

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

COMMITMENT STATEMENT

If you or someone you know has experienced abuse, or if you are worried about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, please know that you are not alone and that help is available. The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office is available to listen, support you, and provide guidance about reporting options. You can contact the office on (02) 9390 5800 or at SafeguardingEnquiries@SydneyCatholic.org. You may also wish to speak with your Parish Priest, who can offer pastoral care and assist you in taking the next step. The Archdiocese takes all safeguarding concerns seriously and is required to report criminal matters to the police. If there is an emergency or someone is in immediate danger, please contact NSW Police on 000.

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

- Day for women's health brings hope and healing
- People are not data to be 'optimised', says expert
- The migrant story behind 95-year old devotion
- Pope honours Dr Sandra Lynch and Michael King
- Gen Z tech professional's warning about mixing AI and faith
- CW's guide to university open days?

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

KIDS CORNER

The Parable of the Talents

Matthew 25:14-30 (NIV)



Don't bury your _____. ANSWER: _____

Bible Memory Verse

For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. Matthew 25:29 (NIV)

master gained money servant bury talent
ANSWERS

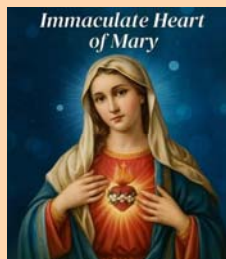
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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEAST DAYS OF AUGUST

MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

- 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
- SUN 16 AUG—St Stephen of Hungary
- MON 17 AUG—St Clare of Montefalco
- TUE 18 AUG—St Helena
- WED 19 AUG—St John Eudes
- THU 20 AUG—St Bernard of Clairvaux
- FRI 21 AUG—St Pius X, Pope
- SAT 22 AUG—The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- SUN 23 AUG—St Rose of Lima



St Joseph's

CATHOLIC CHURCH
BELMORE

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

NEWSLETTER

9 AUG 2026 | Number 297



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:

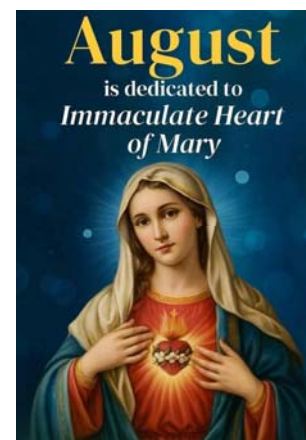
Mon—Sat: 9:00am
Sat: 5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sun: 8:00am & 10:00am
Youth Mass: 7:00pm
(First Friday of the Month)
Tongan Mass: 2:00pm
(Last Sunday of the Month)
Filipino Mass: 3:00pm
(First Sunday of the Month)
RECONCILIATION: Wed 6:00pm-6:45pm,
Sat 4:00pm-5:15pm
ADORATION & BENEDICTION:
Wed 6:00pm-7:00pm
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.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)



NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

REFLECTION FOR TODAY

Overcoming Fear with Faith.

—MyCatholic.life

"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" Matthew 14:17-20.

Fear always clouds our vision. Today's Gospel takes place the night after Jesus fed the 5,000 on a mountain near the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee, using only five barley loaves and two fish. Afterward, He withdrew to pray alone and sent the disciples ahead of Him by boat, directing them toward the town of Gennesaret, just south of Capernaum. While great miracles occurred the next day in Gennesaret, something just as remarkable took place during the night's journey across the sea.

The disciples found themselves rowing against a strong headwind, making the journey slow, arduous, and perilous. This scene is a vivid image of our journey through life. Life is rarely "a bowl of cherries," as the saying goes. It can often feel laborious, filled with hardships, and some trials may seem never-ending. If life feels this way, today's Gospel is especially for you. During the fourth watch of the night, between 3 and 6 a.m., as the disciples continued struggling against the waves, they saw a figure walking on the sea, coming toward them. While we may be familiar with the idea of Jesus walking on water, for the disciples, this would have been an unimaginable and terrifying sight. They did not recognize Him—not because His appearance had changed, but because fear blinded them. This still happens in our lives. We can misinterpret suffering or divine silence as abandonment. But Jesus allowed their fear precisely so He could confront it directly: "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." In His divine wisdom, Jesus knew that countless disciples would read this story and ponder this moment until the end of time.

What message is He giving us? The courage that comes from recognizing God in our midst allows us to conquer fear—especially in our moments of suffering, when the path ahead seems hard, dangerous, and without end.

By a supernatural instinct, Peter utters the perfect prayer in this moment of uncertainty: "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you..." When we recognize God amid our trials, focus our gaze on Him, and pray this prayer, God will always answer, "Come."

Peter sets the pattern for this bold, trusting prayer, but he falters in remaining faithful to it. Yet even this is allowed by God, for our instruction. Making an act of courageous faith does not guarantee we will not stumble. Peter sank not because he lacked faith entirely, but because fear began to overwhelm his trust. And in this, Jesus teaches us another lesson: Even when our faith wavers, we must not give in to despair. Peter did not drown—he cried out once more, "Lord, save me!" and Jesus immediately reached out His hand.

