X WORLD MEETING of FAMILIES
CELEBRATED IN SYDNEY
JUNE 24-26, 2022
World Meeting of Families

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney

WHAT IS THE WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES?

The World Meeting of Families is an international gathering of families first initiated by Pope St John Paul II in 1994 in the Diocese of Rome. Since then it has occurred every three years with the most recent meeting having taken place in Dublin in 2018.

The gathering is organised by the Vatican Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, which seeks to promote the pastoral care of families, and to protect their rights and dignity in the Church and in civil society. The World Meeting of Families event is the biggest gathering of Catholic families in the world with the next scheduled meeting to take place in Rome this coming June 2022.

HOW WILL THE WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES BE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR?

This year’s celebration of the World Meeting of Families is different, given the impact of the global pandemic, in that it will also be celebrated within dioceses all over the world.

Each diocese, including the Archdiocese of Sydney, will be celebrating the gift of family life alongside those attending the international gathering.
With the encouragement of Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, the World Meeting of Families will be celebrated locally in the Archdiocese of Sydney over the period of **Friday 24 June to Sunday 26 June.**

**HOW WILL THE 2022 GATHERING BE CELEBRATED IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY?**

This celebration will take place in the parish and home setting. It will have as its central focus the Feast of the Sacred Heart as the feast is universally celebrated on this day. Families are encouraged to Enthrone the Sacred Heart in their home using the resource at the back of this booklet. Parishes may also choose to host a celebration families to prepare for Saturday's local pilgrimage together.

This celebration is a family pilgrimage day. Pilgrimage is a key element of the international gathering of families and will provide an exciting and informative opportunity for family members to travel together in our local Archdiocesan context. **Pilgrimage sites and shrines are listed from page 13** with the specific catechesis themes which were developed specifically for the 2022 World Meeting of Families celebration. Families can also collect stickers from each site to be placed in a children's passport (found in the back of this booklet).

This day will be centred on the Eucharist and begin with **10:30am Mass** celebrated by **Archbishop Fisher at St Mary’s Cathedral.** Afterwards there will be an opportunity for these families to participate in a ‘Festival of Families’ beside the Cathedral with food, coffee, music, stalls and activities for children. Stickers collected from the pilgrimage sites the day before and used in the children's passports can also be presented here to receive a small prize and a chance to enter into a lucky draw.

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So let us care for one another, guide and encourage one another, and experience this as a part of our family spirituality.

(Amoris Laetitia, paragraph 321)
Making your family pilgrimage day a great success!

This section will provide you with preparatory information you will need in order to fruitfully organise your family pilgrimage itinerary

Planning your itinerary

- Read parish and saint information pages and familiarise yourself with possibilities (from page 13)
- Check Pilgrimage location map (page 7)
- Fill in your personalised family pilgrimage day itinerary (page 6)

Getting ready to set off on pilgrimage

- Identify other families in your parish participating in the family pilgrimage day in light of the following point
- Organise to have the pilgrim blessing on departure from your local parish on the evening of Friday June 24th (page 11)
- Inform your children about the possibility of collecting pilgrimage sticker tokens at each shrine site visited

See final page and print extra copies where necessary from https://www.sydneycatholic.org/world-meeting-of-families/

Gather together as a family and learn about pilgrimage and relics together using the resource provided on the Sydney Archdiocese World Meeting of Families website here:

Some questions to aid your discussion could include:

- What is a pilgrimage?
- What is prayer? Why is it important?
- What are relics? Why are they so significant to Catholics?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PAGE</th>
<th>SAINT/S AND THEIR LOCATIONS</th>
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</table>
| 13   | Relics of St Thérèse and St Louis and Zélie Martin  
      Location: St Thérèse Church, Densistone |
| 14   | Relic of St Pope John Paul II  
      Location: St Joachim Church, Lidcombe |
| 15   | Relic of Blessed Gabrielle Allegra  
      Location: St Dominic Church, Flemington |
| 16   | Relics of St Peter Chanel and St Dominic  
      Location: St Peter Chanel and St Joseph Church, Berala |
| 17   | Relic of St Mary of the Cross  
      Location: Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, Earlwood |
| 18   | Eileen O’Connor’s Childhood Parish  
      Location: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Waterloo |
| 19   | Relic of St Anne  
      Location: The Shrine of St Anne, Bondi |
| 20   | Relic of St Francis Xavier and the New Painting of St Joseph  
      Location: St Mary’s Cathedral, Sydney |
### Our Family Pilgrimage Itinerary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(e.g. Mass, Catechesis, Veneration of Relics, Reconciliation, Rosary, Family meal)</td>
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After reading the information relevant to each pilgrimage site, you can plan out your day using the itinerary here.
CHOOSE YOUR FAMILY PILGRIMAGE ROUTE

Where will we start and finish?
Would we like to start or finish with Mass?

