



ST COLUMBANS MISSION SOCIETY

90TH EDITION

COLUMBAN CALENDAR
2012
ART GUIDE



COLUMBAN CALENDAR

2012

90TH EDITION



ART GUIDE INTRODUCTION

2012 marks the 90th edition of the Columban Calendar which is well-known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information.

The first Calendar was produced in 1923, the year Vegemite hit Victorian tastebuds. The iconic calendar has become a feature in homes to generations of Australians and New Zealanders and is a major fundraiser for St Columbans Mission Society.

As one of the Columban benefactors recently wrote, “I will be 90 years old in 2012, the same age as the calendar. I have been a widow for 23 years and I never feel lonely or alone when I look at my calendar which takes pride of place on my living room wall.” This remark is just one of many which Columbans receive each year.

As a way of saying thank you for being part of the 90th edition, Columbans have produced this beautiful DVD which gives a brief explanation of each painting included in the 2012 Calendar. The following explanations have been compiled by Claire Renkin, well-known art historian and lecturer at Yarra Theological Union.



COLUMBAN CALENDAR 2012



90TH EDITION

FRONT COVER

Virgin and Child with Angels: *Gozzoli (1420-1497)*

The Virgin and Child are enclosed by alternating pairs of seraphim and cherubim. Within her fur-lined mantle the Virgin gently holds her Son. Christ appears not to be aware of his mother's protective embrace. His attention is directed out of the space of the painting. Gozzoli includes a clue to explain both Christ and his mother's expressions of introspection (the Virgin) and preoccupation (the Child). Christ holds in his left hand a tiny brightly coloured gold finch. Symbolically this bird recalls the Crucifixion for legend told how it received the bright splash of red on its breast when it flew past Christ hanging on the cross. Christ's gesture of grasping the gold finch reminds us of His future Passion. Similarly Mary's downcast gaze suggests her acknowledgement of the suffering her only child will embrace.



Léopoldo, Filippo (1457-1504); Madonna and Saints, Florence, Sarno Spinox. © 2011, Photo Scala, Florence

JANUARY 2012

Readings: Sunday / Weekday Cycle II / Cycle 2

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| 1 <i>White Solemnity</i> MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, Octave of Christmas | 2 <i>White Memorial</i> <i>St Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen</i> | 3 <i>White Optional</i> <i>Holy Name of Jesus</i> | 4 <i>White</i> | 5 <i>White</i> | 6 <i>White</i> <i>Day Of Penance</i> | 7 <i>White Optional</i> <i>St Raymond of Peñafort</i> |
| 8 <i>White Solemnity</i> THE EPHONY | 9 <i>White Feast</i> Baptism of the Lord | 10 <i>Green</i> <i>Beginning of Ordinary Time</i> | 11 <i>Green</i> | 12 <i>Green</i> | 13 <i>Green Optional</i> <i>St Mary Day Of Penance</i> | 14 <i>Green Optional</i> <i>Blessed Virgin Mary</i> |
| 15 <i>Green Solemnity</i> 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 16 <i>Green</i> | 17 <i>White Memorial</i> <i>St Anthony</i> | 18 <i>Green</i> | 19 <i>Green</i> | 20 <i>Green Optional</i> <i>St Fabian, St Sebastian Day Of Penance</i> | 21 <i>Red Memorial</i> <i>St Agnes</i> |
| 22 <i>Green Solemnity</i> 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 23 <i>White Memorial</i> <i>St Timothy and Titus</i> | 24 <i>White Memorial</i> <i>St Francis de Sales</i> | 25 <i>White Feast</i> The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle | 26 <i>White</i> AUSTRALIA DAY | 27 <i>Green Optional</i> <i>St Angela Merici Day Of Penance</i> | 28 <i>White Memorial</i> <i>St Thomas Aquinas</i> |
| 29 <i>Green Solemnity</i> 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 30 <i>Green</i> | 31 <i>White Memorial</i> <i>St John Bosco</i> | DECEMBER 2011 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | FEBRUARY 2012 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 | | |



JANUARY 2012

Madonna and Saints: Filippino Lippi (1457-1504)

