow teachers, she has taught Biology, Geology and Tetum for 10 years. Her journey has been boosted by attending overseas programs and she says that "Ignatian Spirituality has been at the centre of how we understand each other - not only in academics but also in becoming men and women for others".

The article notes how generous support provided to the school "can make a significant impact for teachers like her, helping to transform the young generation in this country."

Daniel (picture below) attended NOSSEF from 2009 to 2011 and now lives with his family in Railaco.



He teaches Citizenship and Development to Grades 10 to 12. Witnessing NOSSEF's remarkable development founded in Jesuit values, he says the school "offers a holistic approach that truly shapes character". Daniel presents an honest appraisal. He reflects that a student's journey can be tough initially, especially in their first year, but then "we begin to see real growth." He attributes this to the school's strong community culture: "the NOSSEF Family".

NEWS FROM NOSSEF SCHOOL IN TIMOR LESTE (CONT.)

"We are forming students to be Men and Women for others," he reflects. "And that, for me, is the heart of education." St Canice's support of NOSSEF has impacted the journeys of many in Railaco. Ongoing donations will continue to empower positive futures for students and teachers.

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To donate, to Railaco kindly scan the QR code (see right)



FEAST OF ST CANICE SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER 2025

Our parish will celebrate the Feast of St Canice on Sunday 12 October 2025 with 10 am Mass followed by morning tea. Please invite your families!

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will attend. Please mark your diaries and follow parish socials for details. *Curious Grace* will be moving to this date, morning tea to follow.

Who was St Canice? St Canice (also known as Cainnech of Aghaboe or St Kenneth) was a 6th century Irish abbot, missionary and founder. Born in County Derry, he trained with various saints and worked closely with St Columba, spreading Christianity in Scotland before founding the influential monastery at Aghaboe, Ireland. He is honoured as one of the 12 Apostles of Ireland.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE HOUSEBOUND

If you, or someone you know, is housebound due to age, illness, or injury and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, we have a parishioner who is available to visit.

Please contact Stephen Fulham on +61 411 626 262 to arrange a suitable time

SUBSCRIBE TO ST CANICE'S ON YOUTUBE

Subscribe to the St Canice's YouTube channel for more content from our Parish



DAVID'S PLACE

David's Place offers spirituality and community to Sydney's homeless and marginalised. For 19 years, it has provided a space for prayer, pastoral care, Mass, and fellowship. **Website: www.davidsplace.com.au** Visitors always welcome

Beyond the Gate: A Call to Conversion, Compassion and Courage

The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus, proclaimed in today's Gospel, unfurls in stark detail the persistent and often invisible divide between comfort and poverty, plenty and suffering. Its setting - one man feasting inside his grand home, another starving outside the gate - transcends the boundaries of first-century Judea and lands squarely in every human heart and community today. This story is neither a simple moral lesson nor an abstract warning. Jesus' teaching is a living summons: to see clearly, to turn and to act.

The "gate" in the parable is more than a piece of architecture. It is the silent witness to indifference - a line separating compassion from neglect. The rich man's tragedy is not his wealth, but his blindness and hardened heart. Day after day, he steps over Lazarus, whose wounds evoke both physical affliction and humanity's wounded nature. The rich man dines sumptuously, his purple garments and fine linen symbols of thriving worldly status, yet all the while, his soul grows thin from spiritual starvation. In ignoring Lazarus, the rich man refuses what Amos calls for: an honest lament for the "ruin of Joseph," the suffering of God's people, close by yet far from mind.

This parable invites all to reflect inwardly: Who or what is at the gate of the soul? Are there voices, faces or aching realities in the world that are too easily kept at a distance, too easily explained away by fear, discomfort or busy routines? Faith is not lived in isolation or comfort. It is tested - and made strong - precisely at the boundaries where comfort ends and compassion begins.

Lazarus, unnamed in every social sense yet given a name by Jesus ("God helps"), becomes the Christ-figure. He is dependent, wounded, powerless - so easily ignored that dogs become his unlikely companions. In death, their positions are reversed. The great chasm fixed between Abraham's embrace and the rich man's torment is not arbitrary but forged by a lifetime of missed opportunities for mercy. It is a chasm created not by God's judgment, but by human choices solidified over time. This is not simply about the afterlife - it is about eternity beginning now, in every yes or no to the call of love.

Paul's exhortation to Timothy is a fitting echo: "Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called." True life is found in pursuit of righteousness, mercy and gentleness, not in clinging to passing pleasures or ignoring the suffering of others.

God's kingdom comes near whenever the gate is crossed. This week, the challenge is to intentionally notice those who are overlooked. Who is "Lazarus" in our daily lives? The lonely neighbour, the unseen homeless, the family member whose pain is hidden, the stranger who longs for welcome. To step beyond the gate may mean risking awkwardness, releasing prejudices or sacrificing comfort, but it is in those moments that Christ is encountered in the flesh and not just in the imagination.

Let this parable stir more than sympathy. May it light a fire of holy unrest - a refusal to let another day pass without seeing, listening and acting. Pray for the courage to approach gates that have stood too long unchallenged, within the heart and in the world. For just as Lazarus was lifted to Abraham's bosom, so all who answer Christ's call to mercy will find themselves borne by grace.

Questions for Reflection:

- Who is waiting beyond the "gate" in my own life, longing for compassion or acknowledgment?
- What habits or comforts keep me from noticing and responding to those in need?
- How can I become a living sign of hope and justice in my parish, my family and my community?

Loving God, you see all your children, especially those who are forgotten, wounded, or excluded. Unseal my eyes to see as you see. Unbind my heart to love as you love. Grant me courage to move beyond comfort and indifference, that I may discover true joy and eternal life in the gift of self-giving. Let your Spirit guide me beyond every gate, bringing your justice and compassion into the world. Amen.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Child abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime 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.