

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

COMMITMENT STATEMENT

The emotional, physical and spiritual safety, well-being and dignity of Children and Adults is an integral part of the teachings and values of the Catholic Church. The Archdiocese is wholly committed to ensuring the safety, well-being and dignity of all Children and Adults at Risk, and acknowledge its important legal, moral and spiritual responsibility to create a safe and nurturing environment for those Children and Adults.



CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IS A CRIME. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the Police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the Police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on phone (02) 9390 5810 or via email SafeguardingEnquiries@SydneyCatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest. The Archdiocese of Sydney has a legal obligation to report crimes to the Police.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK CLEARANCE

You must keep your personal details up to date so that you can be contacted about your Working with Children Check (WWCC). Go to <https://ocg.nsw.gov.au/working-children-check/apply-wwcc/update-or-upgrade-your-wwcc-details> for more information. Please provide the Parish office with a copy of your WWCC. Thank you.

The Catholic Weekly

IN THIS WEEK'S EDITION

- Pope Leo is coming to Sydney.
 - Bishops highlight cost-of-living crisis.
 - Submissions open for assisted dying laws review.
 - Priests welcome all to confession this Lent.
 - Marian procession draws hundreds to Lidcombe.
 - Call for compassion, care on World Day of the Sick.
- Copies available at the entrances for \$2.00. Proceeds to St Vincent de Paul

KIDS CORNER

Forgiving and Forgiven

"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift." Matthew 5:23-24



The activity is based on Matthew 5:21-25

From the words provided for each clue, provide the letter of the word which best matches the clue.

- A group of human beings (men or women or children)
A.ALTAR B.FOOL C.PEOPLE D.FIRE
- To be at risk of being injured or harmed
A.DANGER B.FOOL C.REMEMBER D.GIFT
- A place where criminals are locked up
A.ALTAR B.COURT C.DANGER D.PRISON
- The place where gifts or sacrifices are made to God
A.ALTAR B.PEOPLE C.FIRE D.GIFT
- A person who lacks good sense
A.FOOL B.GIFT C.JUDGE D.PRISON
- Killing of a person by another person
A.COURT B.MURDER C.JUDGE D.PRISON
- The place where a trial is held
A.PEOPLE B.COURT C.FOOL D.ANGRY
- The light, heat, and flame that comes from burning
A.MURDER B.ALTAR C.FOOL D.FIRE
- To be furious
A.ANGRY B.COURT C.JUDGE D.PEOPLE
- A present that is given to another person
A.DANGER B.GIFT C.FIRE D.COURT
- A person who decides questions brought before a court
A.FOOL B.DANGER C.PEOPLE D.JUDGE
- To recall something from your memory
A.PRISON B.PEOPLE C.REMEMBER D.ANGRY

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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEAST DAYS OF FEBRUARY

Month of The Holy Family

- SAT 14 FEB—Sts Cyril & Methodius
- SUN 15 FEB—St Agape of Terni
- MON 16 FEB—St John III of Constantinople
- TUE 17 FEB—The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
- WED 18 FEB—ASH WEDNESDAY
- THU 19 FEB—St Boniface of Lausanne
- FRI 20 FEB—St Jacinta Marto; St Amata of Assisi
- SAT 21 FEB—St Peter Damian
- SUN 22 FEB—FEAST OF THE CHAIR OF ST PETER, APOSTLE



Open Days

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Belmore

Sun 1 Mar, 11:30am – 1:00pm
Wed 4 Mar, 5:00pm – 6:00pm

SOLEMNITY OF ST JOSEPH

Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday 19 March 2026

Mass at 9:00am & 7:15pm.
Procession starts at 7:00pm followed by Mass.
Light refreshments after Mass.

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

14–15 FEBRUARY 2026

This Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

Please donate today. You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code, or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate or by calling: 1800 024 413. Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.



We are called to reach out to everyone with the Love of God.