Filippino Lippi's altarpiece for the chapel of a wealthy Florentine merchant Tanai di Nerli and his wife Nanni invites us into a scene pulsating with life and devotion. The donors kneel before the Virgin and Child in poses which express their prayer-filled thoughts. St Martin on our left and St Catherine of Alexandria perform their mediating role by introducing the earthly couple to the Virgin and Child. Christ's attention is drawn to the young John the Baptist who kneels at the foot of the Virgin's throne. John's reed cross distracts the Christ Child who reaches out to grasp the tip. This playful gesture evokes the mystery of Christ's Incarnation, for this is the God who will die on the cross. Lippi further dramatises vulnerability in the scene glimpsed at right through the arcade. We see a family group at the entrance to a contemporary fifteenth-century Florentine palace. The man bends down to farewell his child. The father and daughter tenderly embrace. Behind the group a horse lies ready for a journey. In the renaissance, people found meaning in the idea of life as a journey. Then as now people identify with Christ and the saints, who like us "journey towards our Heavenly Father."



Giotto (Giotto di Bondone 1266-1336): Presentation in the Temple (detail), Padua, Scrovegni Chapel.
© 2011, Photo Scala, Florence

FEBRUARY 2012

Readings: Sunday : Cycle B
: Weekday : Cycle 2

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| | | | 1 Green | 2 White Feast | 3 Green Optional | 4 Green Optional |
| | | | | The Presentation of The Lord | St Blaise, St Ansgar Day Of Penance | Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 5 Green Solemnity | 6 Red Memorial | 7 Green | 8 Green Optional | 9 Green | 10 White Memorial | 11 Green Optional |
| 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | St Paul Mar & Companion | | St Jerome Embranz St Josephine Bakhita | | St Scholastica Day Of Penance | Our Lady of Lourdes, Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 12 Green Solemnity | 13 Green | 14 White Memorial | 15 Green | 16 Green | 17 Green Optional | 18 Green Optional |
| 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | | St Cyril & Methodius | | | The Seven Founders of the Order of Servites Day Of Penance | Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 19 Green Solemnity | 20 Green | 21 Green Optional | 22 White Feast | 23 Violet Optional | 24 Violet | 25 Violet |
| 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | | St Peter Damian | ASH WEDNESDAY Day of Fast and Abstinence | St Polycarp | Day Of Penance | |
| 26 Violet Solemnity | 27 Violet | 28 Violet | 29 Violet | JANUARY 2012 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | MARCH 2012 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | |
| 1ST SUNDAY IN LENT | | | | | | |

FEBRUARY 2012

Presentation in the Temple (detail): Giotto (1266-1336)

Giotto, the great Florentine fourteenth-century master introduced a new emotional realism into painting. The scene of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple unfolds before us with drama. Six figures stand in front of the temple which is suggested by the large stone canopy. The spare setting allows us to focus on the interactions between the figures at the centre of the story: the Virgin, Christ and the priest Simeon. The outstretched hands of the mother intersect with the searching arm of her child. Jesus faces towards us, though his gaze falls upon the face of the aged Simeon. Giotto employs the language of gesture and expression to suggest complex emotional and spiritual meanings. Mary's open hands simultaneously release and await the return of her child. While Simeon's covered hands symbolize his reverence for Christ the Messiah.



Costa Conti, after Andrea del Sarto, The Annunciation, oil (detail), Gift of Miss H.M. Dickinson 1899, Collection: Art Gallery of New South Wales

MARCH 2012

Readings: Sunday Cycle II
Weekday Cycle 2

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|-------------|---|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 | | | APRIL S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 | 1 Votet | 2 Votet <i>Day Of Penance</i> | 3 Votet |
| 4 Votet <i>Solemnity</i> | 5 Votet | 6 Votet | 7 Votet <i>Optional</i> | 8 Votet <i>Optional</i> | 9 Votet <i>Optional</i> | 10 Votet |
| 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT | | | <i>St. Paphia & Felicity</i> | <i>St. John of God</i> | <i>St. Francis of Rome</i> <i>Day Of Penance</i> | |
| 11 Votet <i>Solemnity</i> | 12 Votet | 13 Votet | 14 Votet | 15 Votet | 16 Votet | 17 Votet <i>Solemnity</i> |
| 3RD SUNDAY IN LENT | | | | | <i>Day Of Penance</i> | ST PATRICK |
| 18 Votet of Rose <i>Solemnity</i> | 19 Votet <i>Solemnity</i> | 20 Votet | 21 Votet | 22 Votet | 23 Votet <i>Optional</i> | 24 Votet |
| 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT | ST JOSEPH HUSBAND OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY | | | | <i>St. Tobias de Mogrovejo</i> <i>Day Of Penance</i> | |
| 25 Votet <i>Solemnity</i> | 26 Votet <i>Solemnity</i> | 27 Votet | 28 Votet | 29 Votet | 30 Votet | 31 Votet |
| 5TH SUNDAY IN LENT | THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD | | | | <i>Day Of Penance</i> | |

