ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Bulletin is Downloadable from our website at https://fssp-canberra.org/bulletin/

ALL-NIGHT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION will begin on 4 Dec (Fri), after the evening Mass. Adoration will continue throughout the night, concluding with a Sung **RORATE MASS** at 6am on 5 Dec (Sat).

ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION

As we prepare for the coming of Our Lord at Christmas, we invite you to join us for a **Silent Day of Recollection** on **12 December (Saturday).**

Schedule:

- 10:30–11:30 am: First Conference – **(Topic: Prepare the Way of the Lord)**
- 12pm: Angelus, followed by lunch
- 1pm: Second Conference – **(Topic: Come, Lord Jesus)**
- 2–3pm: Holy Hour and Benediction

Confessions will be available during Eucharistic Adoration.

Lunch, coffee, and tea will be provided.
All are warmly welcome to attend.

The **2027 LITURGICAL CALENDARS & CHRISTMAS CARDS** are now available at the piety store. Calendars are $15 each, and Christmas cards are sold in packs of 10.

LEGION OF MARY meeting is held **EVERY MONDAY** at 6:30pm.

The next **YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT** will be held THIS WEDNESDAY, at 6pm with the rosary, followed by dinner.

There will be **NO ST ANNE MOTHERS' GROUP** meeting this Friday.

CASH & ONLINE DONATIONS
15th Nov - 21st Nov, 26
First Collection: $ 2162.45
Second Collection: $ 1249.15
Building fund: $ 270

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The next series of our **THURSDAY ONLINE CLASSES** will focus on **Mental Prayer**. It will begin on **26th Nov (This Thurs) at 7pm.**
To register, please visit our website, click on Activities, then select Thursday Online Class and complete the registration form. Login details will be sent to you by email.

SATURDAY BIBLE CLASS
Class meets **EVERY SATURDAY** between 10:30-11:30am.

CHILDREN'S CATECHISM meets **EVERY SUNDAY** between 9:05-9:55am.

DONATIONS:

Cheque donations to:
FSSP Australia
PO Box 6241, Mawson, ACT2607

Bank Account Details:
*For online donations **ONLY***

First Collection (Apostolate)
***BSB** 062 786 **A/c No:** 00020007*
***A/c Name:** Priestly Fraternity of St Peter*

Second Collection (Church)
***BSB** 062 786 **A/c No:** 00021179*
***A/c Name:** Priestly Fraternity of St Peter*

Church Building Fund
***BSB** 062 786 **A/c No:** 00029891*
***A/c Name:** Priestly Fraternity of St Peter (Building fund)*

The FSSP District of Oceania has a zero tolerance policy towards abuse in any form.

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
Denise Sheehan: 0401 404 539
Latinmass.safeguarding@cg.org.au

St Michael the Archangel Latin Mass Chaplaincy, Canberra

Served by **The Priestly Fraternity of St Peter (FSSP)**

Chaplain:
Rev. Paul Leung, FSSP
Tel: 0405 527 880

Assistant Priest:
Rev. Brendan Boyce
Tel: 0414 055 633

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6161 5320

Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/FSSP-Canberra-St-Michael-the Archangel

Mass & Confession Schedule

Sunday:	**8:00am**	**(Low Mass)**
	10:00am	**(Sung Mass)**
Mon - Thurs:	**7:00am**	**(Low Mass)**
Friday:	**6:30pm**	**(Low Mass)**

followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 8:15pm

Saturday: **9:00am** **(Low Mass)**

Venue: **Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Garran**
2 Boake Pl, Garran, ACT 2605

CONFESSION

30 minutes before all Masses until circa 5 minutes before Mass.
Also during Masses where two priests are available.

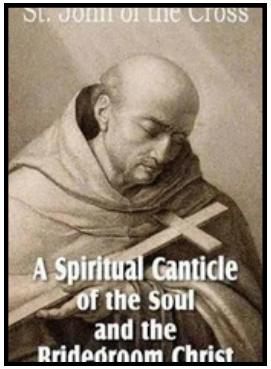
22nd November 2026
Last Sunday after Epiphany

CALENDAR

DATE	FEAST	LOCATION / TIME
Mon, 23rd Nov	St Clement I	7AM (Low)
Tue, 24th Nov	St John of the Cross	7AM (Low)
Wed, 25th Nov	St Catherine	7AM (Low)
Thurs, 26th Nov	St Silvester	7AM (Low), followed by Adoration of the B. Sacrament until 8:30am
Fri, 27th Nov	Daily Requiem Mass	6:30PM (Sung), followed by Holy Hour until 8:30pm.
Sat, 28th Nov	Saturday of Our Lady	8:30AM (Rosary) 9AM (Low)
Sun, 29th Nov	First Sunday of Advent	8AM (Low); 9:30AM (Rosary) 10AM (Sung)



The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary



St John of the Cross (1542–1591), a Carmelite priest, mystic, and Doctor of the Church, is remembered as one of the greatest spiritual writers in Catholic history. His writings teach us that holiness consists not merely in religious practices or extraordinary experiences, but in the transformation of the soul through love and union with God.

Born in Spain to a poor family, John entered the Carmelite Order and was ordained a priest. He later met St Teresa of Avila, who was working to reform the Carmelite convents by restoring a stricter observance of religious life, greater detachment from worldly comforts, and a deeper commitment to prayer. John joined her efforts and helped establish the reform among the friars.

However, the reform encountered considerable opposition. In 1577, John was arrested by Carmelites opposed to the movement and imprisoned in a monastery in Toledo. For approximately nine months, he endured terrible conditions. Confined to a tiny, dark cell, deprived of adequate food and subjected to harsh treatment, he experienced profound physical and spiritual suffering.

Yet it was during this imprisonment that John began composing one of his greatest masterpieces, The Spiritual Canticle. Remarkably, from a place of darkness and suffering emerged a poem of extraordinary beauty, expressing the soul's longing for God.

Inspired by the biblical Song of Songs, the poem describes a bride searching desperately for her beloved bridegroom. The Bridegroom represents Christ, while the Bride represents the soul seeking union with Him. Their search and eventual meeting symbolise the journey of spiritual purification, growth in charity, and intimate communion with God.

The imagery is deliberately affectionate and passionate. John wishes to teach us that our relationship with God is not simply a matter of obeying commandments or fulfilling religious duties. It is fundamentally a relationship of love. God desires our hearts, and the human heart, whether it recognises it or not, longs for Him.

The Bride's restless search also reveals something about ourselves. We continually seek happiness in possessions, pleasures, achievements, and human relationships. Although these may contain genuine goodness, none can completely satisfy our deepest desires. As St Augustine famously observed, our hearts remain restless until they rest in God.

After escaping imprisonment, John continued his spiritual work and later wrote a detailed commentary explaining the poem's meaning. He showed how God gradually purifies the soul of disordered attachments so that it may love Him more freely and completely.

The great lesson of The Spiritual Canticle is that suffering and spiritual darkness need not separate us from God. When accepted with faith and love, they can become occasions of deeper union with Him. St John's own life demonstrates this beautifully: imprisoned in darkness, he discovered the freedom of a soul wholly surrendered to divine love.