



November 2022

Vox Populi - Voice of the People

3 November 2022

Around seven weeks to Christmas and decorations are beginning to appear in the shops and invitations to end-of-year gatherings starting to fill the diaries. However, there is much more to observe and celebrate during the month of November.

Traditionally a month of remembrance of the dead, we began the month praying for the faithful departed.

All Saints Day on 1 November commemorates all the saints in heaven, and 2 November is a day of prayer and remembrance for the souls of those who have died.

On Friday 4 November we celebrate the feast day of St Charles Borromeo, often referred to as the loving reformer who cared deeply about people and wanted them to know the Church cared about them. Born in 1538 near the Alps in Lake Maggiore, Italy to distinguished and wealthy parents, Charles studied theology with the priesthood as his goal. At just 22 he was made a Cardinal of the Church, and soon after Archbishop of Milan. He also assisted in organising the Council of Trent out of which grew many reforms for which he is credited.

Charles Borromeo devoted his entire life to helping the people of God become more like Jesus, reaching out in special ways to help those around us and make the face of God more real in the world.

St Charles Borromeo is the Patron Saint of bishops, catechists and catechumens. Our Bishop of Broken Bay, Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL was installed as the fourth Bishop of this Diocese on 4 November 2019.

We also celebrate the Feast of Christ the King on 20 November, in honour of Jesus Christ as Lord over all Creation; the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 21 November,

and St Andrew the Apostle on 30 November.

Very importantly November is also the beginning of Advent, a time of preparation, reflection, and anticipation which marks our journey to the Festival of Christmas and the Birth of Christ, and also of preparation for the Second Coming of Christ. This year Advent will begin on Sunday 27 November and ends on Saturday 24 December.

So if you're already shopping for decorations don't forget your Advent candles!