

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

- Pope Leo celebrates first anniversary as pontiff.
- 'Messy Families' retreat shares wisdom and tips.
- Huge demand on charity 'outpaces' support.
- Myanmar's cardinal asks Aussies for help.
- A life-changing pilgrimage.
- Mass: the greatest prayer.

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

KIDS CORNER

The Great Commission

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

Complete the activity.

The words below have been written in code. Use the hints in the decoder at the top of the page to help break the code (the letters on top are the correct answers, the letters on the bottom are the code). Write the correct word on the line provided beside each code word.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 15-2-5-25 _____
- 2-1-16-20-9-26-9-14-7 _____
- 14-1-13-5 _____
- 4-9-19-3-9-16-12-5-19 _____
- 6-1-20-8-5-18 _____
- 19-16-9-18-9-20 _____
- 5-1-18-20-8 _____
- 19-15-14 _____
- 20-5-1-3-8-9-14-7 _____
- 14-1-20-9-15-14-19 _____

OBEY SPIRIT	BAPTIZING EARTH	NAME SON	DISCIPLES TEACHING	FATHER NATIONS
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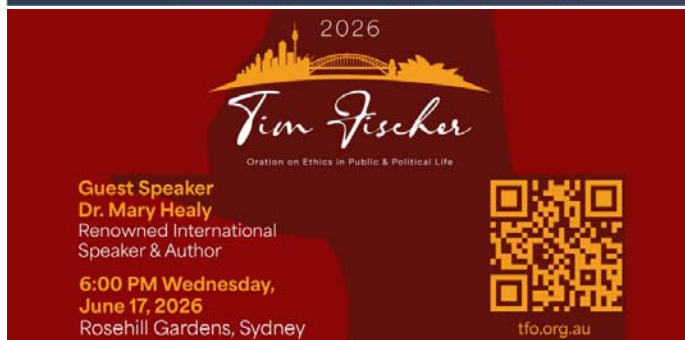
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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEAST DAYS OF MAY

MONTH OF MARY

- SAT 16 MAY—St Simon Stock
- **SUN 17 MAY—THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**
- MON 18 MAY—St John I, Pope & Martyr
- TUE 19 MAY—St Verena Büttler
- WED 20 MAY—St Bernadine of Siena
- THU 21 MAY—St Christopher Magallanes & Companions
- FRI 22 MAY—St Rita of Cascia
- SAT 23 MAY—St Desiderius of Langres
- **SUN 24 MAY—PENTECOST SUNDAY**
- MON 25 MAY—St Bede the Venerable; St Gregory VII, Pope; St Mary Magdalen de Pazzi
- TUE 26 MAY—St Philip Neri
- WED 27 MAY—St Augustine of Canterbury
- THU 28 MAY—St Heliconis of Thessalonica
- FRI 29 MAY—St Paul VI
- SAT 30 MAY—St Joan of Arc
- **SUN 31 MAY—THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

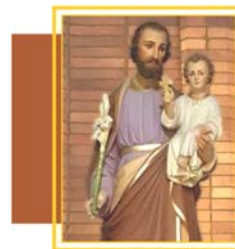


HEALING MASS

SUN 14 JUN, 6:00PM, ST JOSEPH BELMORE

Fr. Justin Torres, a priest of the Oblate Apostles of the Two Hearts of Jesus and Mary, will celebrate a Healing Mass here in our church.

Fr. Justin has established a place in the hearts of many Australians as he shares his ministry of Discernment and Healing from Jesus, through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and emphasises the Love of Jesus and Mary for all. We urge you to bring your family and friends to experience this beautiful occasion.



St Joseph's



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

NEWSLETTER

17 MAY 2026 | Number 285



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.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.tccaustalia.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



MAY—MONTH OF MARY

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR A

REFLECTION FOR TODAY

—MyCatholic.life

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord commemorates the fortieth day after the Resurrection when Jesus ascended body and soul into Heaven and took His seat at the right hand of His Father. The Ascension is believed to have occurred less than a mile east of the Old City of Jerusalem. The event is found in the Gospels and Acts (Mark 16:19–20; Luke 24:50–53; Acts 1:6–12) and is alluded to in John 6:62; Ephesians 4:7–10; 1 Timothy 3:16; and 1 Peter 3:21–22.