QUESTIONS TO GUIDE YOU

What catechesis sessions will we attend?
When might we go for the Sacrament of Reconciliation?
We’ve arrived! What now?

The following are examples of what you can do at each site as a family at each site:

01 Spend some time in quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

Allow some time for each member of the family to mention their personal intentions out loud and pray for these as a family.

E.g.

Prayer of individual: Heavenly Father I entrust my preparations for the HSC to you/ the health of our grandparents/ for my friend at school/ for my vocation [ending with] Lord hear us

[Response by family] Lord hear our prayer

02 Pray the prayers associated with a devotion like the Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, or light a candle for a person or prayer intention.

Pray aloud a litany of the saints (can be sourced online) and feel free to include your own family’s patron saints! These could the saints associated with the names of individuals in your family, or saints who you feel have interceded in a special way for your family.

03 Attend Mass, a catechesis section, confession or activities put on by the parish for the World Meeting of Families.

Brainstorm some practical lessons associated with the saint or things mentioned in the catechesis that you can apply as a family when you get home. Record this in the ‘Putting it into practice as a family’ section included in each shrine page in this booklet.

04 Examples of actions to commit to:

- Praying grace before meals
- Saying a travel prayer every time you are in the car together as a family
- Committing to a set time of family prayer every day. When starting out it can be as little as 5 minutes together. The key is not quantity but consistency!
- Praying a decade of the rosary every evening as a family
- Taking time to reflect on Sunday’s gospel after Mass or do the Lecto Divina as a family

05

Putting up a sacred image or statue in a prominent place

Create a sacred space in your home

Having a virtue that you can cultivate as a family every week

Setting time aside to spend intentionally with each other

Taking turns for each family member to prepare a special prayer for the week
The Virgin in Prayer, c. 1640-1650
Giovanni Battista Salvi da Sassoferrato

God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good; I shall do His work. I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it if I do but keep His commandments. Therefore, I will trust Him, whatever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him, in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him. If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends. He may throw me among strangers. He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide my future from me. Still, He knows what He is about.

-St John Henry Newman

Some Prayers and reflections as we set out on Pilgrimage

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Guardian Angel Prayer often said when setting off in a car or public transport

Angel of God my guardian dear, to whom His love commits me here Ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen

Our Lady of the Way, pray for us

St Joseph, pray for us

Prayer to St Christopher, patron saint of travellers

Dear Saint Christopher, protect me today in all my travels along the road’s way. Give your warning sign if danger is near so that I may stop while the path is clear. Be at my window and direct me through when the vision blurs from out of the blue. Carry me safely to my destined place, like you carried Christ in your close embrace.

Amen.
Some Prayers and reflections as we set out on Pilgrimage

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Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in them the fire of Your love.
Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created.

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Be at my window and direct me through when the vision blurs from out of the blue.
Carry me safely to my destined place, like you carried Christ in your close embrace.

Amen.

The Mission of My Life

God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.

He has not created me for naught. I shall do good; I shall do His work. I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it if I do but keep His commandments. Therefore, I will trust Him, whatever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him, in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him. If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends. He may throw me among strangers. He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide my future from me. Still, He knows what He is about.

- St John Henry Newman
Blessing of Pilgrims

**Beginning of Pilgrimage**

**PRAYER OF BLESSING**

Celebrant: All-powerful God, you always show mercy toward those who love you and you are never far away for those who seek you. Remain with your servants on this holy pilgrimage and guide their way in accord with your will. Shelter them with your protection by day, give them the light of your grace by night, and, as their companion on the journey, bring them to their destination in safety.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

**CONCLUDING RITE**

The celebrant concludes the rite by saying:

May the Lord guide you and direct your journey in safety. R. Amen.

May the Lord be your companion along the way. R. Amen.

May the Lord grant that the journey you begin, relying on him, will end happily through his protection. R. Amen.

And may almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit. R. Amen.