NEWSLETTER

15 FEB 2026 | Number 272



ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

763 Canterbury Road, BELMORE, NSW 2192
Parish Priest: FR ITA KOLOAMATANGI
Assistant Priest: FR FALAKIKO AFU
Deacon: REV. CHRISTOPHER ROEHRIG
Phone: (02) 9759 1280
Email: admin@StJosephBelmore.org.au
[Facebook.com/StJosephBelmore](https://www.facebook.com/StJosephBelmore)
Web: www.StJosephBelmore.org.au

MASS TIMES:

Mon–Sat: 9:00am
Sat: 5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sun: 8:00am & 10:00am
Youth Mass: 7:00pm
(First Friday of the Month)
Tongan Mass: 2:00pm
(Last Sunday of the Month)
Filipino Mass: 3:00pm
(First Sunday of the Month)
RECONCILIATION: Wed 6:00pm–6:45pm,
Sat 4:00pm–5:15pm
ADORATION & BENEDICTION:
Wed 6:00pm–7:00pm
Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals by appointment, please contact the office.

TONGAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

763 Canterbury Road, BELMORE, NSW 2192
Priest: FR ITA KOLOAMATANGI
Assistant Chaplain: FR FALAKIKO AFU
Ph: (02) 9145 2892
Email: admin@TCCAustralia.org.au
Social: [Facebook.com/TCCAustralia1](https://www.facebook.com/TCCAustralia1)
Web: www.tccaAustralia.org.au

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

8 Wilson Avenue, BELMORE, NSW 2192
Principal: MRS KELLY PISANI
Ph: (02) 9759 1154
Email: info@StJBelmore.catholic.edu.au
Social: [Facebook.com/StJosephsBelmore](https://www.facebook.com/StJosephsBelmore)
Web: www.StJBelmore.catholic.edu.au



MONTH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

REFLECTION FOR TODAY

THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS.

—MyCatholic.life

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter will pass from the law, until all things have taken place." Matthew 5:17–18

For many, the Old Testament can be confusing, filled with laws, rituals, and prophecies that seem difficult to connect with the New Testament. Yet, Jesus' words remind us that the Old Testament is not merely a relic of the past but an essential part of God's divine plan. Furthermore, every law, prophecy, and detail, down to "the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter," finds its deepest meaning and completion in Christ.

In a simplified way, the "Law and the Prophets" in the Old Testament can be summarized as moral laws, ceremonial laws, and prophetic teaching. The moral laws reflect God's eternal truths of right and wrong, the ceremonial laws govern Israel's worship and rituals, and the prophetic teaching calls the people to repentance, pointing to the coming Messiah. Together, these form the foundation of the Old Covenant, which is fulfilled in Christ, Who established the New and Eternal Covenant. Additionally, the Psalms and Wisdom literature enrich the Law and the Prophets, offering inspired prayers, meditations on God's faithfulness, and practical guidance for virtuous living.

Though it might be an arduous task to read through the entire Old Testament, those who do so with understanding discover the truth that everything finds its fulfilment in Christ. "Fulfilment" does not mean that Jesus altered or discarded the Old Testament; rather, He revealed its true and hidden meaning, bringing it to perfection. What the Old Testament could only foreshadow, Jesus accomplished, achieving the fullness of God's plan.

By analogy, consider an artist's sketch that depicts a beautiful mountain range and sunset. The Old Testament is like that sketch—it provides the framework, details, and foreshadowing of something greater. In Christ, the sketch is brought to life, becoming reality through God's creative act. While the sketch and the actual mountain range are the same scene, the reality is the perfect and complete expression of what the sketch anticipated. God, as the Divine Artist, first "sketched" what would come to be through the Law, Prophets, and Wisdom literature, and then brought it to fulfilment through Jesus' Incarnation, Life, Death, and Resurrection.

