

DIOCESE OF SYDNEY

GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION OF WITNESS

(A Pastoral Letter from the Archbishop to be read at all services on Palm Sunday, April 2, 1944).

At our Baptism we were signed with the sign of the Cross in token that hereafter we would not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified. The opportunity to do so publicly, not within the walls of the Church, but in the public streets is again presented by the Good Friday Procession of Witness which will leave the Domain at the rear of the Mitchell Library at 4.20 p.m. arriving at St. Andrew's Cathedral about 5 o'clock and after a short service there dispersing.

I ask each member of the Church to accept this as a personal challenge to take part in the Procession. Some do not find it easy to bear witness to their faith in this way, but many who have been careless about spiritual things have been greatly impressed by the large numbers taking part in previous years. The impression thus created has proved most useful in several important directions.

The effectiveness of the Procession depends on the numbers who join in it. I ask that from every congregation in the metropolitan area at least 20 to 30 members of the Church will signify to the Rector that they will endeavour to take part in this solemn act of witness. I hope that all who walk in the Procession, remembering its character, will walk in silence.

Trusting that through our personal attitude to the observance of Good Friday the community will come to realise that this is a most Holy day and not a holiday.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

Howard Sydney