



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

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

18 - 19 October 2025

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Ps 16:6, 8

**To you I call;
for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.**

FIRST READING

Ex 17:8-13

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 120 R.v.2

**R. Our help is from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains:
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord
who made heaven and earth.
2. May he never allow you to stumble!
Let him sleep not, your guard.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard.
3. The Lord is your guard and your shade;
at your right side he stands.
By day the sun shall not smite you
nor the moon in the night.
4. The Lord will guard you from evil,
he will guard your soul.
The Lord will guard your going and coming
both now and for ever.

SECOND READING

2 Tim 3:14 - 4:2

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures –

from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work. Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

HEB 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The word of God is living and active;
it probes the thoughts and motives
of our heart. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Lk 18:1-8

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."' And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 32:18-19

**Behold, the eyes of the Lord
are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their
souls from death,**



PARISH CONTACTS

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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

18 / 19 October	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
18 / 19 October	Penance Enrolment Ceremonies at weekend Masses
25 / 26 October	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
26 October	Tamil Mass 5.30pm
1 November	All Saints Solemnity
2 November	Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)
1/2 November	Masses celebrated for All Souls—6pm Vigil, 8am, 9.30am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

We welcome the newly Baptised to our Christian family . . .

Shepherd Whitaker



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.



'In Memoriam': for the month of November



November is a special time to pray for the faithful departed. The Church encourages the offering of prayers or Masses. Envelopes are available in the church for all those wishing to offer Mass for deceased loved ones during November. All Mass intentions will be recorded in our 'In Memoriam' booklet in the church.

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



All Souls' Day Masses: 2 November
The Solemnity of All Saints - November 1 falls on a Saturday, with the Commemoration of All Souls' taking place on the Sunday - November 2. The usual weekend masses on Saturday night and Sunday morning will be celebrated for All Souls. There will be no additional mass on the Sunday evening.

Catholic Mission Appeal Weekend - 25 / 26 October 2025

This year supporting the essential work of the community and the Church providing shelter and care to those in need



Westmead Catholic Community - 75 Years in February 2026

In 2001 to celebrate the 50th Anniversary 'Then & Now' was produced. This booklet included details of the people and events which had shaped our parish history, with many of these memories shared by our past priests, ministers and current Sacred Heart parishioners.



Now as we prepare to celebrate our 75th Anniversary, we invite those in our parish community to share recollections of special celebrations, events and people in ministry from our parish history. If you would like to participate, **a set of Interview questions** are available at the entrance to the church. Please complete a copy with your name & responses and return to the parish; via post, email or in the letterbox, so we may once again feature the voice of those in our community.



WEEK 4 ROSTERS—WEEKEND MASS

Please notify Fr Walter you are in attendance

EMoE - 25 / 26 October

6:00pm: A. Enriquez
8:00am: T. Vo
9:30am: G. Vicente

Readers - 25 / 26 October

6:00pm: I. Liew / J. Braganza
8:00am: C. Burke / S. Turaka
9:30am: M. Kastoun / J. Paul

Junior Altar Servers - 25 / 26 October

6:00pm: M. Liew / J. Braganza
8:00am: J. Kingston
9:30am: J. Benedict / D. D'Souza

Senior Altar Servers - 25 / 26 October

6:00pm: P. Sicut
8:00am: J. Chandran
9:30am: F. Benedict

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

'Tap & Go' devices are installed in our church. Select an amount and tap your card on the logo to donate.



We thank you for your support of Sacred Heart Westmead



Today's Message

(Reflection by Greg Sunter)

When Jesus tells this parable about the widow and the judge, he is actually painting a picture about God for his disciples. This is not to suggest that God needs to be worn down by persistence but rather it is a description of what God is not. If such a wicked and unjust judge can eventually be worn down, how much more quickly will God respond to a just cause? Yet the parable is told to reinforce the need to pray continually. The continuous prayer is not to wear God down – like the judge – but rather to demonstrate the genuine need.

Does this teaching about the need for continual prayer mean that God needs to be convinced of our cause? Does a one-off prayer not get heard? Is God swayed by the force of numbers? Can the prayers of ten people carry more weight than the prayers of one? All these questions miss the point of the parable. It is not God who needs our prayers, but we who have to recognise, through prayer, our need for God's mercy and gracious love. The constancy of prayer is not to convince God but to remind ourselves of our dependence upon God.



NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 25/26 OCTOBER

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
1ST READING: SIR 35:12-14, 16-19
2ND READING: 2 TIM 4:6-8, 16-18
GOSPEL: LK 18:9-14

