

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 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

- Synod experts voice hopes for renewal
 - Clash over surrogacy at NSW hearing
 - Cronulla teen rows for national gold
 - How a diagnosis sparked a journey to faith
 - Archbishop Fisher welcomes new Catholics to cathedral
 - Novelist Evelyn Waugh remembered.
- Copies available at the entrances for \$2.00. Proceeds to St Vincent de Paul.

KIDS CORNER

The Shepherd and His Sheep

His sheep follow him because they know his voice. John 10:4b (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 10:1-10 (NIV).



F C N L V E S A N F T C W M H
 U J Q I M D Z H N A D R S A L
 R O I Y S Z W G E K M N U F U
 G U D D G F S A G P T E T T N
 H L A L T D O M T C H D K B H
 N E R R P H T L D C R E A E R
 L A J O E V I B L E H I R S G
 I Z V S N E X E G O H M U D R
 D U G V H P T N F V W N A F O
 X E V A S E A T K O I F J N B
 S O S C T R E L G I D X U B B
 N T N T T E W P H C O O O A E
 G Z E S R V W B Q E A G E Y R
 O S E A E O J S Y T G O W P Z
 S C J R L Y Y H B X L L T L L

LEADS	ROBBER	PEN	WATCHMAN	TRUTH
FOLLOW	DESTROY	THIEF	STRANGER	GATE
VOICE	STEAL	SHEPHERD	NAME	SHEEP

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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEAST DAYS OF APRIL

MONTH OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

- 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 Nicæa
- 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
- MON 11 MAY—St Estelle of Saintes
- TUE 12 MAY—Sts Nereus and Archilleus; St Pancras



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.



THE MESSY FAMILY PROJECT

FRI 8 MAY—SAT 9 MAY, ST PETER CHANEL AND ST JOSEPH PARISH, BERALA

Join us for the Messy Family Project – Family Culture Course, created by Mike and Alicia Hemon.

This engaging and practical course is designed to help families grow together in love, strengthen relationships, and create a positive family culture rooted in faith.

Drawing from their experience as parents and ministry leaders, Mike and Alicia offer real-life insights, encouragement, and tools to help you lead your family with purpose—no matter how “messy” family life may feel!

Details:

Friday 8 May, 6:00pm—9:00pm
 Saturday 9 May, 8:30am—4:00pm

Cost: \$120 per couple

To register, go to: <https://www.trybooking.com/DKNDN> or scan the QR code.



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

NEWSLETTER

26 APR 2026 | Number 282



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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A

REFLECTION FOR TODAY—GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

THE VOICE OF A STRANGER

—MyCatholic.life

“When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers”. John 10:4—5



Young children are often frightened by strangers. Infants, for example, form a strong bond with their mothers who feed them, hold them close, talk to them, and lavish love upon them. It often happens that when other family members, such as grandparents or even the father, attempt to hold the child, tears emerge until the child is placed once again in the familiar and safe arms of his or her mother.

An infant's reaction to strangers can teach us much about today's Gospel on Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Like an infant, sheep become familiar with the voice and presence of their shepherd. The shepherd lives with the sheep night and day. He calls to them, speaks to them, keeps them safe, and leads them to green pastures and water. If a stranger were to call them, they would not listen, similar to how an infant reacts to a stranger.

Jesus' teaching is in response to the criticism He received from the Pharisees after He healed a man born blind. After healing the man, Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind” (John 9:39). When the Pharisees heard Jesus say that, they inquired whether He was suggesting that they were blind, to which Jesus replied, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, ‘We see,’ so your sin remains” (John 9:41).

