

## 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 5813 or via email [Safeguarding-Enquiries@SydneyCatholic.org](mailto:Safeguarding-Enquiries@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

- Sydney-based Chaldean archbishop elected global patriarch
- Vinnies Vans boosted by \$250,000 donation
- Light to the Nations retreat draws 1,200 young people
- US bioethicist warns of risks posed by AI
- Thoughts on the legacy of Pope Francis
- Eucharistic Adoration for the Synod and Church in Australia at St Mary's Cathedral on Friday, 1 May and Saturday, 2 May.
- Pope Leo XIV sets stage for June consistory with letter to cardinals
- Revesby parish marks Divine Mercy Sunday after arrival of St Faustina relic.
- Pope sends message to Madrid's massive Easter concert as youth pray for peace.

Copies available at the entrances for \$2.00. Proceeds to St Vincent de Paul.

### Donate to the Charitable Works Fund Appeal

2 and 3 May 2026

Your generous support today will help us continue the vital charitable works of the Catholic Church. Help advance our faith and care for those who need it most.

Give generously. Your tax-deductible gift changes lives.



### Your charity needs you.

CSW funds services that help thousands of people every year.



Give generously. Your tax-deductible donation changes lives. All donations contribute to your Parish target.

Thank you.

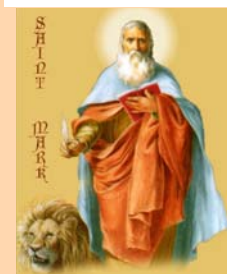
3 Ways to donate:  
1) Scan the QR code or visit [www.ourfaithhourworks.org/give-to-cwf](http://www.ourfaithhourworks.org/give-to-cwf)  
2) Complete the parish envelope  
3) Phone 1800 753 959

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FEAST DAYS OF APRIL

#### MONTH OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

- SAT 18 APR—St Deicola
- SUN 19 APR—St Martha of Persia
- MON 20 APR—St Wiho of Osnabruck
- TUE 21 APR—St Anselm
- WED 22 APR—St Agapetus I, Pope
- THU 23 APR—St George, St Adalbert
- FRI 24 APR—St Fidelis of Sigmaringen
- SAT 25 APR—ST MARK THE EVANGELIST
- SUN 26 APR—St Cletus
- MON 27 APR—St Louis Grignion de Montfort
- TUE 28 APR—St Peter Chanel
- WED 29 APR—St Catherine of Siena
- THU 30 APR—St Pius V, Pope



### FEAST DAYS OF MAY

#### MONTH OF MARY

- FRI 1 MAY—St Joseph the Worker
- SAT 2 MAY—St Athanasius
- SUN 3 MAY—STs PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES
- MON 4 MAY—St Antonina of Nicaea
- TUE 5 MAY—St Britto of Trier
- WED 6 MAY—St Evodius of Antioch
- THU 7 MAY—St Juvenal of Benevento
- FRI 8 MAY—St Desideratus of Bourges
- SAT 9 MAY—Isaiah the Prophet
- SUN 10 MAY—St John of Avila; St Damian of Molokai



the messy family project AUSTRALIAN TOUR 2026  
HOSTED BY THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

8-9 MAY FAMILY CULTURE COURSE  
MARRIAGE + PARENTING RENEWAL  
St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Beralla

WITH MIKE AND ALICIA HERNON

St Joseph's CATHOLIC CHURCH BELMORE

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

## NEWSLETTER

19 APR 2026 | Number 281



### 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](mailto:admin@StJosephBelmore.org.au)  
[Facebook.com/StJosephBelmore](https://www.facebook.com/StJosephBelmore)  
Web: [www.StJosephBelmore.org.au](http://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](mailto:admin@TCCAustralia.org.au)  
Social: [Facebook.com/TCCAustralia1](https://www.facebook.com/TCCAustralia1)  
Web: [www.tccaAustralia.org.au](http://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](mailto:info@StJBelmore.catholic.edu.au)  
Social: [Facebook.com/StJosephsBelmore](https://www.facebook.com/StJosephsBelmore)  
Web: [www.StJBelmore.catholic.edu.au](http://www.StJBelmore.catholic.edu.au)