MARCH 2012

The Annunciation (detail): Costa Conti, after Andrea del Sarto

The theme of the Annunciation in Christian art has a rich tradition. Artists employed a variety of symbols to evoke the mystery of Mary's acceptance of God's invitation to become the Mother of God. This painting copied after the Florentine master, Andrea del Sarto's masterpiece, includes several startling features. Unusually Gabriel appears before the Virgin in the company of two angels. Mary turns almost hesitantly in response to the archangel's greeting. She stands poised in front of a grand classical façade, whose monumentality enhances her dignified figure. In her hand the Virgin marks her place in her book. Tradition taught that Mary was reading the prophet Isaiah: "behold a Virgin shall conceive and bear a child." Mystery lies at the heart of this promise of God made man. Symbols in the foreground hint at the paradox of Christ's incarnation. The cloud beneath the angels' feet evokes heaven, and the red and white roses evoke Christ's life on earth.



Angelico, Fra (1387-1455): Lamentation over the Dead Christ (detail). Florence, Museo di San Marco. © 2011. Photo Scala, Florence courtesy of the Ministero Beni e Att. Culturali

APRIL 2012

Readings: Sunday Cycle B
Weekday Cycle 2

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

| | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 Red Solemnity | 2 Violet Solemnity | 3 Violet Solemnity | 4 Violet Solemnity | 5 White Solemnity | 6 Red Solemnity | 7 White Solemnity |
| PASSION SUNDAY (PALM SUNDAY) | Monday of Holy Week | Tuesday of Holy Week | Wednesday of Holy Week | Holy Thursday | Good Friday Day of Fast and Abstinence | Holy Saturday, EASTER VIGIL |
| 8 White Solemnity | 9 White Solemnity | 10 White Solemnity | 11 White Solemnity | 12 White Solemnity | 13 White Solemnity | 14 White Solemnity |
| EASTER SUNDAY | Easter Monday | Easter Tuesday | Easter Wednesday | Easter Thursday | Easter Friday Day of Penance | Easter Saturday |
| 15 White Solemnity | 16 White | 17 White | 18 White | 19 White | 20 White | 21 White Optional |
| 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER Divine Mercy Sunday | | | | | Day of Penance | St Assisi |
| 22 White Solemnity | 23 White Optional | 24 White Optional | 25 White Solemnity | 26 Red Fast | 27 White Optional | 28 Red Memorial |
| 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER | St George, St Adalbert | St Fidelis of Sigmaringen | ANZAC DAY | St Mark, Evangelist | St Louis de Montford Day of Penance | St Peter Chanel |
| 29 White Solemnity | 30 White Optional | MARCH S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | | MAY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | | |
| 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER | St Paul V | | | | | |



APRIL 2012

*Lamentation over the Dead Christ (detail):
Fra Angelico (1387-1455)*

Fra Angelico, artist and Dominican friar frescoed the interior of the cells for the novices and friars of the Dominican convent of San Marco, Florence. Every cell depicted a scene from the life of Christ. Here in cell 2 we see the Lamentation, which imaginatively engages with the events surrounding the Passion. We look down upon Christ's life-less body as Mary his mother, John the Evangelist, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary lament their son, friend and teacher. Each kneeling figure's loving touch of Christ's body expresses an intimate communion with Him and with each other. St Dominic gazes down at the sorrowful scene reminding us that we are all witnesses to the timeless reality of Christ's mission.