The Ascension marks the completion of Jesus' earthly mission. He first united His divine nature with human nature through the Incarnation at the moment of the Annunciation. Saint Thomas Aquinas teaches that from that moment on, Jesus, the Son of God, experienced three types of knowledge. First, being God, He had beatific knowledge, that is, a direct knowledge of His, the Father's, and the Holy Spirit's essence. Second, He had the perfection of infused knowledge, that is, a bestowal of all truths given to the angels in Heaven, especially those truths necessary for the completion of His divine mission. Third, He began to acquire learned knowledge, or experiential knowledge. This was the form of knowledge attained through His human nature from the senses and His human reason.

As Jesus fulfilled His mission, His learned knowledge continued to grow until it was perfected in human form. It was never imperfect in the sense of sin, but only in the sense of growth through human experience and human love. He experienced all things, allowed the perfection of His beatific and infused knowledge to guide His human experiences, and brought those human experiences and knowledge to perfection. His free embrace of the Cross manifested the perfection of divine love in human form, and His Resurrection brought that perfect unity of human and divine love to a new and transformed resurrected state of human existence. Today we commemorate that Jesus took His perfected human nature into the Beatific Vision, enabling humanity itself to follow.

The final stage of the salvation of humanity will take place when Jesus returns to judge the living and the dead. At that time, every human body will rise, will endure the final purification and transformation, and will share in the new and resurrected state in which the faithful will stand, body and soul, before the Most Holy Trinity and experience the fullness of the Beatific Vision forever. What Jesus has already accomplished in His human form is what we look forward to in hope at the end of time.

The Feast of the Ascension was celebrated annually from as early as apostolic times. When the Council of Nicaea set the date for the celebration of the Resurrection in 325, it chose to keep Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox. This decision also placed the Ascension, being forty days after Easter, on a Thursday. Today, many ecclesiastical provinces transfer the celebration to the following Sunday to provide for a wider celebration.

My Ascended Lord, forty days after You rose from the dead You ascended to the right hand of the Father in Heaven, taking up Your throne from which You pour forth both judgment and mercy. As we honour this great mystery of Your divine and human life, I beg for mercy upon me and upon the whole world. Free us from all sin, and open the floodgates of Your mercy so that all people will share one day, body and soul, in the glory of Your Beatific Vision. 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.

READINGS OF THE DAY

FIRST READING

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

1:1—11

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit'.

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth'.

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there'.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 46:2—3, 6—9

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

1. All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. **R.**
2. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R.**
3. God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. **R.**

SECOND READING

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF ST PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

1:17—23

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

28:16—20

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time'.

The Gospel of the Lord.



NEXT WEEK: 24 MAY 26—SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST—YEAR A

READINGS:

Reading 1: Acts 2:1—11

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 103:1, 24, 29—31, 34

Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 12:3—7, 12—13

Gospel: JOHN 20:19—23



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. 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.



2026 NATIONAL COUNT OF ATTENDANCE Mass attendance counts will be conducted at each of our Masses from next weekend for four weeks. Please remain until the end of Mass to get our count correct. Thank you.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2026

DATE	EVENT
Now	Commencement of Registration
Wed 20 May – 7:00pm	Final date for Registration. Information Evening in the Hall.
Sat 30 May – 5:30pm	Commitment Mass Please bring your child's commitment card with you
Sat 30 May – after Vigil Mass	Session One (all hourly 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
Sat 25 Jul – 9:00am – 12:00pm	Reflection / Rehearsal
SUN 2 AUG – 12:30PM	CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SYDNEY

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.

Parents and guardians, you are invited to register your child in the upcoming Sacrament of Confirmation program, which will be held at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. For more details, please attend the Information evening on Wednesday 20 May at 7:00pm in the hall.

