

Section Introductions – not to be skipped over!!!

- Catechising with the Word of God
- Saints of the Liturgical Year
- Doctrinal Connections Key
- Advent
- Christmas Time
- Lent
- The Sacred Paschal Triduum
- Easter Time
- Ordinary Time
- Holydays, Solemnities and Feasts
- Orients you to the book & rationale
- Lists the saints of the Aust/NZ ordo
- Lists the official documents referenced
- Flavour of the season, major themes of the readings & prayers, how we celebrate the season, liturgical colours, decorations, spiritual focus, spiritual practices of the season/time
- Note on Readings for Lent 3, 4, 5 – RCIA parishes use Year A every year; we have included Readings for Year B and C in those volumes

4 Evangelist Icons

- Matthew – winged human/angel
- Mark – winged lion
- Luke – winged ox
- John - eagle

Icons for the 4 Gospels

- Icons indicate what period, time, or season of the liturgical year we are in for each entry of the books
 - Ordinary Time icons in *Celebrating the Lectionary* indicate which Gospel is the focus of Year A, Year B, and Year C
 - The icons have a scriptural origin (Ezek 1/Rev 4:6-9ff) four ‘living creatures’ that draw the chariot of God
 - Each living creature has four faces: human, lion, ox, & eagle
 - 4 versions of the Gospel = one unified narrative told from four perspectives
 - Saint Jerome (c. 342-c. 420) first attributed these icons to the evangelists
 - Rabanus Maurus Magnentius (c. 780 – 4 February 856) identified three different layers of meaning/interpretation
1. they represent the evangelists
 2. they represent aspects of the nature of Christ himself
 3. they represent the virtues that Christians should aim to live out for salvation

Matthew – the angel or winged human

- The winged human, or angel is thought to represent the highest form of humankind, the king of creation made in the image of the creator
- Matthew begins with the genealogy that traces Joseph’s lineage back to Abraham
- Matthew explores the incarnation of Christ and Christ’s human nature
- The angel/winged human indicates that Christians should use their reason for salvation

Mark – the winged lion

- The winged lion represents the highest form of the beasts of prey or carnivorous animals
- Lions are fierce and courageous by nature, the King of the animals, just as Christ is courageous and king of the universe
- Markan lion also represents the Resurrection of Jesus
- Lions were believed to sleep with open eyes – like Christ in the tomb
- The winged lion indicates that Christians should use courage on the path to salvation

Luke – the winged ox

- The winged ox or bull represents the highest form or the king of the grass-eating domesticated animals
- Associated with sacrifice, service, and strength
- The ox signifies that Christians should be prepared to sacrifice themselves in following Christ

John – the eagle

- The eagle is associated with the sky, and traditionally believed to be able to look fearlessly straight into the sun
- The eagle symbolizes that Christians should look on eternity without flinching as they journey towards their goal of union with God
- Ambos in churches and cathedrals are often shaped like an eagle

Holydays, Solemnities, Feasts

- Jan 26 **Australia Day** (National Day of Prayer)
- Feb 6 **Waitangi Day** (National Day of Prayer – Aotearoa/NZ)
- March 17 **Saint Patrick** (Solemnity Australia/Feast NZ)
- March 19 Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the BVM
- March 25 Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord (to Mary)
- April 25 **ANZAC Day** (National Day of Remembrance)
- May 24 Solemnity of **Our Lady Help of Christians** (Memorial NZ)
- Sunday after Pentecost: Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity
- Sunday after Trinity Sunday: Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
- Friday after the Second Sunday after Pentecost: Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
- June 24 Solemnity of the Nativity of St John the Baptist
- June 29 Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles
- August 6 Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
- August 8 Solemnity of **Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop** (Feast NZ)
- August 15 Solemnity of the Assumption of the BVM
- September 14 Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- November 1 Solemnity of All Saints
- November 2 The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)
- November 9 Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
- December 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM
- **Ash Wednesday** – added into Years B & C

*Important or unique to Australia/NZ (and so added to the books) are **Bolded***

Saints featured only in CtL Year B

- Feb 8 Saint Josephine Bakhita
- March 8 Saint John of God
- April 23 Saint George
- July 22 Saint Mary Magdalene
- August 4 Saint John Vianney
- August 11 Saint Clare
- Sept 29 Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
- Oct 15 Saint Teresa of Jesus (Teresa of Avila)
- Nov 22 Saint Cecilia
- Nov 30 Saint Andrew