

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

- Artistic freedom must respect the sacred: Archbishop Fisher.
- The parish training for the City2Surf.
- VAD set to expand across Australia.
- What St Francis teaches us today.
- Where is God when we are suffering?

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

KIDS CORNER

Jesus Feeds The Five Thousand

They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. Matthew 14:20 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 14:13-21 (NIV)

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

LEFT THANKS ATE FOOT	BASKETFULS CROWDS FOOD PEOPLE	LANDED TWELVE SATISFIED LATE	FOLLOWED HEALED JESUS TOWNS	LOAVES FISH SICK BOAT
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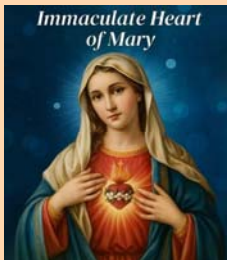
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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEAST DAYS OF AUGUST

MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

- SAT 1 AUG—St Alphonsus Ligori
- SUN 2 AUG—St Eusebius;
St Peter Julian Eymard
- MON 3 AUG—St Dominic;
St Anthony the Roman
- TUE 4 AUG—St John Vianney
- WED 5 AUG—The Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major
- THU 6 AUG—THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
- FRI 7 AUG—St Sixtus II & Companions; St Cajetan
- SAT 8 AUG—ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP
- SUN 9 AUG—St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross
- MON 10 AUG—St Lawrence
- TUE 11 AUG—St Clare
- WED 12 AUG—St Jane Francis de Chantal
- THU 13 AUG—Sts Pontian & Hippolytus
- FRI 14 AUG—St Maximilian Kolbe
- SAT 15 AUG—THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



THE 54TH INTERNATIONAL
Eucharistic CONGRESS 2028
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Eucharistic PROCESSION
SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
SATURDAY 15 AUGUST
FROM ST THERESA LAKEMBA TO ST JOSEPH BELMORE

1:00pm St Joseph Belmore - Guest speaker Fr Lam Vu OFM Cap - reflection on St Carlos Acutis
3:00pm St Theresa Lakemba - Adoration followed by procession of Our Lady to St Joseph Belmore
5:30pm Vigil Mass of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at St Joseph Belmore

Followed by Festivities after Mass | All welcome

St Joseph PARISH BELMORE

St Joseph's CATHOLIC CHURCH BELMORE

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

NEWSLETTER

2 AUG 2026 | Number 296



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)

August
is dedicated to
Immaculate Heart of Mary

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

REFLECTION FOR TODAY

God's Providential Care.

—MyCatholic.life

"Five loaves and two fish are all we have here." Then he said, "Bring them here to me," and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over—twelve wicker baskets full". Matthew 14:17—20.

In the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, there are two distinct miraculous feedings of large crowds. Today's Gospel depicts the first one, given primarily to Jewish people near the Sea of Galilee. Five thousand men (not counting women and children) were fed from five loaves and two fish, resulting in twelve baskets left over. This feeding of the five thousand is notably the only miracle of Jesus recorded in all four Gospels, underscoring its significance. Matthew and Mark also recount a second miraculous feeding—this time of four thousand people—in the largely pagan region of the Decapolis, using seven loaves and a few fish, with seven baskets left over.

This first miracle takes place within the context of Jesus' sorrowful heart, as He mourns the death of His cousin, John the Baptist. Jesus knew that John's death occurred for the Father's glory and according to His permissive will. Yet this divine perspective did not eliminate His human sorrow. Holy sorrow is a profound expression of love in the face of suffering.

Because Jesus' love was perfect, His sorrow was genuine and deep. The depth of His sorrow is evident from His deliberate choice to withdraw by boat to be alone, to fully embrace His grief. It is beautiful to note that Jesus' divinity does not overshadow or diminish His humanity. Rather, with divine love, He fully accepts John's death, and with a genuinely human heart, He properly mourns. In Jesus, humanity and divinity intertwine perfectly.

Upon disembarking, Jesus finds that a large crowd has followed Him on foot, anticipating His arrival, hungry for His teachings and miracles. Here we encounter a second revelation of Jesus' divinity shining through His humanity. Seeing the crowd and perceiving their brokenness, sinfulness, and suffering, "his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick." The Greek word translated here as "pity" indicates a deeply felt, visceral compassion. This compassion, divine in origin, flows perfectly through Jesus' sacred humanity. His compassionate gaze vividly reveals God's merciful love: Jesus does not merely sympathize; He acts decisively, healing the sick and alleviating their suffering. His divine love compels Him to act for the good of His people.