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—MAY

1st—James Tyler; Muriel Crockett; Terry Walsh; Patricia M. Cosgrove. 2nd—Helen Elia; Rufina Mortillero. 3rd—Alexander Duncan; Jim Bradley. 5th—John Whelan; Mario Lucie De Douza; 6th—Tony Michael; Walter B Stuckey; Maria Mizzi. 7th—Theresa Eid; 9th—Dorris Morgan; Placida Yap. 10th—Myra Folwell; 11th—Nicholina Mangano; Elizabeth Cividin; G. McDonald; 12th—Nicola Riccio; 14th—Ron Macdonald; 15th—Ann Vuong Tran; Ida Williams; 16th—Valarie Sarah Byrnes; Dominic Camillieri; 17th—Mary Hennessy; Venetta Daniel; Maria Camellotti; 19th—Sister Mary; Tony Calleja; Jack Salmon; 21st—Catherine O'Connor; Lorenza Estepa; Jack Martin; 22nd—Jessica V Eade; 23rd—Rino Lazaric; Joseph Elia; Kalmat Zouki; 24th—John Patrick Weston; Francesca Cantore; 25th—Alfred K Keeble; Jason Shori; Joseph Merciega; 26th—Frederico Valli; Patricia Badaovi; Anne Sheedy; Col Mullen; 27th—James M McKeown; Marie Ritchie; Helen Farah; 28th—Chung Yit Hing (Anna); 29th—Francesca Defina; Michael Kayrooz; 30th—Giovanna Di Giambattista; Colm Mullen; 31st—Guiseppe Attard.

LET'S KEEP OUR CHURCH CLEAN

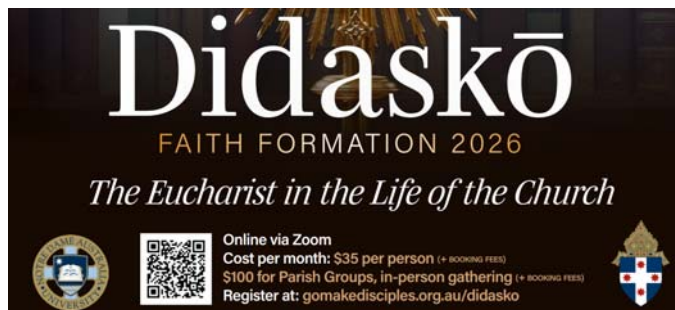
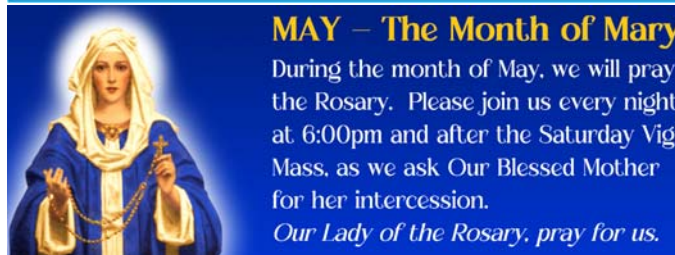
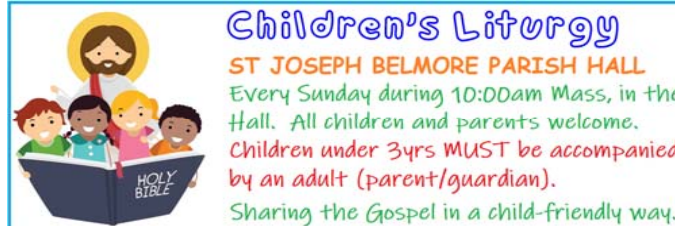
Our church is cleaned by volunteers

Please place any rubbish you have into the bins at the entrances, or take them home with you. Please contact the office on 9759 1280 or email admin@StJosephBelmore.org.au if you can help. Thank you for keeping our church clean.



NOTICE

NO FOOD OR DRINKS ALLOWED IN CHURCH



MASS INTENTIONS

Parishioners who are sick.

Our Elderly Parishioners.

Parishioners celebrating their birthdays.

REPOSE OF SOULS

Souls of our dearly departed family members. Mrs Patricia Cosgrove.