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**End of Pilgrimage**

**PRAYER OF BLESSING**

Celebrant: Blessed are you, 0 God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. From all races of the earth you have chosen a people dedicated to you, eager to do what is right. Your grace has moved the hearts of these, your friends, to love you more deeply and to serve you more generously. We ask you to bless them, so that they may tell of your wonderful deeds and give proof of them in their lives.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

**CONCLUDING RITE**

Celebrant: May God, the Lord of heaven and earth, who so graciously has accompanied you on this pilgrimage, continue to keep you under his protection. R. Amen.

May God, who gathered all his scattered children in Christ Jesus, grant that you will be of one heart and one mind in Christ. R. Amen.

May God, whose goodness inspires in you all that you desire and achieve, strengthen your devotion by his blessing. R. Amen.

And may almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit. R. Amen.
“Pilgrimages evoke our earthly journey toward heaven...”

Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2691
The Parish of St Thérèse Denistone was formed initially in 1938 as a small chapel with the idea of having a priest nearby to act as Chaplain for the Ryde Hospital. To this very day the priests at St Thérèse still visit the hospital on a weekly basis to minister and provide sacraments to the sick. The parish is currently run by Father Roberto Castillo.

St Thérèse of Liseux

Known as the Little Flower of Jesus, St Thérèse is a Doctor of the Church and the patron saint of missionaries despite having lived as a cloistered Carmelite for less than 10 years. She was born in France in 1873, to her parents Louis and Zélie (see below) and died at the age of 24.

St Louis & St Zélie Martin

St Louis and Zélie Martin were married in 1858 and together they had nine children, four of whom died in childhood. Zélie Martin died of breast cancer in 1877 leaving Louis to raise their daughters who all left to enter the convent. Louis died in 1894 after suffering greatly, including a three-year stay in a psychiatric hospital. St Louis and Zélie Martin were canonized together as a married couple in 2015.

Praying together as a family

Almighty God you called the Martin Family to holiness thought the grace of Holy Matrimony and family life. Through the intercession of Saints Louis, Zélie and Thérèse we ask you now to bless all families especially our own. May we follow their example of daily prayer and love for each other that our family too may be imbued with holiness and virtue. Grant that we may always bear witness to the beauty of family life according to your plan.

Putting it into practice in our family

Inspired by the witness of these saints, our family commits to:

Signed: ________________________________

Location Timetable

8.55am  Welcome
9am     Holy Mass
9.25am  Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet
11am    Catechesis- “Family Love: a vocation and a path to holiness”
11.15am Catechesis Reflection- Fr Roberto
11.35am Family Reflection time
12pm    Veneration of Relics
4pm     Sacrament of Reconciliation
5pm     Vigil Mass
Location Timetable

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<td>Catechesis- &quot;Nazareth: Rendering Love normal&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.15am</td>
<td>Catechesis Reflection- Fr Epeli</td>
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<td>11.35am</td>
<td>Family Reflection time</td>
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<td>12pm</td>
<td>Veneration of Relics</td>
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<td>5pm</td>
<td>Sacrament of Reconciliation</td>
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<td>6pm</td>
<td>Vigil Mass</td>
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Pope St John Paul II

Karol Wojtyła was born in 1920 in Poland and survived the Nazi occupation, secretly studying for the priesthood at an underground seminary by night while toiling in a rock quarry by day. He went on to become a cardinal, and then Pope in 1978.

John Paul II's papal motto "Totus Tuus" meaning 'Totally Yours' was addressed to Our Lady. It was to her intercession that he attributed his survival of an assassination attempt.

During his Papacy John Paul II initiated World meeting of Families celebrations.

Praying together as a family

O Blessed Trinity, we thank you for having graced the Church with Saint John Paul II and for allowing the tenderness of your fatherly care, the glory of the Cross of Christ and the splendour of the Spirit of love to shine through him. He has shown us that holiness is the necessary measure of ordinary Christian life and is the way of achieving eternal communion with you. Grant us, by his intercession, and according to your will, the graces we implore, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Putting it into practice in our family

Inspired by the witness of this saint, our family commits to:

Signed: __________________________
Established in 1928, St Dominic Catholic Parish of Flemington, has welcomed the faithful and all who desire to encounter Christ for almost an entire century. In recent years, this parish has not only served parishioners in its locale but the Western Sydney Catholic Chinese Community (WSCCC) whose patron is Blessed Gabrielle Allegra. The community was first established in 1990, and has been based in St Dominic’s parish from 1995 till now. The Chaplain of the WSCCC is Fr Jacob Wang.

