



Westmead Catholic Community PARISH HEARTBEATS

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DIAMOND
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1951-2026

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

Second Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy

11 - 12 April 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Like newborn infants,
you must long for the pure, spiritual milk,
that in him you may grow to salvation,
alleluia.**

1 PET 2:2

FIRST READING

ACTS 2:42-47

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R.V.1

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.'
2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just.
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.

R.

R.

R.

SECOND READING

1 PET 1:3-9

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you,

even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

JN 20:29

**Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me,
Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me,
but still believe! Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

JN 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

JN 20:27

**Bring your hand and feel the place
of the nails, and do not be unbelieving
but believing, alleluia.**

PARISH CONTACTS

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Assistant Principal: Jodie Smith

Mother Teresa Primary

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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 - 2pm

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

11 / 12 April **Second Sunday of Easter**
18 / 19 April **Third Sunday of Easter**

26 April Tamil Community Mass 5.30pm
 14/15 March - 25/26 April First Eucharist Enrolment forms available at weekend Masses
 2/3 May Enrolment Ceremonies at weekend Masses (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.

14/15 March - 25/26 April First Eucharist Enrolment forms available at weekend Masses

First Eucharist Program - Attendance is required at the following

2/3 May Enrolment Ceremonies at weekend Masses (6pm Vigil, 8am, 9.30am)
 12 May Parent Meeting 7pm
 17 May Groups start for 4 weeks
 14 & 21 June First Eucharist Masses 11am

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

Kathleen Bowman



At Sacred Heart Westmead, **Baptism** is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month at 11am. Please contact the parish office to book for 2026.



Fr Walter will be away for one week on Annual Leave from 13 - 17 April. Daily Parish Masses will be cancelled during this period. Deacon Mick will lead Communion Services on these dates.

Due to staff annual leave the parish office will be open reduced hours during April.
 Tuesday to Thursday: 10am-2pm
 Friday: 9.30am-4pm

Good News (excerpt from CathNews)

The Central Victorian Irish Association has gifted an Irish harp statue to Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo, symbolising the Irish migrants whose faith, culture and labour helped build the Church in the Sandhurst Diocese. The Irish harp, or cláirseach (pronounced KLAH-r-shukh), is the national emblem of Ireland. Long before it appeared on passports and coins, it belonged to a sacred world of memory and meaning. In Gaelic society, harpers were honoured as custodians of story and soul; their music binding community, history and belief. Set within the Bendigo cathedral grounds, the harp speaks to Sandhurst Diocese's own foundations. In the late 19th century, Irish priests, religious and lay people crossed oceans to serve growing communities across Sandhurst. They built churches and schools, celebrated the sacraments, and carried faith into goldfields towns and rural parishes alike. Their legacy endures not only in stone and timber, but in the lives and communities that followed. This harp stands as a reminder of those forebears, of culture kept alive, faith handed on, and a people who helped shape the Church we inherit. The harp is installed on the High Street side of the Cathedral, in gardens that remain open to the public throughout the development of Cathedral Square.



WEEK 3 ROSTERS—WEEKEND MASS

Please notify Fr Walter you are in attendance

EMoE - 18 / 19 April

6:00pm: A. Enriquez
 8.00am: J. Nealon
 9:30am: M. Kastoun

Readers - 18 / 19 April

6:00pm: I. Liew / F. Cadeaux
 8.00am M. Schinella / A. Priya
 9.30am: P. Alexander / E. Baini

Junior Altar Servers - 18 / 19 April

6:00pm: J. Braganza / M. San Juan
 8.00am: L. Harries
 9.30am: G. Vicente

Senior Altar Servers - 18 / 19 April

6:00pm: C. San Juan
 8.00am: A. Dave
 9.30am: L. Vicente

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 - (Greg Sunter & Dianne Bergant)

Thomas has received a pretty bad rap for the last 2000 years, forever labelled as 'Doubting Thomas' because he wasn't prepared to take someone else's word for the fact that Jesus had risen. However, despite his demand for evidence, once Jesus is before him, he abandons all his thoughts about placing his fingers in the wounds and proclaims, 'My Lord and my God!' This is an absolutely extraordinary statement of faith. For the very first time, someone recognises Jesus, not as Messiah, prophet or Lord, but as God. Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we – blessed are we – who have not seen and yet still believe!

Most of us are like Thomas who looked for some tangible evidence of the resurrection. We do not find it any easier to live by faith than he did. However, when we do live by faith, we actually discover tangible proof. This proof can be seen in the way the community reaches out in care and support to others. Jesus extends his wounded hands to us as he did to Thomas, and the community is invited to touch his wounds as we touch the wounds of our world.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 18/19 APRIL

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
 1ST READING: ACTS 2:14, 22-23
 2ND READING: 1 PET 1:17-21
 GOSPEL: LK 24:13-35