The miracle itself recalls God's providential care for the Israelites during their forty years in the desert, when manna appeared each morning, providing sufficient food for each day. That miracle, coupled with today's Gospel, teaches us a consistent truth: God always provides for us when we turn to Him, seeking Him earnestly as the crowd did.

The multiplication of the loaves and fish also foreshadows the Eucharist, likely the reason it is recorded in all four Gospels. In the Eucharist, God provides abundantly for our spiritual nourishment. When received with faith and trust in God's providence, Jesus' Body and Blood nourishes every virtue within us, empowering us to flourish spiritually. The Eucharist prepares us for eternal life, where we anticipate sharing in the eternal Wedding Banquet of Heaven—a perfect, everlasting celebration free from all sin, sickness, and suffering.

Reflect today on Jesus' tender care. He looks upon your needs with the same compassion He showed to the crowds in the wilderness. Consider especially how He desires to feed you daily through the Most Holy Eucharist, the true Bread from Heaven. Bring to Him whatever you have, even if it seems small or insufficient—your struggles, weariness, prayers, and hopes—and trust that in His hands, they will be multiplied for the good of your soul and the souls of others. Let this miraculous feeding stir within you a deeper faith in God's providence and a more fervent desire for the Eucharist, where Christ Himself is our sustenance, our healing, and our foretaste of eternal joy.

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

Hasten and eat.

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. The hand of the Lord feeds us,
he answers all our needs.

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

2. The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. **R.**

3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. **R.**

SECOND READING

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF ST PAUL TO THE ROMANS

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us. For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

**No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.**

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food'. Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves'. But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish'. 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.



55:1—3

Ps 144:8—9, 15—18

8:35, 37—39

14:13—21

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

HEALING MASS

SUNDAY 16 AUGUST—6:00PM—
ST JOSEPH BELMORE

Father John Iacono will be having a Healing Mass in our church on Sunday 16 August at 6:00pm. Please join us for this celebration.



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.

Donate to the Charitable Works Fund Appeal

1 and 2 August 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.



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—AUGUST

2nd—Paul Feeney; Peggy Robins; Terezinha Dias De Souza; 3rd—Henrietta Sullivan; Fritz Clair; Sarah Gaul; Joseph P. Sherry; Reg Irland; William Ramalinga; 4th—Ethel E. Kelaher Jr; 5th—James Humphries; Idea Russie; Martin Paul Nesbitt; 6th—Isabel E. Kaufman; Youseff Abdallah; 7th—Linsay Feeney; Emily Johnston; James Newman; Mary Anne Morgan; 8th—Mary MacKillop; Irene E. Dee; Olga Harter; Mark Luk; Irene M. Sherry; George El Hage; Nicasio Cab; 9th—Marian Mansour; Amelda Hunt; Theodore H. Daus; 10th—Alexander Allan; Elisio Talens; Eusebio Tan; 12th—Selemena Tupaelangi; Mary Elizabeth Crow; Anne Beauchamp; Patrick Cannon; Thomas Reilly; 14th—Veronica Watkins; Raymond Forner; Francis Keating Snr; Ray Hagg; 15th—John C Ongley; Teresa Eipel; Theodore Crockett; Wadeha Caraco; John Ongley; Wadeha Caracoglia; 16th—William J Fletcher; William Nicholas; 17th—John O'Kearns; 18th—Eva Summers; Dolores Cilia; 23rd—Margaret Mary Jenkins; 24th—Eliza & Manuel Matos; 25th—Adelia Pizzirusso; John T. Damm; 26th—Patrick O'Dea; 27th—William H. Watkins; Vida Butcher; Paula Leota; 28th—Nello Moretti; Josephine Dolahenty; 29th—Daniel Draper Cocoran; 30th—Jean B. Spratt; Paul Huon; 31st—Bill Mitchell; Vincenzo Auciello.

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

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.

**St Joseph Belmore
YOUTH
Group**
Youth Mass 7:00pm -
First Friday of every
month...all welcome.
Refreshments & activities
in the hall after Mass.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2026

SUNDAY 2 AUGUST—12:30PM—ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL
Congratulations and may the Holy Spirit be with you all.

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

ST JOSEPH BELMORE.
Please join us.
Thursday 6 August, 6:00pm - Holy Hour. 7:00pm - Holy Mass.

NEXT WEEK: 9 AUG 26—NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR A

READINGS:

Reading 1: 1 Kings 19:9, 11—13

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 84:9—14

Reading 2: Romans 9:1—5

Gospel: MATTHEW 14:22—33

