



Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide

Archbishop of Adelaide

22nd April, 2025
20250422:002:L:POR

Dear sisters and brothers,

Re: Death of Pope Francis and Invitation to attend a Memorial Mass for Pope Francis

Grace and peace, I hope this note finds you well.

On Monday evening, 21st April 2025 we learned of the death of the Holy Father. Pope Francis was 88 years old and was at home continuing his recovery from illness and a significant hospital stay.

Much will be said in the coming days and weeks about the life of Pope Francis. The entire world was captivated by his extraordinary pontificate marked by humility, simplicity, mercy and compassion. He worked tirelessly for justice, for the good of the Church and the whole world.

On Easter Sunday, the day before he died, Pope Francis appeared in St. Peter's Square to give his [Easter Urbi et Ordi](#), a special message 'to the city and the world' and a special apostolic blessing. In his message, Francis reminded us,

Christ is risen! These words capture the whole meaning of our existence, for we were not made for death but for life. Easter is the celebration of life! God created us for life and wants the human family to rise again! In his eyes, every life is precious!

In the Lord's Paschal Mystery, death and life contended in a stupendous struggle, but the Lord now lives forever (cf. Easter Sequence). He fills us with the certainty that we too are called to share in the life that knows no end, when the clash of arms and the rumble of death will be heard no more. Let us entrust ourselves to him, for he alone can make all things new (cf. Rev. 21:5)!

Although we are filled with sorrow at his passing, we place our trust in the resurrection, and the hope that Pope Francis, and one day each of us, will be at peace in the arms of Christ for all eternity.

A Memorial Mass for Pope Francis will be celebrated at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral on Sunday, 27th April 2025 at 11.00am.

Together with this letter, I have also attached a memo from Community Life and Worship Office who have provided some resources to assist Parishes as we mourn the death of Pope Francis. I encouraged all Parish Communities to pray for him and for the Election of a new Pontiff.

Let us continue to pray for the soul of Pope Francis, for consolation for the People of God, and peace in the world. For God is good, good indeed.

In Domino,

+ *Pat O'Regan*

+Patrick O'Regan
Archbishop of Adelaide

1 Attachment