



Westmead Catholic Community PARISH HEARTBEATS

Official Weekly Bulletin of Sacred Heart Parish, Westmead

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'The sacred heart of Jesus is an open heart...' St Teresa of Kolkata

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

30 - 31 August 2025

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Have mercy on me, O Lord,
for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.*

FIRST READING

SIR 3:17-20, 28-29

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 67:4-7, 10-11. R.v.11

**R. God, in your goodness,
you have made a home for the poor.**

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. **R.**
2. Father of the orphan,
defender of the widow,
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the lonely a home to live in;
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. **R.**
3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain:
when your people were starved
you gave them new life.
It was there that your people found a home,
prepared in your goodness,
O God, for the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING

HEB 12:18-19, 22-24

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge,

Ps 85:3, 5

and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Take my yoke upon you;
learn from me, for I am gentle
and lowly in heart. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Lk 14:1, 7-14

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.' Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 30:20

**How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.**



PARISH CONTACTS

(02) 9635 9262

www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au
www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Westmead

Parish Priest

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Parish Primary Schools:

Sacred Heart Primary

Telephone: 8633 4500 Fax 9893 7415

Principal: Natalie Mifsud

Assistant Principal: Jodie Smith

Mother Teresa Primary

Telephone: 8841 2600 Fax 9687 5893

Principal: Julianne Regan

Assistant Principal: Katherine Stennett

Westmead Hospital Chaplain

Fr Domingo Barawid MI

Tel: (02) 8890 6037; Pager: 8512

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday & Friday: 9.30am - 4pm

Wednesday & Thursday: 10am - 3pm

MASS TIMES - Parish Church

Saturday: 6:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 8:00am & 9:30am

Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat: 9:00am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 5:00pm to 5:30pm

BAPTISMS

1st Sundays or by arrangement

MARRIAGES & FUNERALS

By arrangement with the Parish Priest

(min 6 months notice for weddings)

ANOIDING OF THE SICK

By arrangement with the Parish Priest

The Westmead Catholic Community acknowledges the Burramattagal people of the Darug nation, traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, recognising elders past & present. We aim to be an inclusive faith community, welcoming people of all ages, races, creeds, genders, orientations, marital status & cultures.

PARISH DIARY DATES

30 / 31 August	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	
31 August	Tamil Mass	5.30pm
3 September	St Gregory the Great	Memorial
6 / 7 September	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	
7 September	Fathers Day	
9 September	Confirmation Mass	7pm
5 September	No 9am Daily Parish Mass	
6/7 Sept - 11/12 Oct	Penance Enrolment forms available at weekend Masses	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Full dates and eligibility requirements for the **Parish's 2025 Sacramental Program** are listed on our website - www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au.

Confirmation Program - *Currently underway*

9 September Confirmation Mass 7pm

Penance (Reconciliation) Program

6/7 Sept - 11/12 Oct Enrolment forms available at weekend Masses

Grant Eternal Rest to the recently deceased and those we remember at this time . . .

**Bill Eltakchi, Pat O'Flynn
Michael Sutherland,
Anre Nguyen Van Bac**



At Sacred Heart Westmead, **Baptism** is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month at 11am. Please contact the parish office to book for 2025.



Fathers Day Appeal 6/7 September 2025

This Father's Day Appeal supports the retired and unwell priests in our Diocese – the spiritual fathers of our community service. Please donate to the Fathers Day Appeal via envelopes in the church or online (specifying Westmead as your parish) at: parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal



Australian Catholic Youth Festival

The Diocese of Parramatta will be joining the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Melbourne from 30 November to 3 December 2025! Join young Catholics from across Australia for an festival featuring inspiring guest speakers, artists, and musicians. Registrations are open for young people aged 18-25. Over 25? Consider becoming a small group leader! For more details and to register, see parracatholic.org/connect/acyf or mail qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org

Westmead Catholic Community - 75 Years in February 2026

The Parish Office is busily archiving and updating our parish history. So much of that which has shaped our parish community cannot be found in books or even in online resources, but in the hearts and memories of those who have been a part of its evolution.

Now as we prepare to celebrate our 75th Anniversary in 2026, we invite those in our parish community to share recollections of special celebrations and events in our parish history; and also details of those who have served in ministry at our parish over its history. It will be through these extra details that we can compile a more complete picture of our parish from our very beginnings.

If you would like to participate in the interview process, please contact Virginia at the parish office; or to share your stories or photographs, please post, deliver or email your submissions, so we may continue to expand our archive.



WEEK 1 ROSTERS—WEEKEND MASS

Please notify Fr Walter you are in attendance

EMoE - 6 / 7 September

6:00pm: R. Tuason San Juan
8:00am: M. Schinella
9:30am: F. Khouri

Readers - 6 / 7 September

6:00pm: 1. Liew / A. Enriquez
8:00am: A. Priya / M. Budwee
9:30am: C. Khouri / C. Esterado

Junior Altar Servers - 6 / 7 September

6:00pm: W. Fraser / M. Liew
8:00am: A. Dave
9:30am: N. Farah / J. Farah / J. Bedadela

Senior Altar Servers - 6 / 7 September

6:00pm: T. Fraser
8:00am: J. Chandran
9:30am: N. Emmanuel

If you are unable to attend your rostered date, please arrange a swap with another minister.

Due to McAuley Mercy Day school mass, there will be no 9am

Daily Parish mass on Friday 5 September 2025



Today's Message

(Reflection by Greg Sunter)

In today's gospel, Jesus is eating with people of social importance. Jesus made a habit of accepting the hospitality of such people and then giving them a lecture about how they should behave and reminding them who was not gathered around the table with them. Certainly the sort of actions that don't see too many follow-up invitations! The message he dishes out to the Pharisees on this occasion is about not thinking you're more important than you really are. He tells them that it is far better to assume a lower status and to be lifted to greater prominence than it is to assume too much and have to be asked to step down to your proper status. In talking about places at a feast, Jesus is referring to the kingdom of God. We know that Jesus has already identified that the lowly in this world will be in a place of honour in the kingdom. His message is that those who humble themselves in this world and give hospitality to the lowly will be lifted up – exalted – in the kingdom. Jesus' message about humility is as relevant today as it was in the first century. It is part of human nature to want to fit in and to want to belong. Sometimes we are tempted to seek this acceptance at any cost. When our sense of belonging is achieved through the harming, humiliation or exploitation of others then the price is too high. When our desire for the latest fashion comes at the expense of others being able to simply live, then the price is too high. When we lift ourselves up by putting others down, then the price is too high.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 6/ 7 SEPTEMBER

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
1ST READING: WIS 9:13-18
2ND READING: PHIL 9-10, 12-17
GOSPEL: LK 14:25-33

