



Sunday 19 October 2025

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Image: The Unjust Judge, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

This wood engraving, created by Sir John Everett Millais (1829-1896) and engraved by the Dalziel Brothers, illustrates the Parable of the Unjust Judge from The Gospel of St Luke 18: 1 - 8. The scene centres on a widowed woman, persistence etched in her posture as she pleads at the feet of an impassive judge, clad in regal robes and seated in authority. Around them, onlookers observe with curiosity or indifference, while a richly detailed interior sets the stage. Millais's Pre-Raphaelite naturalism and expressive detail invite us to reflect on the widow's unwavering faith and resilience, capturing the spirit of biblical justice and hope for the persistent and marginalised.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

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: Paul Lam Han, Kathleen Kevin, Leslie Patrick Musgrave, Catherine Mary Alexander, Irene (Timmy) Harding, Dennis O'Brien, Xavier Sedger, June Strain Graham, John Fear
Celebrating the sacraments: Edmund Bagley (Baptism), Eva Vassiliadis (Baptism), Rhyall Clayton (Marriage) Andelko Topic (Marriage).
We especially remember: Yvonne Marien (18/10)

LITURGICAL CALENDAR & ANNIVERSARIES

We ask you to remember in your prayers, those in our columbarium whose anniversaries occur this week. (BELOW)

- Monday 20 October 2025** Mon of 29th Week in Ordinary Time **No Mass**
- Tuesday 21 October 2025** Tuesday of 29th Week in Ordinary Time **Mass 8:00 am**
- Wednesday 22 October 2025** Wed of 29th Week in Ordinary Time, St John Paul II, Pope (OM) **Mass 8:00 am**
Rosmary Nugent
- Thursday 23 October 2025** Thurs of 29th Week in Ordinary Time, St John of Capistrano, Priest (OM) **Mass 8:00 am**
- Friday 24 October 2025** Fri of 29th Week in Ordinary Time, St Anthony Mary Claret, Priest (M) **Mass 8:00 am**
- Saturday 25 October 2025** Sat of 29th Week in Ordinary Time **Mass 9:00 am**
- SUNDAY 26 OCTOBER 2025 SUNDAY OF THE 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SATURDAY VIGIL MASS 6:00PM - SUNDAY MASSES 8:30 AM AND 10:00 AM**

HYMNS AND MUSIC

- Processional** Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life (48)
- Responsorial Psalm (Response)** Our Help Is From The Lord, Who Made Heaven And Earth
- Memorial Acclamation** We Proclaim Your Death, O Lord, And Profess your Resurrection, Until You Come Again!
- Communion** Wachet Auf, Ruft Uns Die Stimme (J S Bach), Firmly I Believe And Truly (73)
- Recessional** Alleluia! Sing To Jesus (9)

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.



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**



SHOP & SAVE: SUPPORT AT ST CANICE'S OP SHOP

Looking for a hidden gem? St Canice's Op Shop is your destination for quality pre-loved clothing, homewares, books, and unique treasures - all at unbeatable prices!

Every purchase directly supports St Canice's Parish community programs, helping those experiencing homelessness and hardship. When you shop with us, you're not just finding a bargain - you're making a meaningful difference.

Open: Wednesday – Saturday 10:00am–4:00pm

Location: 78 Roslyn Gardens, Rushcutters Bay NSW 2011

Discover something special and support your local community at St Canice's Op Shop



NEXT CURIOUS GRACE - SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2025

Our next Curious Grace gathering will take place on Sunday 2 November 2025 after 10:00am Mass. Please join us for painting, drawing, plant pots, knitting, hand massage and a splendid morning tea - all our usual activities.

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

GOOD NEWS: INCREASE IN CATHOLIC CONVERTS

The Church in Australia is celebrating a remarkable rise in conversions, with 2025 seeing record numbers of adults entering the faith. The Archdiocese of Sydney welcomed 384 catechumens and candidates at this year's Rite of Election, marking a 30% increase from 2024. Melbourne recorded similar growth, with nearly 350 new adult Catholics in 2025. Parramatta and Perth have also seen unprecedented numbers. Leaders attribute this surge to a renewed spiritual search, with many new Catholics coming from diverse cultural backgrounds, including growing Indonesian and Chinese communities. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP described this ongoing trend as a "second spring" for the Church, a sign of hope and renewal in an increasingly fragmented world.

POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER 2025

For collaboration between different religious traditions. Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity

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, 7 November 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



NOTICES FOR THE ST CANICE'S BULLETIN

Please note, all items for inclusion in the Parish Bulletin (including Mass intentions) need to be submitted by the close of business on WEDNESDAY each week. Any items received after Wednesday will be held over until the following week's Bulletin.

For all submission requests, please email bulletin@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.**

MORE GOOD NEWS AT OUR SEMINARY

There has recently been a promising increase in priestly and religious vocations across Australia. In 2025, the Seminary of the Good Shepherd in Sydney welcomed its largest class of first-year seminarians since 2017, with 14 new entrants - raising its total to 46 men discerning the priesthood. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP described this as "the biggest number of seminarians that we've had in 40 years."

NOVEMBER - PLEASE PRAY FOR THE HOLY SOULS

Each November, the Church invites us to turn our hearts and prayers toward those who have gone before us. It is a sacred responsibility of our Catholic faith to remember, with love and gratitude, our beloved departed and to commend them to God's eternal embrace.

At St Canice's, we keep this tradition alive through our *Liber Defunctorum* (the Book of the Departed) which rests at the back of the Church.

I warmly encourage you to write the names of your deceased loved ones in this book. Throughout the month of November, their names will be remembered at Mass, as we unite in prayer for the souls of all who have died.

This act of remembrance is an expression of our faith in the communion of saints and the hope of resurrection.