Duccio di Buoninsegna (c. 1260-1318): Maesta, upper section; Pinescort, Siena, Museo dell'Opera Metropolitana. © 2011. Photo Opera Metropolitana Siena/Scala, Firenze

MAY 2012

Readings: Sunday Cycle B
: Weekday Cycle 2

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | 1 White Optional | 2 White Memorial | 3 Red Fast | 4 White | 5 White |
| | | St Joseph The Worker | St Athanasius | St Philip & James, Apostles | Day Of Penance | |
| ○ 6 White Solemnity | 7 White | 8 White | 9 White | 10 White | 11 White | 12 White Optional |
| 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER | | | | | Day Of Penance | St Nereus & Achilleus, St Penance |
| ☾ 13 White Solemnity | 14 Red Fast | 15 White | 16 White | 17 White | 18 White Optional | 19 White |
| 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER | St Matthias, Apostle | | | | St John I Day Of Penance | |
| 20 White Solemnity | 21 White Optional | 22 White Optional | 23 White | 24 White Solemnity | 25 White Optional | 26 White Memorial |
| ASCENSION OF THE LORD | St Christopher of Magalhães & Companions | St Rita of Cascia | | OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS | St Bede the Venerable, St Gregory VII, St Mary Magdalene de Pazzi Day Of Penance | St Philip Neri |
| 27 Red Solemnity | 28 Green | 29 Green | 30 Green | 31 White Fast | APRIL S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 JUNE S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 | |
| PENTECOST SUNDAY | Ordinary Time Resumes | | | The Visitation of The Blessed Virgin Mary | | |

MAY 2012

*Pentecost from the Maesta (upper section):
Duccio (around 1260-1318)*

Duccio's sublime masterpiece is the double-sided altarpiece he painted for the high altar of Siena's cathedral. This multi-panelled painting depicts scenes from the lives of Christ and the Virgin. In the scene of Pentecost, Duccio depicts the apostles gathered together as narrated in Luke-Acts 2. Small tongues of fire rest upon each figure's heads – signs of the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Virgin is the focus of the apostles and the viewer's gaze. She alone wears a mantle highlighted with gold leaf, the precious material a symbolic expression of her status as Mother of God and figure of the Church. The apostles turn towards her radiant, anchoring presence. Her outstretched hands both receive and send forth the breath of life.



Boticelli, Sandro (1445-1510): Lamentation over the Dead Christ - Detail, Munich, Alte Pinakothek München, Bayerische Staatsgemäldesammlungen, Poplar panel, 140 x 207 cm, Inv.107540 2011. Photo Scala, Florence/BPK, Bildagentur fuer Kunst, Kultur

JUNE 2012

Readings: Sunday Cycle B
: Weekday Cycle 2

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| MAY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | | | | JULY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | 1 Red Memorial St Justin Day Of Penance | 2 Green Optional St Marcellinus & Peter Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 3 White Solemnity HOLY TRINITY | 4 Green | 5 Red Memorial St Basil the Great | 6 Green Optional St Norbert | 7 Green | 8 Green Day Of Penance | 9 Green Optional St Ephrem Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 10 White Solemnity CORPUS CHRISTI | 11 Red Memorial St Barnabas, Apostle | 12 Green St Anthony of Padua | 13 White Memorial | 14 Green | 15 White Solemnity SACRED HEART OF JESUS Day Of Penance | 16 White Memorial Immaculate Heart of Mary |
| 17 Green Solemnity 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 18 Green | 19 Green Optional St Romuald | 20 Green | 21 White Memorial St Aloysius Gonzaga | 22 Green Optional St Paulinus of Nola St John Fisher & Thomas More Day Of Penance | 23 Green Optional Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 24 White Solemnity THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST | 25 Green | 26 Green St Cyril of Alexandria | 27 Green Optional St Penance | 28 Red Memorial St Peter & Paul, Apostles Day Of Penance | 29 Red Solemnity | 30 Green Optional The First Martyrs of the Church of Rome, Blessed Virgin Mary |

JUNE 2012

*Lamentation over the Dead Christ (detail):
Sandro Botticelli (1445-1510)*

This detail of St Peter from Botticelli's painting of The Lamentation of Christ portrays him in an attitude of introspection. Various visual clues help us recognize the saint including the blue tunic and yellow mantle St Peter traditionally wears. However, it is his familiar attribute, the keys (one gold the other silver) which he holds in his left hand that proclaim the saint's identity and authority. Although the gospels do not mention Peter's presence at the Crucifixion, by including him in this scene of the Lamentation, Botticelli poses a challenging question to the viewer. How can we be present to Christ's suffering in our lives?



