

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

- St Carlo's relic mission turns hearts to Christ.
 - Safeguarding Sunday: new service offers healing and support.
 - How Mary saved a Protestant minister's faith.
 - Life and death online.
 - Lessons from Raiders' Josh Papali'i's last game.
- Copies at entrances—\$2.00. Proceeds go to St Vincent de Paul.

KIDS CORNER

Keep On Forgiving

Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?" Matthew 18:21 (NLT)

Based on Matthew 18:21-35 (NIV)



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

MANY	SINS	PETER	FORGIVE
SEVEN	TIMES	JESUS	TIMES
ASKED	BROTHER	LORD	HOW

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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEAST DAYS OF SEPTEMBER

MONTH OF THE SEVEN SORROWS OF MARY

- SAT 12 SEP—The Most Holy Name of Mary
- SUN 13 SEP—St John Chrysostom
- MON 14 SEP—The Exaltation of the Cross
- TUE 15 SEP—Our Lady of Sorrows
- WED 16 SEP—St Cornelius & St Cyprian
- THU 17 SEP—St Robert Bellarmine & St Hildegard of Bingen
- FRI 18 SEP—St Joseph of Cupertino
- SAT 19 SEP—St Januarius
- SUN 20 SEP—Sts Andrew
- MON 21 SEP—St Matthew the Apostle
- TUE 22 SEP—St Maurice
- WED 23 SEP—St Padre Pio



Sydney **to Seoul**

MEMORIAL OF KOREAN MARTYRS
20 SEPTEMBER

12:00PM
MASS AT ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, CHURCH HILL

1:00PM
LAUNCH AT JACKSONS ON GEORGE

ALL YOUNG ADULTS AGED 18-35 ARE WELCOME.

ARISE AND SHINE RETREAT

Saturday 26 September—1:00pm – 5:30pm

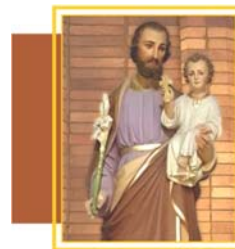
Rosary + Praise and Worship + Talk + Prayer of Empowerment + Fellowship

Speaker: **MARINA GEORGE**

Venue: St Joseph's Parish Hall, 11 Walz St. Rockdale, NSW (Parking ENTRY at Parker Street)

Booking Essential, Afternoon Tea Provided

Enquiries: Helen: 0433 455 114, or Esperance: 0407 749 182. Email: jlowcommunity@gmail.com.



St Joseph's



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

NEWSLETTER

13 SEP 2026 | Number 302



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)
Web: www.StJBelmore.catholic.edu.au



OUR LADY OF SORROWS

ST JOSEPH BELMORE NEWSLETTER

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

REFLECTION FOR TODAY

Exponential Mercy.

—MyCatholic.life

"That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount. Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt." Matthew 18:23–25.

Jesus tells this parable in response to Peter, who asked, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Peter likely thought he was being generous. But Jesus invited him to go far beyond what he imagined, responding, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times."

The context is helpful. Not long before this dialogue, Jesus had changed Simon's name to Peter—Petros—meaning "rock," the foundation upon which He would build His Church. He further promised Peter that the gates of hell would not prevail against it and said, "I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:19).

Soon after that, Jesus took Peter, James, and John up a high mountain, where they were privileged to witness His Transfiguration—a glimpse of His divine glory. Peter had also witnessed many other miracles, some quite personal. For example, when asked by tax collectors whether Jesus paid the Temple tax, Jesus told Peter to go to the sea, cast a hook, and open the mouth of the first fish he caught. Inside, he found a coin worth twice the Temple tax—enough for both Jesus and Peter (Matthew 17:27). Perhaps these recent events in which Peter played a privileged role left him feeling quite favoured. He may have begun to think well of himself, sensing a special place in Jesus' mission. Wanting to demonstrate his spiritual maturity, Peter made what he thought was a generous offer: to forgive his brother up to seven times.

In Jewish tradition, to forgive seven times was seen as more than sufficient. The rabbinic teaching often suggested forgiving up to three times, based loosely on interpretations of the Prophet Amos (cf. Amos 1:3). So when Peter offered seven, he was doubling that and adding one for good measure—a symbolic act of exceeding piety. But Jesus' response radically shifted the paradigm. Seventy-seven times—or, in some manuscripts, seventy times seven—is not a precise numerical limit. It's a symbolic expression that conveys the idea of limitless forgiveness, echoing God's own mercy toward sinners. Jesus was not simply raising the bar; He was inviting Peter—and all of us—into the boundless love of the Father.

