



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

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

13 - 14 September 2025

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**We should glory
in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
in whom is our salvation,
life and resurrection, through whom
we are saved and delivered.**

FIRST READING

On the way through the wilderness, the Israelites lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.'

Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 77:1-2, 34-38. R.v.7

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past.
2. When he slew them
then they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember
that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer.
3. But the words they spoke
were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant.
4. Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have stirred up his rage.

GAL 6:14

SECOND READING

The state of Jesus was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

**We adore you, O Christ, and we praise
you, because by your cross you have
redeemed the world. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**When I am lifted up from the earth,
I will draw everyone to myself,
says the Lord.**

PHIL 2:6-11

JN 3:13-17

JN 12:32



PARISH CONTACTS

(02) 9635 9262

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

Parish Priest

Rev Fr Walter Fogarty PP

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Virginia Knight (Tuesday - Thursday)

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Sacramental Coordinator

Anne Monahan (Friday)

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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)

ANOINTING 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

13 / 14 September	Exaltation of the Holy Cross	Feast
15 September	Our Lady of Sorrows	Memorial
16 September	Sts Cornelius & Cyprian	Memorial/s
20 September	Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-sang	Memorial/s
20 / 21 September	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
6/7 Sept - 11/12 Oct	Penance Enrolment forms available at weekend Masses	
28 September	Tamil Mass	5.30pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

6/7 Sept - 11/12 Oct Penance (Reconciliation) Enrolment forms available weekend Masses

Penance (Reconciliation) Program - Attendance is required at the following

18/19 October	Enrolment Ceremonies at one weekend Mass (6pm Vigil, 8am or 9.30am)	
21 October	Parent Meeting	7pm
29 October	Groups start for 4 weeks	
25 November	Penance (Reconciliation) Liturgies	6.30pm & 7.30pm

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

**Bill Eltakchi
Pat O'Flynn
Michael Sutherland**



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.



Due to school graduations, there will be no Daily Parish masses on the following dates:

**Friday 19 September 2025
Tuesday 23 September 2025
Friday 26 September 2025**

On Wednesday 24 September Sacred Heart Primary will join our parish mass to celebrate Mercy Day

Mercy Day

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 3 ROSTERS—WEEKEND MASS

Please notify Fr Walter you are in attendance

EMoE - 20 / 21 September

6:00pm: S. Sutherland

8.00am: J. Nealon

9:30am: M. Kastoun

Readers - 20 / 21 September

6:00pm: F. Cadeaux / R. San Juan Tuason

8.00am V. Kastoun / M. Schinella

9.30am: J. Macaraeg / P. Alexander

Junior Altar Servers - 20 / 21 September

6:00pm: C. Cristobal / M. San Juan

8.00am: *volunteer required*

9.30am: G. Vicente / A. Biju / A. Biju

Senior Altar Servers - 20 / 21 September

6:00pm: C. San Juan

8.00am: A. Dave

9.30am: N. Emmanuel

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

Fathers Day Appeal 6/7 September 2025

We have raised \$1100 in donations to this appeal.

You may still donate to the Fathers Day Appeal via envelopes in the church or online (specifying Westmead as your parish) at: parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal

Todays Message (Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA)

Today we concentrate on the power of the cross in our lives. It is the ultimate demonstration of the nature of God. Christ gave of himself even to death on the cross. This is characteristic, not only of the man Jesus, but of the Godhead. Creation is the first example of divine emptying; redemption is the ultimate example. Unlike Good Friday when we stand before the stark cross and mourn the death of our innocent messiah, today we stand before the glorious cross and praise God for God's incomprehensible goodness toward us. God's graciousness is poured out indiscriminately, prodigally as only profound love can be given. Such is the nature of our God, and the cross is the symbol of this nature. It was through the cross that Jesus conquered sin and death and won for us access to God. It is through the cross that we die to sin and rise to new life in Christ. As painful as life's crosses may be, they serve to transform us. It can be our hope in the midst of pain and suffering and brokenness, because it promises to carry us into new life. Through the goodness of God, which has been poured out for us, we have been granted eternal life. It is incomprehensible to think that death is the way to life, but that is the message of this feast. The cross, which is a sign of shame and misery, is now a symbol of glory and exaltation.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 20/21 SEPTEMBER

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1ST READING: AMOS 8:4-7

2ND READING: 1 TIM 2:1-8

GOSPEL: LK 16:1-13

