

Vox Populi
01 June 2023

This week we celebrated the feast of the Patroness of our Diocese, Mary Star of the Sea. Star of the Sea is an ancient title for the Mother of Jesus Christ and comes to us from the Latin *Stella Maris*.

Under this title Mary intercedes as both guide and protector for all those who seek their livelihoods on or by the sea.

This is very appropriate for our community whose borders skirt both the Pacific Ocean and the beautiful Brisbane Waters. We recognise Mary as our guiding star and the model of discipleship as the mother of the Church.

Many clergy and parishioners attended the Vigil Mass on Tuesday night to celebrate this feast day before moving to The Light of Christ Centre to a presentation on our Cathedral Precinct journey.

It was wonderful to see so many parishioners contributing to the discussions with many thoughtful and creative ideas and suggestions. The Diocese will continue to keep everyone informed as the next stage of the journey unfolds.

This Sunday we celebrate Holy Trinity Sunday – the first Sunday following Pentecost. It is a solemn celebration of the belief in the revelation of one God, yet three divine persons: God the Father, the creator and sustainer of all things; God the Son, the incarnation of God as a human being, Jesus Christ, on Earth; and God the Heavenly Spirit, the power of God which is active in the world, drawing people towards God.

The doctrine of the Trinity is perhaps one of the more difficult aspects of Christianity, but it is fundamental. It helps us understand the complex nature of God. The three persons of the Trinity teaches us better about the nature of God and the roles He plays. While we recognise God the Father is our Father and the Author of Life and God the Son is our Lord and Saviour, God the Holy Spirit is our Teacher and Guide and helps us understand that God is always present in the world. This is a great source of strength as we know God is always with us.