Blessed Gabrielle Allegra

Born in Catania, Italy, in 1907, Blessed Allegra was inspired to translate the Bible into Chinese in 1928, and would dedicate the next 40 years to accomplish this mission. After being ordained in 1930, he set sail for mainland China to the Hunan province. The desire to ensure that the Word of God be accessible to every Chinese person often spurred him to work beyond the limits of his health, famously commenting that “Everybody thinks I’m sick. I can still work, so let’s go! The ideal is worth more than life!” On Christmas day in 1968, his life mission came to fruition in the first publication of the Chinese bible, used till this day.

Praying together as a family

Heavenly Father, you have granted Blessed Father Gabrielle Allegra to follow Christ with poverty and humility, to serve the word of God and contribute to the Chinese people throughout his life. Make us imitate his spirit, love of the word of God, study it diligently, and strive to live by it. Please also accept his prayers for us, and grant us this grace (may say some intentions) which we so desperately need. Through the name of your Holy Word, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Blessed Gabrielle Allegra, pray for us
St Peter Chanel was established in 1937. The adjoining St Joseph’s Convent is occupied by the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia. St Peter Chanel’s relic is located permanently within the parish for public veneration. The parish is currently run by Fr Thomas Kurunthanam.

Location Timetable

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8am</td>
<td>Holy Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td>Rosary and Confession</td>
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<td>9am</td>
<td>Catechesis- “Called to holiness”</td>
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<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Catechesis Reflection on St Peter Chanel- Fr</td>
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<td>Thomas</td>
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<td>9.35am</td>
<td>Family Reflection time</td>
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<td>10.00am</td>
<td>Veneration of Relics</td>
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<td>1.20pm</td>
<td>Catechesis reflection on Dominican Saints</td>
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<td>by Dominican Sisters</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.35pm</td>
<td>Family Reflection time</td>
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<td>2pm</td>
<td>Rosary</td>
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<td>5pm</td>
<td>Vigil Mass</td>
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St Peter Chanel

Born in France in 1803, St Peter Chanel became a priest and a then missionary to Oceania with Marists. He is the first martyr of Oceania and its patron.

St Dominic

St Dominic founded the Order of Preachers in the 13th century. He had a great devotion to Our Lady and tradition holds that the Rosary was first given to him by her.

Praying together as a family

St Peter Chanel, you left your homeland to proclaim Jesus, Saviour of the world, to the peoples of Oceania. Guided by the Spirit of God, who is the strength of the gentle, you bore witness to love, even laying down your life. Grant that, like you, we may live our daily life in peace, in joy, and in fraternal love. May your prayer and example call forth from our midst many workers for the Gospel so that God’s Kingdom may reach to the ends of the earth. Amen.

Putting it into practice in our family

Inspired by the witness of these saints, our family commits to:

Collections

Signed: ____________________________________________
In 1937 a replica of the Lourdes Grotto where Our Lady appeared to St. Bernadette was established. The Grotto was built on the hillside behind the Church/School on St James Ave and so began a devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes which has remained a place of pilgrimage ever since. At the Grotto there is opportunity for families to submit prayer intentions that will be sent to Lourdes. In the nearby church of St Bernadette’s, Clemton Park, there is also a first class relic of St Bernadette which can be visited when the church is open.

**Location Timetable**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>9am</td>
<td>Lourdes</td>
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<td>Grotto open &amp;</td>
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<td>Veneration of</td>
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<td>Relic of St Mary of the Cross begins</td>
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<td>10am</td>
<td>Catechesis-</td>
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<td>“Fathers and mothers”</td>
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<td>10.15am</td>
<td>Catechesis reflection- Fr Miguel Perez</td>
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<td>10.45am</td>
<td>Rosary</td>
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<tr>
<td>12pm</td>
<td>Angelus</td>
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<td>3pm</td>
<td>Divine Mercy Chaplet</td>
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<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>Veneration ends</td>
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**St Mary of the Cross Mackillop**

St Mary of the Cross is Australia’s first saint. At 25 she founded the Sisters of St Joseph and thereafter many schools to serve the needs of the poor. A woman of heroic charity and virtue, St Mary of the Cross was noted for her trust in the providence of God and miracles of healing that have been attributed to her. St Mary of the Cross lived for a period of time in Earlwood.