Despair is the true enemy of faith. Though fear and the growing force of the wind weakened Peter's faith, he remained hopeful even in his weakness. And it was this hope—however trembling—that moved Jesus to stretch out His divine hand and save him.

Reflect today on any trial or suffering you endure that tempts you to fear. Confront that fear head-on. Rebuke it. Look for Jesus, who comes to you in the midst of the trial, walking on and through that very storm. Know that it is truly Him, drawing near. As you overcome fear, keep your eyes fixed on Him, not on the storm. This is what strengthens our faith and enables us to keep moving forward toward the goal: Jesus' hand of divine grace.

My saving Lord, though You permit trials in our lives, You always offer the grace we need to endure them patiently and to overcome them with trust and hope in You. Help me, Lord, to always see You in my suffering and confusion. May I never give in to despair, but instead grow in faith as I walk toward You. 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 FIRST BOOK OF THE KINGS

19:9, 11—13

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord'. Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Ps 84:9—14

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land.
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.
3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps.

R.

R.

R.

SECOND READING

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF ST PAUL TO THE ROMANS

9:1—5

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ — it is the truth — my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I hope in the Lord,
I trust in his word.

Alleluia!

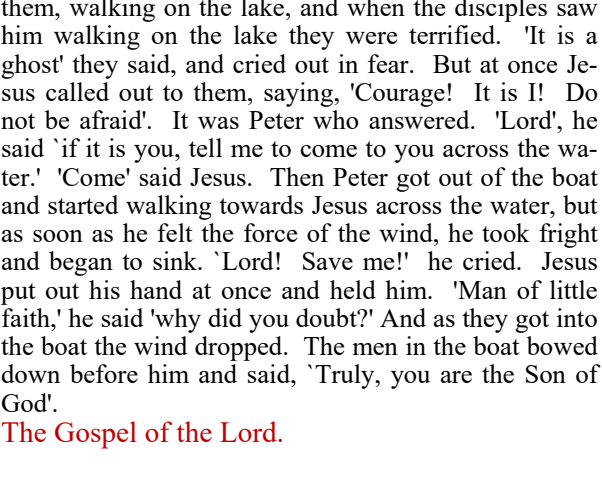
GOSPEL

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

14:22—33

Command me to come to you over the water.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid'. It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God'.



The Gospel of the Lord.

NEXT WEEK: 16 AUG 26—TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR A

READINGS:

Reading 1: Isaiah 56:1, 6—7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 66:2—3, 5—6, 8

Reading 2: Romans 11:13—15, 29—32

Gospel: MATTHEW 15:21—28

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. 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.



Census

2026 CENSUS

EVERY ANSWER MATTERS

TUESDAY 11 AUGUST

Ensure you select Catholic.

24 What is the person's religion?

• Answering this question is OPTIONAL.

• Use 'Other (specify)' to provide a religion or a level of detail not included in the list.

• For example: MACEDONIAN ORTHODOX, LUTHERAN, SALVATION ARMY, JUDAISM, SIKHISM, TAOISM.

• Mark one box, like this: ☒

☐ No religion

☒ Catholic

☐ Anglican (Church of England)

☐ Islam

☐ Hinduism

☐ Uniting Church

☐ No religion

☒ Catholic

☐ Anglican (Church of England)

☐ Islam

☐ Hinduism

☐ Uniting Church

CAMINO of ST JOSEPH

AN OVERNIGHT BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM FOR CATHOLICS

21-22 AUGUST
FRIDAY & SATURDAY

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 Jnr; 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; Wadeiha Caraco; John Ongley; Wadeiha 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

CATHOLIC CHURCH BELMORE

IMPORTANT DATES FOR HOLY COMMUNION 2026

DATES	EVENTS
NOW	Commencement of Registration
Wednesday 12 August	Final date for Registration
Wed 12 Aug, 7:00pm	Parent Information Evening Venue: Hall
Sat 22 Aug, 5:30pm	Commitment Mass Please ensure that you have your child's enrolment card is with you.
Sat 22 Aug, 6:30pm – 7:30pm OR Immediately after Mass	Session 1 Venue: All classes are held at the hall
Sat 29 Aug, 6:30pm – 7:30pm	Session 2
Sat 5 Sep, 6:30pm – 7:30pm	Session 3
Sat 12 Sep, 6:30pm – 7:30pm	Session 4
Sat 19 Sep, 9:00am – 12:00pm	Reflection / Rehearsal
Sun 20 Sep, 10:00am Mass	Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion

It is a requirement that all candidates along with at least one parent / guardian attend and participate in ALL sessions except, the Parent Information Evening.

*Please note that if you miss one lesson you are most welcome to re-enrol in 2027.

MASS INTENTIONS

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

REPOSE OF SOULS

Souls of our dearly departed family members.