Duccio di Buoninsegna (c. 1206-1218): Maesta, upper section/ Appearance on the Sea of Galilee, Siena, Museo dell'Opera Metropolitana. © 2011. Photo Opera Metropolitana Siena/Scala, Florence

JULY 2012

Readings: Sunday Cycle B
: Weekday Cycle 2

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| 1 Green Solemnity 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 2 Green | 3 ☉ Red Feast St Thomas, Apostle | 4 Green Optional St Elizabeth of Portugal | 5 Green Optional St Anthony Zaccaria | 6 Green Optional St Maria Goretti Day Of Penance | 7 Green Optional St Peter To Rd. Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 8 Green Solemnity 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 9 Green Optional St Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions | 10 ☾ Green St Benedict | 11 White Memorial | 12 Green | 13 Green Optional St Henry Day Of Penance | 14 Green Optional St Cornelius de Lellis, Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 15 Green Solemnity 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 16 Green Optional Our Lady of Mt Carmel | 17 Green | 18 ● Green | 19 Green | 20 Green Optional St Apollinaris Day Of Penance | 21 Green Optional St Lawrence of Brindisi, Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 22 Green Solemnity 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 23 Green Optional St Bridget | 24 Green Optional St Sharbel Makhluf | 25 ☾ Red Feast St James, Apostle | 26 White Memorial St Joachim & Anne | 27 Green Day Of Penance | 28 Green Optional Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 29 Green Solemnity 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 30 Green Optional St Peter Chrysologus | 31 White Memorial St Ignatius of Loyola | JUNE S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 | | AUGUST S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | |

JULY 2012

*Appearance on the Sea of Galilee
from the Maesta (upper section):
Duccio (c. 1260-1318)*

The post-resurrection scene of Christ's appearance to the apostles on Lake Tiberias has its source in John 21:1-8. Duccio evokes the astonished reactions of the disciples as they glimpse the risen Christ. Shock registers on the faces of those in the boat who have seen Christ. Duccio imagines this dramatic episode with a minimum of narrative detail. Sea and land are depicted as symbolic forms. Peter's encounter with Christ stretches through the awe-filled space between them. Christ's intent gaze and beckoning gesture draw Peter towards him and the shore. Duccio reveals in this moment of Peter's recognition of the risen Christ how faith transforms the failures of the past and renews all things.



Angeli, Frn (1387-1455): Transfiguration (detail), Florence, Museo di San Marco. © 2011. Photo Scala, Florence - courtesy of the Ministero Beni e Att. Culturali

AUGUST 2012

Readings: Sunday Cycle II
Weekday Cycle 2

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|---|
| | | JULY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | 1 White Memorial St Alphonsus Liguori | 2 Green Optional St Peter Julian Eymard, St Eusebius of Vercelli | 3 Green | 4 White Memorial St John Vianney |
| 5 Green Solemnity 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 6 White Feast The Transfiguration of The Lord | 7 Green Optional St Sixtus II & Companions, St Cajetan, St Dominic | 8 White Solemnity ST MARY OF THE CROSS (Mackillop) | 9 Green Optional St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) | 10 Red Feast St Lawrence Day Of Penance | 11 White Memorial St Clare |
| 12 Green Solemnity 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 13 Green Optional St Pontian & Hippolytus | 14 Red Memorial St Maximilian Kolbe | 15 White Solemnity ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Holy Day | 16 Green Optional St Stephen of Hungary | 17 Green Day Of Penance | 18 Green Optional Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 19 Green Solemnity 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 20 White Memorial St Bernard | 21 White Memorial St Flux X | 22 White Memorial The Queenship of Mary | 23 Green Optional St Rita of Loria | 24 Red Feast St Bartholomew, Apostle Day Of Penance | 25 Green Optional St Louis, St Joseph Calasant, Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 26 Green Solemnity 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 27 White Memorial St Monica | 28 White Memorial St Augustine | 29 Red Memorial The Beheading of St John The Baptist | 30 Green Day Of Penance | 31 Green Day Of Penance | SEPTEMBER S M T W T F S 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 |

AUGUST 2012

*The Transfiguration (detail):
Fra Angelico (1387-1455)*

Fra Angelico's Transfiguration has been acclaimed as one of the friar-artist's greatest masterpieces. Like the fresco of the Lamentation this work also formed part of the decorative programme of the cells in the Dominican convent of San Marco, Florence. Christ dominates the scene, his towering figure stands on a rocky platform, which recalls the mountain setting traditionally identified as Mt Tabor. At Christ's feet Peter, James and John express the awe that filled them when Jesus revealed his divine nature to his companions. Peter turns his back on the blinding vision, while James shields his eyes. Only John ventures a glimpse of the radiant Christ. Subtle gradations of light and colour create the energy-filled space emanating like a force-field from Christ. His outstretched arms pierce the mandorla-shaped halo. In this gesture Christ manifests the majesty of the Creator and pathos of the Crucified.