**St Bernadette & Our Lady of Lourdes**

Bernadette Soubirous was born in 1844 in Southern France. When she was 14 the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to her in a cave near Lourdes wearing a white robe with a blue sash, yellow roses covering her feet and a large rosary on her right arm.

**A Prayer to Our Lady of Lourdes**

Ever Immaculate Virgin Mother of Mercy, Health of the sick, Refuge of sinners, Comforter of the afflicted, you know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings; look with mercy on me. By appearing in the Grotto of Lourdes, you were pleased to make it a privileged sanctuary, whence you dispense your favours; and already many sufferers have obtained the cure for their infirmities, both spiritual and corporal. I come, therefore, with complete confidence to implore your maternal intercession. Obtain, O loving Mother, the grant of my requests. Through gratitude for your favours, I will endeavour to imitate your virtues, that I may one day share your glory. Amen.

**Putting it into practice in our family**

Inspired by the witness of these saints, our family commits to:

Signed: ____________________________

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“**We must teach more by example than by word.**”

- St Mary Mackillop
In the nearby church of St Bernadette’s, Clemton Park, there is also a first class relic of St Bernadette which can be visited when ...

In 1937 a replica of the Lourdes Grotto where Our Lady appeared to St. Bernadette was established. The Grotto was built on the hillside behind the Church/School on St James Ave and so began a devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes which has remained a place...

Location Timetable

9am Welcome and tours

9.15am Catechesis Reflection on Eileen O’Connor by Jocelyn Hedlely

10.15am Votive Mass to Our Lady

11am Church open to pilgrims (volunteers available for guided tours)

1pm Lunch

1.15pm Catechesis reflection on Our Lady of Mt Carmel- Fr Paul Smithers

1.35pm Brown Scapular Enrolment

2.45- Concert of Sacred Music

3.30pm Music

5pm Vigil Mass

Servant of God, Eileen O’Connor

Born in 1892, Eileen Rosaline O’Connor suffered a broken spine at age three and lived in constant nerve pain. She co-founded Our Lady’s Nurses in 1913 to care for the sick and dying in their homes. Lovingly known as ‘Little Mother’, she measured only 115cm tall when she died aged 28 in 1921. If Eileen O’Connor is beatified, she would become the country’s only second saint.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

In the year 1251, in the town of Aylesford in England, Our Lady appeared to St. Simon Stock, a Carmelite. She handed him a brown woollen scapular and said, “This shall be a privilege for you and all Carmelites, that anyone dying in this habit shall not suffer eternal fire.” The Church extended this magnificent privilege to all the laity, willing to perpetually wear the Brown Scapular of the Carmelite Order.

Pray together as a family

Morning offering with the Brown Scapular

O my God, in union with the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee the Precious Blood of Jesus from all the altars throughout the world, joining with it the offering of my every thought, word and action of this day, O my Jesus, I desire today to gain every indulgence and merit I can, and I offer them, together with myself, to Mary Immaculate, that she may best apply them to the interests of Thy most Sacred Heart.

Putting it into practice in our family

Inspired by the witness of these saints, our family commits to:

Signed: ____________________________
The Shrine of St Anne belongs to the Catholic Parishes of Bondi with St Patricks. It is the only church ever to have won the Sulman prize for architecture, Australia’s leading architectural distinction, awarded in 1935. The parish is currently run by Father Anthony Robbie.

**Location Timetable**

- **9am** Holy Mass
- **9.40am** Catechesis- “Grandparents and the elderly”
- **10am** Catechesis reflection by Fr Robbie
- **10.30am** Veneration and Blessing with Relic of St Anne
- **11am** Rosary
- **11.30am** Public veneration of St Anne Relic until 3pm

**Pray together as a family**

O Glorious St. Anne, filled with compassion for those who invoke you and with love for those who suffer, I beg of you to take under your special protection

(State your petition)

Be pleased to commend it to your daughter, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and lay it before the throne of Jesus, so that He may bring it to a happy outcome. Cease not to intercede for me until my request is granted. Above all, obtain for me the grace of one day beholding my God face to face, and, with you and Mary and all the Saints, to praise and bless Him for all eternity.

Amen.

