

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

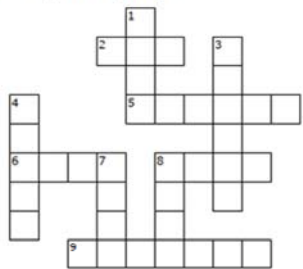
IN THIS WEEK'S EDITION

- Return to the church: Archbishop Fisher to SSPX.
 - New archdiocesan podcast offers digital evangelisation.
 - Deacons mission begins after ordination.
 - Hope returns for Holy Land pilgrimages.
 - Reform calls grow to aid elderly in hospital.
- Copies available at the entrances for \$2.00. Proceeds to St Vincent de Paul.

KIDS CORNER

The Parable of the Sower

But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. Matthew 13:23a
Based on Matthew 13:1-8, 18-23 (NIV)



ACROSS

- To put seeds in the ground so that plants will grow
- Small, sharp, pointed growths on the stem of a plant
- Plants such as grain, vegetables, or fruit grown by farmers
- A small, usually hard part of a plant from which a new plant can grow
- Not deep

DOWN

- The part of a plant which grows down into the earth
- A person who owns or takes care of a farm
- Covered with stones
- A way made by or for people walking on the ground
- The upper layer of earth that may be dug or plowed and in which plants grow

PATH SHALLOW	CROP FARMER	SOIL SEED	THORNS SOW	ROOT ROCKY
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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEAST DAYS OF JULY

MONTH OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS

- SAT 11 JUL—St Benedict
- SUN 12 JUL—St Veronica
- MON 13 JUL—St Henry
- TUE 14 JUL—St Carmillus de Lellis;
St Kateri Tekakwhitha

- WED 15 JUL—St Bonaventure
- THU 16 JUL—Our Lady of Mt Carmel
- FRI 17 JUL—St Clement of Ohrid
- SAT 18 JUL—St Theneva
- SUN 19 JUL—St Peter Crisci of Foligno

- MON 20 JUL—St Apollinaris
- TUE 21 JUL—St Lawrence of Brindisi
- WED 22 JUL—St MARY MAGDALENE
- THU 23 JUL—St Bridget of Sweden
- FRI 24 JUL—St Sharbel Mahkluf

- SAT 25 JUL—St JAMES, APOSTLE
- SUN 26 JUL—Sts Joachim & Anne
- MON 27 JUL—St Simeon Stylites
- TUE 28 JUL—St Livican
- WED 29 JUL—Sts Martha, Mary & Lazarus

- THU 30 JUL—St Peter Chrysologus



CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP

Join the Sisters of Saint Joseph and Mary MacKillop Place as we celebrate the Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop on **Saturday 8 August**.

Make a pilgrimage to Mary's tomb, spend time in prayer in the Chapel, and celebrate the Eucharist with us at one of our Feast Day Masses:

- 8:00am & 6:00pm** – Chapel
 - 10:00am & 1:00pm** – Glen Roy Green (outdoors)
- The **10:00am & 1:00pm** Masses will be **AusLan** interpreted, and the **10:00am** Mass will be **livestreamed** for those unable to attend in person.



WORLD DAY FOR

Grandparents and the Elderly

Sunday 26 July

"I will never forget you"

ISAIAH 49:15

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

NEWSLETTER

12 JUL 2026 | Number 293



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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

—MyCatholic.life

REFLECTION FOR TODAY

The Generous Sower.

"A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up..." *Matthew 13:3–4.*

In today's Gospel, the Parable of the Sower is delivered from a boat, as Jesus addresses a large crowd along the shoreline. Jesus uses the natural acoustics of the water to carry His voice to the eager multitude who came to hear Him. Their earnestness offers us an opportunity for self-examination: Am I among that crowd, attentively listening as God speaks to me today? Do I go out of my way to seek, listen, and respond to the Word of God?

A parable is a method that both reveals and conceals. It reveals divine truth to those who are humble and receptive, and conceals that same truth from those whose hearts are closed. The truths of the Kingdom are not concepts that can be quickly grasped. They are divine mysteries that must enter the soul and be pondered and nourished. Only the spiritually docile can penetrate their depths and allow God's Word to transform their lives.

The Sower is Christ. The seed is the Word of God, and the soil represents the human heart, in all its various conditions of readiness and receptivity. Some souls await God's Word like freshly tilled, moist, and fertilized soil. As soon as the seed enters, it begins to grow rapidly—until fully grown and producing good fruit.

Other souls are less receptive. Like the path, some hearts are hardened, stubborn, refusing to receive divine truth. The Word is heard, but not truly received. The enemy snatches it away before it can penetrate.

Hearts that are like rocky ground are those who initially receive the Word with joy but lack perseverance. When trials come, they fall away. They may attend Mass, read Scripture, or begin with fervour, but without deep interior conversion rooted in prayer, they cannot endure the heat of testing.

The thorny heart is the divided heart, where the Word of God is mixed with anxieties, riches, and pleasures. The Gospel is heard—perhaps even cherished—but it is suffocated by worldly attachments, ambition, or fear. Earthly anxieties and the fascination of riches are thorns that smother the soul and prevent it from growing.

The good news is that God, the Divine Sower, is not passive. He sows the seed Himself—personally, directly, and abundantly. He is not like a remote monarch seated on a distant throne, waiting for us to come to Him. No—God always takes the initiative. He goes forth like the sower, casting His seed upon us even before we ask.