Caravaggio (Merisi), Michelangelo da (1571-1610): Saint Matthew and the Angel (detail), Rome, Church of San Luigi dei Francesi. © 2011, Photo Scala, Florence

SEPTEMBER 2012

Readings: Sunday Cycle B
Weekday Cycle 2

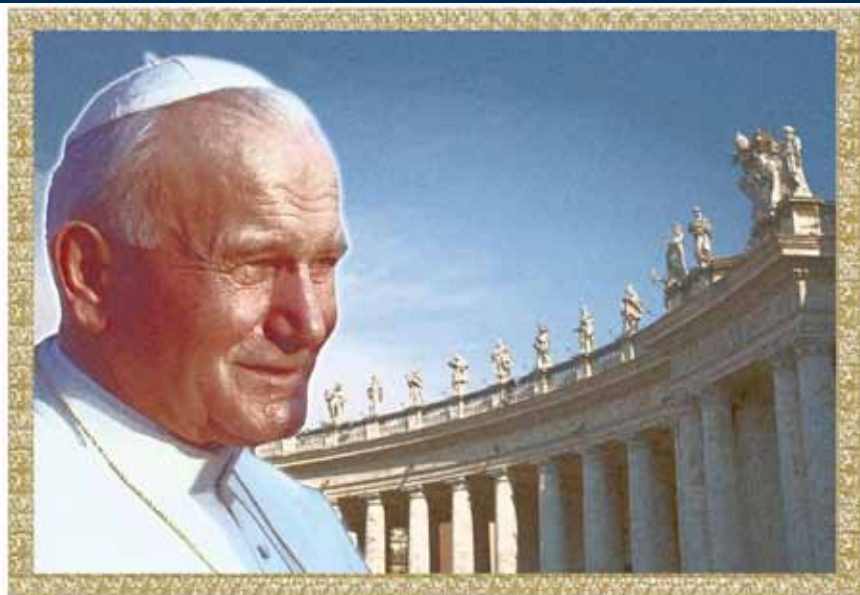
SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---------------------|--|--|--|--|
| <p>○ 30 Green Ascension</p> <p>26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> | <p>AUGUST S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p> | | | | <p>OCTOBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p> | <p>1 Green Optional</p> <p>Blessed Virgin Mary</p> |
| <p>2 Green Ascension</p> <p>22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> | <p>3 White Memorial</p> <p>St Gregory the Great</p> | <p>4 Green</p> | <p>5 Green</p> | <p>6 Green</p> | <p>7 Green</p> <p>Day Of Penance</p> | <p>8 White Feast</p> <p>The Birth of The Blessed Virgin Mary</p> |
| <p>9 Green Ascension</p> <p>23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> | <p>10 Green</p> | <p>11 Green</p> | <p>12 Green Optional</p> <p>Holy Name of Mary</p> | <p>13 White Memorial</p> <p>St John Chrysostom</p> | <p>14 Red Feast</p> <p>The Triumph of The Cross Day Of Penance</p> | <p>15 White Memorial</p> <p>Our Lady of Sorrows</p> |
| <p>16 Green Ascension</p> <p>24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> | <p>17 Green Optional</p> <p>St Robert Bellarmine</p> | <p>18 Green</p> | <p>19 Green Optional</p> <p>St Januarius</p> | <p>20 Red Memorial</p> <p>St Andrew Kim Taegon, St Paul Chong Haseong & Companions</p> | <p>21 Red Feast</p> <p>St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist Day Of Penance</p> | <p>22 Green Optional</p> <p>Blessed Virgin Mary</p> |
| <p>23 Green Ascension</p> <p>25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> | <p>24 Green</p> | <p>25 Green</p> | <p>26 Green Optional</p> <p>St Cosmas & Damian</p> | <p>27 White Memorial</p> <p>St Vincent de Paul</p> | <p>28 Green Optional</p> <p>St Winifred, St Laurence Ruiz & Companions Day Of Penance</p> | <p>29 White Feast</p> <p>St Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels</p> |