The parable Jesus then taught illustrates this clearly: Because God has shown us immeasurable mercy, we must extend mercy to others. But it also begins with a shocking image. When the king began the accounting and the servant who owed a "huge amount" was brought before him—an amount so large he had no way of repaying—the master ordered that the servant, his wife, his children, and all his property be sold. This illustrates the incalculable debt we owe to God for our sins. Not only are we incapable of repaying it, but even everything we hold dear cannot cover the cost. At the heart of the parable is this truth: Unless we extend limitless mercy to others, we will be held accountable for our own unpayable debt before God. But if we imitate God's mercy and forgive from the heart, that enormous debt will be entirely wiped away.

Reflect today on the mercy you have received from God. Has He not been patient with you, gentle with your faults, and generous with His grace? Now consider someone in your life whom you have found difficult to forgive. Does that person's offense compare to the debt God has forgiven you? Let this parable challenge you to a deeper conversion of heart, one that forgives as it has been forgiven, not seven times, but seventy-seven times, and more. Only then will the kingdom of Heaven truly reign in you.

Most generous Lord, You forgive more than seventy-seven times—more than seventy times seven. Your mercy is unconditional in its origin and limitless in its reach, yet it bears one condition: that I, too, show mercy to others. Grant me, dear Lord, a heart that is merciful like Yours, one that participates in and reflects Your Divine Mercy. May I forgive as I have been forgiven, so that the full debt of my sin may be wiped away and that others may be drawn to You through the witness of mercy in my life. 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 ECCLESIASTICUS

27:30—28:7

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 102:1—4, 9—12

R. The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. R.
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. R.
3. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. R.
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. R.

SECOND READING

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF ST PAUL TO THE ROMANS

14:7—9

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

18:15—20

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said, "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me," he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart'.

The Gospel of the Lord.

NEXT WEEK: 20 SEP 26—TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR A

READINGS:

Reading 1: Isaiah 55:6—9

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 144:2—3, 8—9, 17—18

Reading 2: Philippians 1:20—24, 27

Gospel: MATTHEW 20:1—16

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, from 9:00am - 9:30am.
Please join us as we prepare for the Sydney Eucharistic Congress 2028.

Thomas Aquinas on the Eucharist and Corpus Christi

Professor Angus Brook

Mondays 14, 21 and 28 September

Online via Zoom
Cost: \$35 per person (+ BOOKING FEE)
\$100 for Parish Groups, in-person gathering (+ BOOKING FEE)
Register at: gomakedisciples.org.au/didasko

IMPORTANT DATES FOR HOLY COMMUNION 2026

DATES	EVENTS
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.

* Note: if you miss one lesson, you are most welcome to re-enrol in 2027.

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—SEPTEMBER

1st—Nell Lane, Josip Grdenic, Walter O'Donnell, Nicola Camelotti; 2nd—Celso Fabrizio, Nakia Semaan; 3rd—Jennifer El Hagge; 4th—William K Maker, Pat Davey, Thomas A Dolahenty; 5th—Lew Sharah, Les Hutch, Teresa D'Aloia; 6th—Evelyn Crow, Josephine Cilia, Connie Bagnall; 7th—Saveria Rapinetti; 8th—Alfredo Paragar; 9th—Brother Jim Nash, Barbara J. Bannon; 10th—Prudence Cummings, George Badaovi, Leslie T. Brown, Said Farah, Sister Marie T. Harrison; 11th—Michael G. Kirby; 12th—Marianna Sterio, John Gerard Egan, Louis Huon; 13th—Alan MacDonald, Rachid Attie, Vincent Russie; 14th—Maria A. Vella, George Searle, Hassibi Elia, Eileen Mary Loneragan; 15th—Joseph Gauchi, Sabrina Ferlazzo; 16th—Anna MacKay; 17th—John M. McGlinchy, Kathleen Huxley; 19th—Sylvester McNally, Delia McDonagh; 20th—Louis R Goder; 21st—Antonio Colella, Bob Walsh, Iseo Botter, William George Jones; 22nd—Clinton Toscano, Michael Farrugia; 23rd—Karoly Pastics, Ellen Mary Jones; 24th—David J Finneran; 25th—Grace M Lennon; 26th—Father Henri Aerts, Nellie I Little, Rosemarie Sadelustio; 27th—Joseph Luk; 28th—Judith Quessy, Valda Beauchamp; 29th—Emmanuel W Farr; Venera Suarez Mejilla.

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.

Safeguarding Sunday

13TH SEPTEMBER 2026

LOVE PROTECTS

A day dedicated to NURTURING SAFETY, DIGNITY & HOPE in every community.

HEALING MASS—FR JUSTIN TORRES

ST JOSEPH BELMORE—7:00PM—WED 7 OCT
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, at 7:00pm on Wednesday 7 October after Adoration and Benediction. 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.



MASS INTENTIONS

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

REPOSE OF SOULS

Souls of our dearly departed family members.