The seed comes to us in two essential ways: truth and grace. As truth, God's Word enlightens the intellect to know His eternal mysteries. As grace, God's Word strengthens the will to embrace and live those truths with faith and charity.

The Divine Sower sows lavishly. He casts the seed everywhere—on the path, among the rocks, amidst thorns, and upon rich earth. This is not careless, but the work of Divine Mercy. God desires that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Even where the ground seems hardened, shallow, or choked with thorns, He still sows. He never ceases to speak, to reach out, to invite. He sows even in places we might deem hopeless—until the final moment, when the time for sowing is ended.

Reflect today on God's generous and continuous sowing in your soul. He never ceases speaking to you, calling to you, and planting His Word within you. How receptive are you? Which soil best describes your soul? It's never too late to respond in this life. God's Word can grow rapidly within us when our souls are fertile and receptive. Remove the rocks, cut down the thorns, and till the hardened path, so that the abundant seed will make its way into your heart.

Divine Sower, You ceaselessly send forth Your truth and grace to enlighten and strengthen us in the mission of building Your Kingdom. Please till the soil of my heart and make it fertile, so that Your Word may take root in me, growing and producing an abundance of good fruit. 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 PROPHET ISAIAH

The rain makes the earth give growth.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do'.

The word of the Lord.

55:10—11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. *The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.*

1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. **R.**
2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. **R.**
3. You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **R.**
4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **R.**

Ps 64:10—14

SECOND READING

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF ST PAUL TO THE ROMANS

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

The word of the Lord.

8:18—23

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!' Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' Because he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but for anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled: You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. 'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it. 'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty'.

The Gospel of the Lord.

NEXT WEEK: 19 JUL 26—SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR A

READINGS:

Reading 1: *Wisdom 12:13, 16—19*

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 85:5—6, 9—10, 15—16*

Reading 2: *Romans 8:26—27*

Gospel: *MATTHEW 13:24—43*



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.



Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Every Sunday after 8:00am Mass

Please join us as we prepare for Eucharistic 2028

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2026—2027



Your envelopes are ready for collection from the back of the Church. If you do not find your pack of envelopes, please contact the Parish Office on phone 02 9759 1280 or via email at: admin@StJosephBelmore.org.au.

Thank you for your support and may God bless you all.

TAX RECEIPTS—END OF YEAR 30 JUNE 2026.

The Giving tax receipts for the financial year to 30 June 2026 are now ready. If you require a tax receipt, please email the Parish Office at: admin@StJosephBelmore.org.au or visit the office to collect your copy. Thank you for your support.



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—JULY

1st—Thomas H Crow; Richard Searle; Wilfred Robins; Maria Fabrizio; 2nd—Peter Thuc Pham; Eugenie Jones; Ernest Andre Shouha; 3rd—Mary Pickerin; 4th—Robert Williams; Feliciano Manay; 5th—Salvatore Trovato; Elsie Thompson; Bill Keogh; 6th—Amelia McInerney; Rose Brown; Gregory Payne; Michell Eid; 7th—Encarnacion Aguilar; Jose Pinto De Souza; Louise Coorey; 8th—Kathlyn A Dee; Rita C Hyland; Harry Burchell; 9th—Joselina Cabaero; 10th—Umberto Andreini; Felicissima Geronimo; Rafael Diaz; 11th—Horace M McGrath; Valaine M Tyquin; 13th—Linton Dingle; Maria Aua; Tederous Basil; 14th—Gregory E Byrnes; Gregoria Arcilla; Joseph Caracoglia; Olive Gavin; 16th—Henry Summers; Al Jackson; May Ongley; 17th—Kathleen M Blake; Mary Kayrooz; 18th—Robert O'Sullivan; 19th—John Johnston; Tammam Coorey; 20th—Chung Sai Lim (Peter); Lydie Guillaume; 21st—Italia Deluca; Giuseppe Lemura; Walter F Martin; 22nd—John D Johnston; Itala Torrens; George Elia; Maree Gangi; 23rd—Phillip Attie; Rod Coffey; 24th—Peter F Summerfield; Kathleen Summers; 25th—Gabriel Clair; Elizabeth Murphy; Dele Smith; Angele Russie; 26th—Clare Wilson; Julius & Margaret Sopry; Catherine Petris; Barry Logan; Clare Sherry; 27th—Norma Evans; Gisele Lebon; 28th—Federick Desmond Payne; Joseph F Greagg; Francis McNally; 29th—Sidney C Spratt; 31st—Joseph Gilles; Thomas Judge; Jack Logan; Joseph Gilles; Soane "Eiki" Sikimeti.

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

SEEKING VINNIES MEMBERS!



St Vincent de Paul Society

good works

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is looking for people in this Parish and local community who are interested in joining the Society as Conference Members. Vinnies has opportunities for young people (over 16 years) to get involved in providing a hand up to those in need, and opportunities for adults who want to become a member.

All around the State, Members of the Society are responding to the needs of their local communities in groups known as 'Conferences'. Conferences grow organically from within our communities, from parishes, schools, universities and workplaces. As a member, you have the opportunity to make a difference by providing a hand up to people in need, identifying longer-term needs in the community and raising our voices for social justice. To find out more about becoming a Member of the Society, speak to one of our Vinnies Members after Mass on Saturday 25 or Sunday 26 July 2026.

Eucharistic Procession
St Therese Lakemba to St Joseph Belmore
Saturday 15 August 2026