SEPTEMBER 2012

*St Matthew and the Angel:
Caravaggio (1571-1610)*

Caravaggio portrays a swirling vortex of flesh and fabric. In this moment of divine inspiration energy from above descends in the fury of revelation. A raking light sheds unsparing (yet partial) clarity on the encounter between St Matthew and the Angel. Through the jarring juxtapositions Caravaggio confronts us with youth and age. The eloquence of the Angel's "speaking" gestures contrasts with the awkward hesitancy of St Matthew. In a profound spiritual insight, Caravaggio's St Matthew is no polished scholar surrounded by the trappings of learning and the comforts of the scholar's study. Instead this tax-collector turned evangelist reveals through his ink-stained hands and searching gaze the tenacity of his devotion to Christ. Caravaggio's awkward St Matthew reminds that God chooses the most unlikely candidates to be his intermediaries.



Original photo of Pope John Paul II © John Casamento. Original background photo of Bernini Colonnade, St. Peter's Square, Rome, Italy © Massimo Sestini. Enhanced artwork © Michelle Vizza

OCTOBER 2012

Readings: Sunday Cycle B
Weekday Cycle 2

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| | 1 White Memorial St Teresa of the Child Jesus | 2 White Memorial The Guardian Angels | 3 Green | 4 White Memorial St Francis of Assisi | 5 Green | 6 Green Optional St Bruno, Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 7 Green Solemnity 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 8 Green | 9 Green Optional St Denis & Companions, St John Laurent | 10 Green | 11 Green | 12 Green | 13 Green Optional Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 14 Green Solemnity 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 15 White Memorial St Theresa of Avila | 16 Green Optional St Hedwig, St Margaret Mary Alacoque | 17 Red Memorial St Ignace of Antioch | 18 Red Feast St Luke, Evangelist | 19 Green Optional St John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues & Companions, St Paul of the Cross Day Of Penance | 20 Green Optional Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 21 Green Solemnity 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME MISSION SUNDAY | 22 Green | 23 Green Optional St John of Capistrano | 24 Green Optional St Anthony Claret | 25 Green | 26 Green | 27 Green Optional Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 28 Green Solemnity 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 29 Green | 30 Green | 31 Green | SEPTEMBER S M T W T F S 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 | | NOVEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 |

OCTOBER 2012

Blessed Pope John Paul II (1920-2005)

Original photo of Pope John Paul II by John Casamento. Background photo of Bernini Colonnade, St Peter's Square by Massimo Merlini. Enhanced artwork by Michelle Vieira.

The image of Pope John Paul II was taken by Melbourne photographer John Casamento during the Pope's visit to Australia in 1986. The photo has been imposed over the background of the Bernini Colonnade in St Peter's Square, Rome. Karol Józef Wojtyła was elected Pope on the 16th October 1978 and he took the name of John Paul II. His pontificate was one of the longest in the history of the Church and lasted nearly 27 years. Driven by his pastoral solicitude for all Churches and by a sense of openness and charity to the entire human race, John Paul II exercised the Petrine ministry with a tireless missionary spirit. His love for young people brought him to establish the World Youth Days (WYD). The 19 WYDs celebrated during his pontificate brought together millions of young people from all over the world. John Paul II successfully encouraged dialogue with people of the Jewish faith and representatives of other religions. On April 28, Pope Benedict XVI announced that the normal five-year waiting period before beginning the cause of beatification and canonization would be waived for John Paul II. Pope John Paul II was beatified and declared 'Blessed' on 01 May, 2011.



Angelico, Fra (1387-1455): Saint Stephen Receiving the Eucharist and Distributing Alms (detail), Vatican, Nicholas V's Chapel. © 2011, Photo Scala, Florence

NOVEMBER 2012

Readings: Sunday Cycle II
: Weekday Cycle 2

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | OCTOBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | 1 White Solemnity | 2 Violet | 3 Green Optional |
| 4 Green Solemnity | 5 Green | 6 Green | 7 Green | 8 Green | 9 White Fast | 10 White Memorial |
| 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | | | | ALL SAINTS | ALL SOULS Day Of Penance | St Martin de Porres, Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 11 Green Solemnity | 12 Red Memorial | 13 Green | 14 Green | 15 Green Optional | 16 Green Optional | 17 White Memorial |
| 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | St Joseph | | | St Albert the Great | St Margaret of Scotland, St Gertrude Day Of Penance | St Elizabeth of Hungary |
| 18 Green Solemnity | 19 Green | 20 Green | 21 White Memorial | 22 Red Memorial | 23 Green Optional | 24 Red Memorial |
| 33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | | | The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary | St Cecilia | St Columban, St Clement I Day Of Penance | St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions |
| 25 White Solemnity | 26 Green | 27 Green | 28 Green | 29 Green | 30 Red Fast | DECEMBER S M T W T F S 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 |
| CHRIST THE KING | Last Week in Ordinary Time | | | | St Andrew, Apostle Day Of Penance | |