**Putting it into practice in our family**

Inspired by the witness of these saints, our family commits to:

Signed: 

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47 MITCHELL STREET, BONDI BEACH

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St Anne

St. Anne was the mother of the Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus. It is pre-eminently in her teaching Our Lady the things of heaven that she has achieved her distinction. This is why she is depicted with a book from which she is instructing her holy daughter in the ways of God. By tradition she and St Joachim were already beyond child bearing age when the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary was miraculously granted them- similarly to their relatives Sts Elizabeth and Zachary.
Location Timetable

8.55am Welcome

9am Holy Mass

9.45am Catechesis-
“Nazareth rendering love normal”

10am Catechesis reflection- Fr Don

10.20am Family Reflection time

11.30am Sacrament of Reconciliation

12pm Holy Mass

NOTE: There will be limited access to the cathedral between 1:30pm and 4pm due to scheduled weddings

4.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

6pm Vigil Mass

St Francis Xavier

Born at Xavier (Navarre), Spain, Francis was one of the first Jesuits. He went to preach the Gospel in the unknown Far East and brought the Gospel to India, Ceylon and Japan. During the country’s early settlement, St Francis Xavier was named patron saint of Australia, as our country was itself a missionary colony. In 2013, during the visit of a major relic of St Francis, the Cathedral was gifted a relic of the saint, located on the north-western side of the Cathedral for the public to venerate.

The Painting of St Joseph

The painting was commissioned by His Grace Archbishop Anthony Fisher to commemorate the year of St Joseph and to highlight the powerful patronage of St Joseph as the head of the holy family and of the universal church. The artist commissioned for this work was Sally Ryan. The image was unveiled by His Grace Archbishop Anthony on 1st May 2022 and will be permanently on display on the west facing wall adjacent to the altar of St Joseph.

Pray together as a family

O my Lord Jesus! Teach me to be generous; teach me to serve You as you deserve; to give, and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to ask for rest; to labour, seeking no reward, save that of knowing that I do Thy will.

Amen.

St Francis Xavier, Pray for Us

Putting it into practice in our family

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St Mary's Cathedral is the spiritual home and the seat of the Archbishop of Sydney. It stands on the site of the first Catholic Chapel in Australia. This English-style Gothic revival building is Australia’s largest Cathedral building, and houses many things to see including beautiful statues, stained glass windows featuring the Mysteries of the Rosary and scenes from the New Testament. The main celebrations for the World Meeting of Families will be held behind the Sanctuary in the chapels of Our Lady, St Joseph and St Peter. The Dean is Father Donald Richardson.
Let's go on an adventure with the Saints!

1. Visit the various pilgrimage sights around Sydney with your family.
2. Answer the questions and collect stickers along the way.
3. Collect 2 or more unique pilgrimage stickers on your passbook and be eligible to enter into our lucky draw at the Family Festival on Sunday 26 June 2022. For more details, visit sydneycatholic.org/world-meeting-of-families/

Who is Saint Anne?
St Therese of Lisieux and St Francis Xavier are both Patron Saints of M

Where did Our Lady appear to St Bernadette?
Pope Saint John Paul II initiated global events such as World Meeting of Families and W

What is the Official Name of the Dominican Order?

What is the item worn around the neck associated with Our Lady of Mount Carmel?

Bl Gabrielle Allegra was born in but served in

What Order did St Peter Chanel belong to?

How many people are in the new painting of St Joseph?

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

GUARDIAN ANGEL PRAYER
SAID BEFORE TRAVELLING

Angel of God My guardian dear, To Whom His love Commits me here. Ever this day Be at my side, To light and guard, To rule and guide. Amen.

Our Lady of the Way, pray for us.

St Joseph, pray for us.

PRAYER BEFORE MEALS
Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.
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Trace your pilgrimage
Journey around Sydney
ENTHRONEMENT of
THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS and of
CHRIST AS KING IN THE FAMILY HOME

WHAT IS AN ENTHRONEMENT?
The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the family home is an act of adoration that publicly declares Jesus as ‘Lord of the House’ and where He is given authority over the family household. In return, Christ has promised to bless families and individuals who honour Him with the installation and enthronement of a blessed image of His Sacred Heart. The enthronement is also an act of reparation to make up for all who have ‘dethroned’ Jesus in our secular world.

