



Vox Populi

21 May 2025

The Jubilee Year of Hope continues through the Petrine ministry of Pope Leo XIV. Greeting more than 200,000 pilgrims, representatives of Christian denominations, and leaders from around the world, at his Mass of inauguration in St Peter's Square last Sunday, Pope Leo XIV expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the prayerful and joyful support as he begins his pastoral ministry as Pope.

"I was chosen, without any merit of my own, and now, with fear and trembling," said Pope Leo, "*I come to you as a brother*, who desires to be the servant of your faith and your joy, walking with you on the path of God's love, for he wants us all to be united in one family."

Pope Leo XIV recalled how love and unity are the two aspects of the mission entrusted to Peter by Jesus.

Next week, 31 May, we celebrate The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visits her cousin Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist.

The Visitation of Mary signifies her humility, willingness to serve God, and the joy of welcoming Jesus into the world. It also highlights the importance of charity, spreading the Gospel, and the Church's missionary nature

On this day we will also celebrate the Patroness of the Diocese of Broken Bay, Mary Star of the Sea.

Star of the Sea is an ancient title for the Mother of Jesus Christ and comes down to us from the Latin *Stella Maris*. Under this title, Mary intercedes as both guide and protector for all those who travel or seek their livelihoods on or by the sea. As a faith community whose borders skirt both the Pacific Ocean and the Brisbane Waters, Mary is our guiding star and the model of discipleship as the mother of the Church.

Recognising the Patronal Feast Day, Bishop Anthony is hosting the **Inaugural Diocesan Awards Gala Dinner and Presentation on Friday 30 May 2025** which will also feature the inaugural Diocesan Oration. This will be held at The Epping Club, 45-47 Rawson Street, Epping at 5.00pm. Tickets can be purchased from the following [site](#). The Diocese has subsidised the tickets by 50% so that they are available for \$75.00 each. The RSVP date has been extended to Monday 26 May if any parishioners would like to attend. You are most welcome.