NOVEMBER 2012

St Stephen receiving the Diaconate and Distributing Alms: Fra Angelico (1387-1455)

Towards the end of his life Fra Angelico was called to Rome by the Pope, Nicholas V, to help decorate the papal palace. A small chapel known as the Cappella Niccolini is all that remains of the artist's work for the Pope. Scenes from the lives of the first martyrs, Ss Stephen and Lawrence, appear over two levels on three walls. The fresco reproduced here depicts two successive moments from the life of Stephen as described in Luke-Acts. On the left the young deacon Stephen kneels to receive a chalice from St Peter. The classically-inspired architectural setting lends authority and dignity to the narrative. In the adjoining scene we glimpse St Stephen distributing alms to the poor and needy. The young mother and her child are dressed simply as befits their straightened circumstances. Amongst the figures approaching St Stephen the child closest to us captures our attention. Through the confidence expressed in the child's trusting gesture, Fra Angelico urges us always as Christians to focus on the needs of the poor.



Lippi, Filippo (1466-1499): The Virgin Adoring the Child, with Saint John the Baptist and Bernard of Siena (The Adoration in the Forest) (detail). Ca. 1449. Berlin, Gemäldegalerie, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin. Oil on panel, 129.5 x 118 cm. Inv. No. 69. Photo: Jürg P. Anders © 2011. Photo Scala, Florence/BRK, Bildagentur für Kunst, Kultur und Geschichte, Berlin and Geschichte, Berlin

DECEMBER 2012

(until 01/12) Readings: Sunday Cycle B
 Weekday Cycle 2
 (from 02/12) Readings: Sunday Cycle C
 Weekday Cycle 1

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|---|
| 30 White Feast HOLY FAMILY | 31 White Optional St Sylvester / | NOVEMBER 2012 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 | | | JANUARY 2013 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | 1 Green Optional Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 2 Violet Solemnity 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 3 White Memorial St Francis Xavier | 4 Violet Optional St John Damascene | 5 Violet | 6 Violet Optional | 7 White Memorial St Ambrose Day Of Penance | 8 White Solemnity THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY |
| 9 Violet Solemnity 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 10 Violet St Demetrius / | 11 Violet Optional St Demetrius / | 12 Violet Optional | 13 Red Memorial St Lucy | 14 White Memorial St John of the Cross Day Of Penance | 15 Violet |
| 16 Violet or Rose Solemnity 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 17 Violet | 18 Violet | 19 Violet | 20 Violet | 21 Violet Optional St Peter Canisius Day Of Penance | 22 Violet |
| 23 Violet Solemnity 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 24 Violet | 25 White Solemnity CHRISTMAS DAY Holy Day | 26 Red Feast St Stephen | 27 Red Feast St John, Apostle & Evangelist | 28 Red Feast The Holy Innocents Day Of Penance | 29 White Optional St Thomas a Becket |

DECEMBER 2012

*The Virgin Adoring the Child with Ss John the
Baptist and Bernard of Siena
(The Adoration in the Forest detail):
Filippo Lippi (1406-1469)*

This painting now in Berlin was originally commissioned for the private chapel of the Medici in their Florentine palace. Fra Filippo Lippi places the scene of the Virgin adoring the child in a setting that is neither familiar nor traditional. Instead, the artist invites us to contemplate the timeless meaning of Christ's Incarnation. The darkly wooded landscape enclosing the figures (including St John the Baptist and a monk, perhaps St Bernard of Clairvaux) exudes a sombre mood. Amidst harsh receding rock forms and barren terrain the Christ-child turns toward us. The Child's nakedness evokes for us his vulnerability and innocence. The artist portrays the Virgin as a refined and elegant beauty. Her delicately modeled facial features, framed by the impossibly diaphanous veil which falls from her head, move us to identify with her mood of introspection. Lippi's vision of the Nativity reminds us that the face of Christ brings a light which "dispels all darkness."

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