If you wish, you may also make a Mass offering towards the restoration of our beloved Church. Your generosity helps us care for this sacred space that continues to hold so many memories and milestones of faith. Please look out for the envelopes in the back of the Church.

You can place the envelopes in the Mass collection or drop them into the Parish Hub office during business hours Monday–Thursday.

Let us journey together in prayer and hope this November, trusting in the mercy of God who welcomes all His children home.

In Christ's peace

Fr Dave Braithwaite SJ

Parish Priest

EMPOWERING MISSION: ECATHOLIC ENGAGE VIRTUAL SUMMIT (21–22 OCTOBER 2025)

The eCatholic Engage Virtual Summit is a major online conference dedicated to the Church's evangelising and missionary outreach in the digital age. Running from 21–22 October 2025, this global event will feature top Catholic innovators, leaders and digital evangelists with practical workshops, expert panels and keynote sessions to inspire and equip participants. You will hear from speakers including Alex Jones (Hallow), Curtis and Brock Martin (FOCUS), Msgr James Shea, Gen Z evangelist Monét Souza and other key voices in digital ministry. Every session unpacks new tools and ideas for parish, school and diocesan engagement - helping the whole Church make a real impact in the digital environment.

Register for the summit by visiting:

Summit.eCatholic.com

Join online 21–22 October 2025 from anywhere - all sessions are virtual and accessible



PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT RAILACO

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.

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



CHRISTIAN HOPE: POPE LEO XIV'S MESSAGE

On 15 October 2025, Pope Leo XIV addressed pilgrims in St Peter's Square, offering a powerful meditation on why Christian hope surpasses mere optimism. Citing Christ's resurrection as the true source of our hope, he explained that optimism, while helpful, can often disappoint; Christian hope, by contrast, "promises and fulfils," anchoring our deepest desires in the certainty of Christ's love.

The Holy Father reminded us that even when life brings disappointment or suffering, hope remains firm because the Risen Jesus walks with us, giving meaning and peace. He encouraged all Catholics to let hope inspire lives of love, service, and perseverance.

A MILLION VOICES FOR PEACE: CHILDREN'S GLOBAL ROSARY MARKS 20 YEARS

In October 2025, Aid to the Church in Need's "A Million Children Praying the Rosary" campaign celebrates its 20th anniversary, uniting children across continents in a worldwide movement of prayer for peace, unity and healing. What began as a small gathering in Venezuela in 2005 now regularly sees more than a million young participants, with this year's event resonating strongly amid global crises and the Church's Jubilee of Hope. The campaign reaches its crescendo on 7 October 2025, the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, with families, parishes, and schools encouraged to register online through the campaign's website so organisers can measure the scale of participation and provide free resources for every group. Cardinal Mauro Piacenza calls this movement "an oasis of contemplation" and a beacon of hope for the world. **For more details see here:**

<https://acninternational.org/millionchildrenpraying/>

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.davidspplace.com.au** Visitors always welcome

MEDITATION ON LUKE 18:1–8 WITH REFLECTIONS FROM ST THOMAS AQUINAS

Jesus spoke the parable of the persistent widow *"to the end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint"* (Luke 18:1). The lesson is clear: perseverance in prayer is essential, especially when answers seem delayed or hearts grow weary.

St Thomas Aquinas (c. 1225-1274), compiling wisdom from the early Church Fathers in his *Catena Aurea*, teaches: *"The Judge who neither feared God, nor regarded man, is described to show that even the most unyielding can be overcome by persistence; 'Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.'"* (St Thomas, citing Luke 18:5)

In this widow, St Augustine of Hippo (354-430) sees the image of the Church or the faithful soul: *"By the widow is signified every soul bereft, as it were, of her first husband: for the Law was given before, but now she must needs pray to be relieved from her adversary, that is, the devil. The wicked judge, who neither feared God nor regarded man, is a figure of men themselves, who withhold the helping hand."* (Catena Aurea)

Aquinas includes the observation of St Bede the Venerable (c. 672–735) that the parable is a call to trust in God's fatherly care even through delay: *"If even an unjust judge is moved to help by perseverance, how much more shall the merciful Father, who delays only as may be expedient, hasten to the aid of His elect who 'cry to Him day and night!'"* (Catena Aurea, on Luke 18:7)

St Thomas also presents the advice of Pope St Gregory the Great (c. 540-604), that persistent prayer does not change God's plans, but our own hearts: *"By perseverance in prayer we are not so much urging God as we are shaping ourselves to receive what He longs to give."* (Catena Aurea)

This Gospel passage concludes with a searching question: *"When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?"* (Luke 18:8)

St Augustine cautions that faith is proven not in sudden answers, but in the willingness to trust God's timing even when the heart is tested.

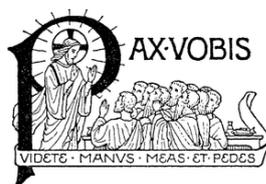
To meditate on this Gospel passage is to ask, along with the Fathers and St Thomas Aquinas:

- Do I approach God with the faithful boldness of the widow?
- Do I persist - even when weary - knowing He hears and loves me?

Let us pray always and never lose heart, confident that, in God's time, justice and mercy will surely come.

Source: Catena Aurea (St. Thomas Aquinas, commentary on Luke 18:1–8)

[The *Catena Aurea* (Latin for "Golden Chain") refers to the famous commentary on the four Gospels compiled by St Thomas Aquinas, which gathers the wisdom and interpretations of the early Church Fathers, arranged as a continuous verse-by-verse "chain" of insights. The *Catena Aurea* provides a rich tapestry of patristic commentary and is considered a masterpiece of Catholic biblical meditation. Access the *Catena Aurea* online at <https://www.ecatholic2000.com/catena/>]



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.