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A

### REFLECTION FOR TODAY DISPELLING CONFUSION

—MyCatholic.life

And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. Luke 24:15-16

These two disciples were overwhelmed by grief and bewildered by the events that had taken place. As they walked the seven-mile journey from Jerusalem to Emmaus, they expressed their sadness and confusion. Jesus, Whom they had hoped “would be the one to redeem Israel,” was brutally tortured and crucified before their eyes. After His death, He was buried, and that very morning they heard reports from some of the women, as well as Peter and John, that His body was missing from the tomb. What’s more, the burial cloth was neatly rolled up in the tomb, and the women informed the disciples that they saw “a vision of angels who announced that he was alive”. The two did not know what to think.

As the story unfolds, Jesus appeared to them as they walked and conversed with them, “but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him”. Jesus’ hidden presence teaches us that He is often with us, in our midst, yet we do not recognize Him. Distractions, trials, or our own misconceptions can dull our spiritual senses. We often fail to perceive His presence in the Eucharist, the Scriptures, the Church, during our prayer, and in one another.

Jesus’ loving rebuke of these two disciples was intended to wake them up: “Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” Every time we stumble from spiritual blindness, which leads to confusion, our Lord lovingly says the same to us. We must take that rebuke with humility, acknowledging our blindness and inability to perceive His constant presence.

Jesus then “interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures”. This opening of their minds to the spiritual Gift of Understanding is key. By humbly acknowledging our spiritual blindness and the foolish way we often go about our daily lives, we dispose ourselves to this precious gift. The Gift of Understanding cannot be acquired by our own effort. Only after we honestly humble ourselves before God will He open our minds to all we need to know and understand.

Once they arrived in Emmaus and invited this divine Stranger to stay with them for the night, Jesus agreed. As they dined, “while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them”. The Lord Himself, the great High Priest, gave them the Eucharist, and suddenly “their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight.”

Though our Lord vanished from their sight, He remained with them, as He does with us today. His presence in the Eucharist is His True Presence, His Divine Essence. By revealing Himself in the Scriptures and the Breaking of the Bread, He teaches us that He is always with us in His Word and in the Sacraments. We consume His Word through daily meditation, study, and the teachings of the Church. His True Presence is with us when we attend Mass and participate in the Sacraments.

Reflect today on the initial confusion of these two disciples, filled with sorrow and bewilderment as they grappled with recent events. Contrast this with the growth in faith they likely experienced in the months and years ahead. Little by little, they grew in understanding and belief, allowing their misconceptions about who the Messiah would be—not a political leader, but the Saviour of the World—to be dispelled. Whenever you face confusion, turn to the example of these disciples and learn from the lessons taught through them. Seek Christ in His Word and Sacraments, trusting that He will dispel doubts and guide you to greater faith.

*Ever-present Lord, please humble me so that I turn more fully to You, hearing Your voice and recognizing Your presence. When I am confused or uncertain, please intervene and open my mind to You and to Your Truth so that I will believe with all my heart and follow wherever You lead. Jesus, I trust in You.*

### 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.

APRIL  
Month of the Holy Eucharist

## READINGS OF THE DAY

### FIRST READING

#### A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

2:14, 22—33

*It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.*

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him: I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy: my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit'.

The word of the Lord.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 15:1—2, 5, 7—11

**R.** Lord, you will show us the path of life.

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. I say to the Lord: 'You are my God'. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize. **R.**
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who even at night directs my heart. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**
4. You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

### SECOND READING

#### A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF ST PETER

1:17—21

*The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.*

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason - so that you would have faith and hope in God.

The word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us.  
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

#### A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

24:13—35

*They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.*

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast. Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days'. What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing'.

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ

NEXT WEEK: 26 APR 26—FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER —YEAR A

### READINGS:

Reading 1: Acts 2:14, 36—41

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22:1—6

Reading 2: 1 Peter 2:20—25

Gospel: JOHN 10:1—10

The Word of the Lord



## PARISH / LOCAL NEWS

### LET'S KEEP OUR CHURCH CLEAN

**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](mailto:admin@StJosephBelmore.org.au). Thank you for keeping our church clean.



### Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Every Sunday after 8:00am Mass  
Please join us as we prepare for Eucharistic 2028

Thank you!