ENTHRONEMENT CEREMONY IN 12 STEPS

1. Prepare our hearts by attendance at Mass. It is recommended to have Mass celebrated for the intentions of the family on the day of the Enthronement, or at least to attend Mass as a Family and to receive Holy Communion on the Sunday prior to the enthronement.

2. Invite a priest of the parish. The presence of a priest will make this enthronement a more solemn occasion, and the ceremony involves prayers and a blessing to be said by him. If a priest is unavailable, the father/ or parents can lead the enthronement ceremony.

3. Prepare the family altar. Put in order your house for the enthronement and have holy water ready. Set out a white cloth, beautifully decorated with flowers and candles. A picture or statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus should be placed on a small table near this “throne” before the ceremony.

4. Blessing of the home. At the set hour, parents and children gather in the main room for the ceremony. Relatives and friends can be invited.

5. The blessing of the image or statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is preferable to have a priest preside at the ceremony, but where this is not possible to have him present, the image can be blessed beforehand.

6. The enthronement of the image or statue. The head of the family or delegated family member sets up the image/s of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in a place of honour, in order to render homage to the reign of the love of Jesus Christ in the home.

7. Recitation of the Creed. In order to give explicit expression to the faith of the family, everyone recites the Apostles’ Creed out loud and standing after the blessing.

8. Words or message which explain the devotion and reality of Jesus’ love for us as expressed in the Sacred Heart devotion. Everyone is seated while the priest/ father/ parents address a few words to those present.
The following formula of enthronement is read by all present.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, who did make known to St. Margaret Mary Your ardent desire to reign over Christian families, behold us assembled here today to proclaim Your absolute dominion over our home.

Henceforth we purpose to lead a life like Yours so that among us may flourish the virtues which You did promise peace on earth, and for this end we will banish from our midst the spirit of the world which You abhored so much.

You will reign over our understanding by the simplicity of our faith. You will reign over our hearts by an ardent love for You; and may the flame of this love be ever kept burning in our hearts by the frequent reception of the Holy Eucharist.

Deign, O Divine Heart, to preside over our meetings, to bless our undertakings, both spiritual and temporal, to banish all worry and care, to sanctify our joys and soothe our sorrows.

If any of us should ever have the misfortune to grieve Your Sacred Heart, remind him of Your goodness and mercy toward the repentant sinner.

Lastly, when the hour of separation will sound and death will plunge our home into mourning, then shall we all and every one of us be resigned to Your eternal decrees, and seek consolation in the thought that we shall all one day be reunited in heaven, where we shall sing the praises and blessings of Your Sacred Heart for all eternity.

May the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the glorious Patriarch St. Joseph offer You this our consecration and remind us of it all the days of our life. Glory to the Divine Heart of Jesus, our King and our Father!

Prayer for the missing and deceased. Family members who have passed away should be called to mind. Say one Our Father and a Hail Mary for these, and for those who are absent and missing.

Consecration of children. While not an official part of the enthronement, the children may recite a poem or sing a hymn in honour of the Sacred Heart. This is a short one.

Most Sweet Jesus, Divine Friend of children, receive our hearts, make them pure, holy and happy; receive also our bodies, our souls, and all our strength. We consecrate ourselves to You now and forever. You alone are our King. All our thoughts, and our words, our actions, and our prayers, we consecrate to You, our Friend and our King.

Final blessing. The priest blesses those present and a certificate of enthronement can be signed by the priest and the family.
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We look forward to seeing you at 10.30am Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral, Sunday June 26th

Festivities to follow beside the Cathedral
Heavenly Father,
We come before You to praise You and to thank You for the great gift of the family.
We pray to You for all families consecrated by the Sacrament of Matrimony.
May they rediscover each day the grace they have received, and as small domestic Churches, may they know how to witness to Your presence and to the love with which Christ loves the Church.
We pray to You for all families faced with difficulty and suffering caused by illness or circumstances of which only You know.
Sustain them and make them aware of the path to holiness upon which You call them, so that they might experience Your infinite mercy and find new ways to grow in love.
We pray to You for children and young people: may they encounter You and respond joyfully to the vocation You have in mind for them;
We pray for parents and grandparents: may they be aware that they are signs of the fatherhood and motherhood of God in caring for the children who, in body and spirit, You entrust to them; and for the experience of fraternity that the family can give to the world.
Lord, grant that each family might live their specific vocation to holiness in the Church as a call to become missionary disciples, in the service of life and peace, in communion with our priests, religious, and all vocations in the Church.