An infant's unfamiliarity with a stranger is instinctive and innocent, yet it teaches us about the deeper spiritual reality Jesus describes. Just as sheep recognize the voice of their shepherd and follow him because they trust in his care, so too does a soul attuned to God respond to His voice. In contrast, the Pharisees, who prided themselves on their religious knowledge, failed to recognize Jesus as the true Shepherd. This failure was not innocent ignorance; it was wilful blindness rooted in their rejection of His divine mission. The healed blind man perceived Jesus' voice with the simplicity of faith, while the Pharisees, claiming to ‘see’ with their own wisdom, remained in sin because they refused to hear and follow the voice of the Good Shepherd.

The Pharisees saw Jesus as a stranger to their religious beliefs and practices. They labelled Him an imposter. Unlike the innocent reaction of an infant or the natural response of sheep, the Pharisees' unfamiliarity with Jesus was a sin stemming from pride. It was a blindness of their own making that closed their hearts to the comforting and supernaturally familiar voice of God. To recognize Jesus' voice is to respond to the call of grace, trust in His teachings, and follow into the fullness of life He offers. Only by humbly admitting our need for His guidance can we, like the sheep, allow Him to lead us to green pastures and salvation.

Reflect today on the fact that God calls out to you day and night. Do you recognize His voice? Or do you, like the Pharisees, turn away from Him? Following the Good Shepherd begins with an intimate familiarity with His divine presence in our lives. We must become as familiar with Him as an infant is with its mother or as sheep are with their faithful shepherd. Failure to recognize the Good Shepherd's voice leaves us lost and unable to care for ourselves. Jesus desires to lead us, care for us, and bring us to the abundant pastures of new life. Become familiar with Him and listen to His voice alone, and like the blind man, you will begin to see in ways you never have before, through the eyes of faith.

Jesus, my Good Shepherd, You call to me day and night, but so often I fail to hear and respond to Your gentle voice. Please free me from blindness caused by my own sin so that I can humbly turn to You and follow Your consoling and familiar voice. Jesus, my Good Shepherd, 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.

READINGS OF THE DAY

FIRST READING

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

2:14, 36—41

God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ'.

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself. He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation'. They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22:1—6

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

- The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
- He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **R.**
- You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R.**
- Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF ST PETER

2:20—25

You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you are called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my own sheep and mine know me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

10:1—10

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers'.

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again: 'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full'.

The Gospel of the Lord.



NEXT WEEK: 3 MAY 26—FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER —YEAR A

READINGS:

Reading 1: Acts 6:1—7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 32:1—2, 4—5, 18—19

Reading 2: 1 Peter 2:4—9

Gospel: JOHN 14:1—12

The Word of the Lord



PARISH / LOCAL NEWS

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.



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.



16 MAY — 19 JULY SYDNEY

THE WORLD'S GREATEST CEILING IS COMING TO SYDNEY.

SISTINE CHAPEL REVELATIONS AN IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

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

LEST WE FORGET

ANZAC DAY

25th APRIL

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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—APRIL

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

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. 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

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.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2026

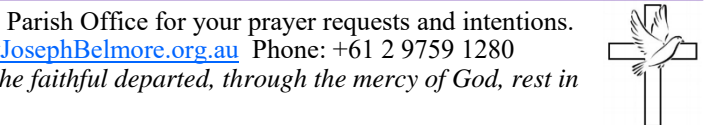
DATE	EVENT
Wed 20 May – 7:00pm	Information Evening in the Hall
Sat 30 May – 5:30pm	Commitment Mass <i>Please bring your child's enrolment card with you</i>
Sat 30 May – after Vigil Mass	Session One (all 1-hour sessions, held in the Hall)
Sat 13 Jun – after Vigil Mass	Session Two
Sat 20 Jun – after Vigil Mass	Session Three
Sat 27 Jun – after Vigil Mass	Session Four
SUN 2 AUG – 10:00AM	CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

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.

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FAITH FORMATION 2026

The Eucharist in the Life of the Church



MASS INTENTIONS

Parishioners who are sick.

Our Elderly Parishioners.

Parishioners celebrating their birthdays.

REPOSE OF SOULS

Souls of our dearly departed family members.