In today's Gospel, after declaring that He came to fulfil the Law and the Prophets, Jesus provided three examples of how He brings the Old Testament moral law to its fulfilment. The commandment "You shall not kill" is deepened to include the interior sin of anger; "You shall not commit adultery" is expanded to include lust in the heart; and "Do not take a false oath" is elevated to a call for sincerity, honesty, and integrity in all one says and does. The Messiah then pours forth His grace, enabling the faithful to live in accord with this high calling.

Though not included in today's Gospel, Jesus also brings the ceremonial laws to fulfilment by becoming the Lamb of God, offering Himself as the definitive High Priest on the new altar of the Cross. Furthermore, our Lord fulfils the prophets by establishing the New Covenant in His blood, as seen in Isaiah's vision of the Suffering Servant Who bears the sins of many (*Isaiah 53*), Jeremiah's promise of the new covenant written on hearts (*Jeremiah 31:31–34*), and Micah's prophecy of a ruler born in Bethlehem (*Micah 5:2*).

Reflect today on God's Eternal Law, established before the foundation of the world and brought to fulfilment in Christ. The human life of the Son of God is the centre of time and eternity. Everything converges on Him, and new life flows from Him. Just as our Lord fulfils the Old Testament, He also is the only source of true fulfilment in our lives. Ponder His mission and renew your choice to accept His New Covenant, written on your heart by grace. Doing so is an exercise in Divine Wisdom, giving you a share in the new life of grace, made possible by His blood.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to find ways, centred on the love of God, to provide a welcoming Parish, a place of spiritual nourishment, and a home to a community that supports everyone and encourages them to contribute their gifts.

READINGS OF THE DAY

FIRST READING

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTICUS

15:15—20

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 118:1—2, 4—5, 17—18, 33—34

R Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. **R**
2. You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. **R**
3. Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. **R**
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. **R**

SECOND READING

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF ST PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

2:6—10

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.**

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

5:17—27

Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.

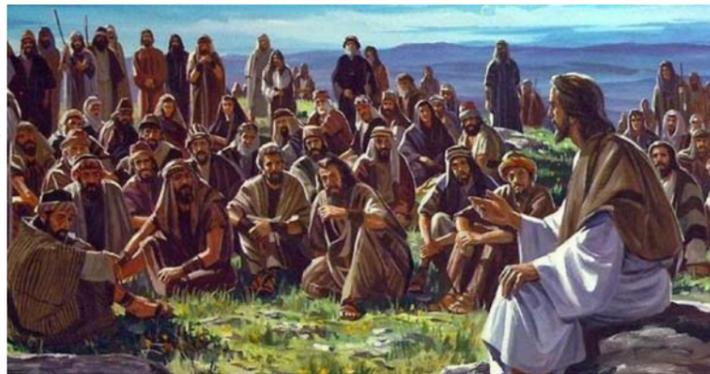
Jesus said to his disciples:

I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven. 'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors; You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one!

The Gospel of the Lord.

* Shorter form



NEXT WEEK: 22 FEB 26—FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT—YEAR A

READINGS:

Reading 1: Genesis 2:7—9; 3:1—7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 50:3—6, 12—14, 17

Reading 2: Romans 5:12—19

Gospel: MATTHEW 4:1—11

The Word of the Lord



PARISH / LOCAL NEWS

LET'S KEEP OUR CHURCH CLEAN

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our church is cleaned by volunteers.

Please place any rubbish you have into the bins at the entrances, or take them home with you. If you can help clean our church, inside & outside, please contact the office on 9759 1280 or email admin@StJosephBelmore.org.au.

Thank you for keeping our church clean.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION—REMINDER

During Holy Hour (Adoration & Benediction) from 6:00pm to 7:00pm every Wednesday evening, Father will also be available for confession. All Welcome.



St Joseph Belmore YOUTH Group

Youth Mass 7:00pm - First Friday's of every month... all welcome.

scriptures & activities every Friday night at 7:00pm

STUDY GROUP ON THE GOSPEL OF ST MATTHEW

Deacon Chris will be holding a 12-week study group starting Friday 13 February at 7:00pm. Seats are limited to 20, so contact Deacon Chris at the office on 02 9759 1280 or email Christopher.Roehrig@SydneyCatholic.org to reserve your spot. Thank you & God bless.

