



# BLESSING AND OPENING OF THE ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL REMEMBRANCE GARDEN

11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021



PLEASE SCAN TO CHECK-IN



**Gabi Tobin:**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Dharawal people, and pay our respects to the elders both past, present and future, for they hold the memories, the traditions, and the culture of this ancient land, Australia.

**Fr Bernard:** Introduction

**Opening Prayer:** O God, who through the ending of present things open the beginning of things to come, grant, we pray, that all who serve you may be led by you to attain the inheritance of eternal redemption. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Please be seated**

## FIRST READING:

**Lisa de Paiva** A reading from the book of Wisdom (Wis 3:1-9)

*He accepted them as a holocaust.*

The souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God, no torment shall ever touch them. In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die, their going looked like a disaster, their leaving us, like annihilation; but they are in peace. If they experienced punishment as men see it, their hope was rich with immortality; slight was their affliction, great will their blessings be. God has put them to the test and proved them worthy to be with him; he has tested them like gold in a furnace, and accepted them as a holocaust. When the time comes for his visitation, they will shine out; as sparks run through the stubble, so will they. They shall judge nations, rule over peoples, and the Lord will be their king for ever. They who trust in him will understand the truth, those who are faithful will live with him in love; for grace and mercy await those he has chosen.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord

**All:** Thanks be to God

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

### THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

Composer: Paul Mason  
Lyricist: Psalm 23 Revised Grail Psalter

1.

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me; he revives my soul.  
He guides me along the right path, for the sake of his name.

2.

Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,  
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.  
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort.

3.

You have prepared a table before me in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing, overflowing.

4.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the LORD's own house shall I dwell  
for length of days unending, days unending.

**Please stand**

## GOSPEL

**Fr Bernard:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (Jn 11:17-27)

*I am the resurrection and the life.*

On arriving at Bethany, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

**Fr Bernard:** Homily



## **Blessing:**

### **BLESSING FOR THE ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL REMEMBRANCE GARDEN**

O God, by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest, the bereaved are consoled, and the courageous are strengthened to persevere in goodness, bless this remembrance garden in honour of those who have given generously that others may live.

Merciful God, give eternal peace to those who have died in the service of Australia; touch with comfort and hope the hearts of those who mourn their loss; protect those who serve on the frontline as first responders.

In your kind providence send an angel of peace to those who feel desperate because they are confronted with the pain of human life in their work. May they always have someone to befriend them and help them know they are loved and accepted.

May we who honour those who have given so much for our freedom and wellbeing imitate their virtues of loyalty, self-sacrifice, and compassion.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Laying of Wreaths**

### **Last Post**

**Final Blessing:** May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May he let his face shine upon you and show you his mercy.  
May he turn his countenance towards you  
and give you his peace.

**All:** Amen

### **Presentation**

### **National Anthem**

*Refreshments will be served on the Cathedral House veranda*



In partnership with



Photos supplied by Peter Mowbray



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