To our volunteers, for your dedication and commitment to our parish, ensuring we have a beautiful celebration of the Eucharist every day. May God continue to bless you all.

should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself. When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over'. So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?' They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon'. Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### 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](mailto: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.



### MUSICIANS NEEDED

Musicians who would like to join our choirs, please contact the parish office. Any musical instrument, piano, guitar, flute, violin etc, all are welcome to join our 10am Mass. Thank you and God bless you. Fil Pensabene, Music Director/Liturgy Committee.



### Bus trip to Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa.

Sunday 17 May.

Bus leaves at 7:30am - \$50 a ticket.

Breakfast provided, please bring your lunch. Bus returns at 2:30pm.

Contact Georgette (0421 286 180) or

Kalala (0434 988 030) for more details.

### Prayer Requests & Special Intentions

Please contact the Parish Office for your prayer requests and intentions. Email: [admin@StJosephBelmore.org.au](mailto: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—APRIL

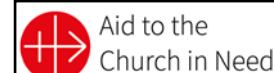
2<sup>nd</sup>—Vincent Keogh; 3<sup>rd</sup>—Ilda Simoes Wright; 4<sup>th</sup>—Gin Camilleri; Libera Berton; James McNally; 5<sup>th</sup>—Veronica Logan; Pelagia Martin; George Siao; Harry Ritchie; 6<sup>th</sup>—Margaret Ellen Philpot; Paul Lenh Pham; Remedios Nuyda; 7<sup>th</sup>—Shelton Petris; 8<sup>th</sup>—Eileen Rayner; Maria P Colela; Joan Belbin; 9<sup>th</sup>—Coral Hadley; 10<sup>th</sup>—John J Ewing; Vincent Toohey; Maria G Milazzo; James Humphries; 11<sup>th</sup>—Win Feeney; Helen Busuttill; Edna Nay; Mgr Lex Johnson; 12<sup>th</sup>—Dadlan Morrissey; Matthew Johnson; 13<sup>th</sup>—Sr. Inez McKane; Alfredo Perla; 14<sup>th</sup>—Anthony Rapinett; Albert Worth; John Campbell; Edward J Grennan; Francis Keating; Alec Swanson; Loris Boumoussa; 15<sup>th</sup>—James P Kelly; 16<sup>th</sup>—Ellen Berry; Frank Stewart; 17<sup>th</sup>—Giovanni Tomc; Edward F Julie; 19<sup>th</sup>—Maree Berkery; Bernard Wilson; 20<sup>th</sup>—Mella Khoury; Eileen Manix; Rosina Cachia; 21<sup>st</sup>—Catherine O'Connor; Mary Greaney; 22<sup>nd</sup>—Johnston McGovern; Mona Morris; Charbel Tadros; 24<sup>th</sup>—Cecil Thomas (Tomo) O'Brien; 25<sup>th</sup>—George Goldstein; 26<sup>th</sup>—Joseph F Mongan; Marie V Cush; Mangan (Joe); 27<sup>th</sup>—Louis Formosa; Alexander C Cummings; Arthur McNally; 28<sup>th</sup>—Arthur Geale; Nora J Salmon; 30<sup>th</sup>—Edmund S Kearney; Gerry Estepa; Thomas Cosgrove.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Parishioners who are sick.  
Our Elderly Parishioners.  
Parishioners celebrating their birthdays.

### REPOSE OF SOULS

Souls of our dearly departed family members.



Aid to the Church in Need

### TOGETHER WE CAN KEEP THE FAITH ALIVE - AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN)

ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND Did you know that across the world tens of millions of Christian families are in exile following persecution because of their faith?

Aid to the Church in Need is a spiritual and pastoral charity which seeks to keep the flame of faith alive in those places where it is at risk of extinction.

The weekend of April 18—19, we welcome to our parish an ACN speaker who will share with us about the work of Aid to the Church in Need and how we can help our suffering and persecuted brothers and sisters.



SISTINECHAPELSYDNEY.COM.AU



Sistine Chapel Revelations Immersive Exhibition is a ticketed event open to the general public created with the express permission of the Vatican Museums.

LOCATION | ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL FORECOURT SYDNEY