* Note: during Lent, sessions start at 7:30pm / after Stations of the Cross.

COMING SOON... another centennial celebration, Sunday 8 March, 8:00am. St Joseph Parish Belmore



Prayer Requests & Special Intentions

Please contact the Parish Office for your prayer requests and intentions. Email: admin@StJosephBelmore.org.au Phone: +61 2 9759 1280
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



DEATH ANNIVERSARY—FEBRUARY

1st—Cliff I. Doman; Santina Virtu; Mauro L Aguiar; 2nd—Thomas P Jones; Br. Alfred Dolabenty FMS; Antonio Pruscino; Seham Basil; Eugenie Jones; Elizabeth Rolls; Cecilia Doris Jones; 3rd—Ruby Lane; 4th—Myrine Needs; Maudie Huon; 5th—Edward J Greer; Jennie Morrissey; 6th—Charles Summer; Phillip Chahoud; 7th—Rupert J Toohey; Joseph P Sherry; Hilary J Sherry; 8th—Giuseppe Vespa; 9th—Bartolo D' Ambra; Patrick S.Y. Leung; Secondo Forner; 10th—John Formosa; Mary Rose Fenech; Mario Quessy; 12th—Helen Ann Bache; 14th—Ena G Muir; Ruth Hutch; Romeo Estep; George Saouma; 15th—Natividad Deguma; 16th—George Stambouliah; George Saouma; 18th—John W Dowe; Joe Vella; Segundia Castro; Maria Paula Lesta; 19th—Mavis Beachamp; Patrick Coulbourne; Alick Coorey; 20th—Gerard J Rochecoust; Henry Beachamp; 21st—Noura Khoury; Kathleen Mitchell; George B Melanie; Gerard Rochecouste; 22nd—Grant Barnes; 23rd—Sydney Mitchell; Charles Morris; 24th—Keith Pocock; 26th—Len Rees; Reginald Deeham; Marion Lawson; Joseph Karim Afif; 27th—Edna Higginson; 28th—Edward Farrel; Joseph A Gilles; Delor F Salmon.

Volunteers Needed

CAN YOU HELP?

We need your help especially during our Sunday liturgies. If you're able to, please send your details to the Parish Office via email: admin@StJosephBelmore.org.au stating which ministry you'd like to help—Collector, Lector, Choir, Eucharistic Minister etc. For more information / registration details, go to: <https://Liturgy.SydneyCatholic.org/ministry-training-formation/> or scan the QR code. Thank you for your support and God bless you.



Children's Liturgy

ST JOSEPH BELMORE PARISH HALL
Every Sunday during 10:00am Mass, in the Hall. All children and parents welcome. Children under 3yrs MUST be accompanied by an adult (parent/guardian). Sharing the Gospel in a child-friendly way.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION PROGRAM 2026

DATE	EVENT
NOW	Commencement of Registration
Mon 16 Feb	Final Date of Registrations
Tue 17 Feb – 7:00pm	Parent Information Evening in the Hall
Sat 28 Feb – 5:30pm	Enrolment Mass Please bring your child's enrolment card with you
Sat 28 Feb – after Vigil Mass	Session One (all one hour sessions are held in the Hall)
Sat 7 Mar – After Vigil Mass	Session Two
Sat 14 Mar – After Vigil Mass	Session Three
Sat 21 Mar – After Vigil Mass	Session Four
TUE 24 MAR – 7:00PM	CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

NOTE: It is a requirement for all candidates along with at least one parent / guardian attend and participate in ALL sessions, except the Parent Information Evening.

STATIONS of the CROSS

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT DURING LENT—7:00PM



MASS INTENTIONS

Parishioners who are sick. Our Elderly Parishioners. Parishioners celebrating their birthdays. REPOSE OF SOULS Souls of our dearly departed family members.