



Westmead Catholic Community PARISH HEARTBEATS

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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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

18 - 19 July 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord,
for it is good.**

FIRST READING

Wis 12:13. 16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R.v.5

R. Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. **R.**
2. All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. **R.**
3. But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. **R.**

SECOND READING

ROM 8:26-27

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

MT 11:25

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones
the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!**

Ps 53:6, 8

GOSPEL

MT 13:24-43

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'" He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.' He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.' In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy: I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world. Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 110:4-5

**The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,
has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him.**

PARISH CONTACTS

(02) 9635 9262

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

Parish Priest

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Deacon

Rev Mr Mick Flew (retired)

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Sacred Heart Primary

Telephone: 8633 4500 Fax 9893 7415

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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

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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)

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 July	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
22 July	St Mary Magdalene	Feast
25 July	St James, apostle	Feast
25 / 26 July	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
26 July	Tamil Community Mass	5.30pm
20/21 June - 25/26 July	Confirmation Enrolment forms available at weekend Masses	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Full dates and eligibility requirements for the **Parish's 2026 Sacramental Program** are listed on our website - www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au.

20/21 June - 25/26 July Confirmation Enrolment forms available at weekend Masses

Confirmation Program - Attendance is required at the following

1/2 August	Enrolment Ceremonies at weekend Masses (6pm Vigil, 8am, 9.30am)
4 August	Parent Meeting 7pm
9 August	Groups start for 4 weeks
8 September	Confirmation Mass 7pm

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



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.



WEEK 4 ROSTERS—WEEKEND MASS

Please notify Fr Walter you are in attendance

EMoE - 25 / 26 July

6:00pm: S. Sutherland
8:00am: T. Vo
9:30am: G. Vicente

Readers - 25 / 26 July

6:00pm: J. Braganza / R. San Juan Tuason
8:00am: M. Budwee / L. Eid
9:30am: J. Paul / M. Kastoun

Junior Altar Servers - 25 / 26 July

6:00pm: J. Braganza
8:00am:
9:30am: J. Benedict

Senior Altar Servers - 25 / 26 July

6:00pm: P. Sicat
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



Help fund our New Church Essentials

Thank you for your generosity in supporting Westmead New Church Giving. There are two ways to give: Sponsor a Pew, or help fund priority items from our Essentials List on the Westmead New Church Giving forms in the church. To have your gift recognised, complete a form or email details so we may reconcile your donation. Please take a form today, scan the QR code, or give online at sacredheartwestmead.com.au/newchurch



Envelope Collection Receipts

Tax deductible, Catholic Foundation and Caritas Receipts for the 2025.2026 Financial year will soon be posted or emailed to those who have indicated a receipt was required on their donation envelopes.

Non-tax deductible receipts for contributions to the Second (Parish) Planned Giving collection for the 2025.2026 financial year will be issued upon request to those contributors who require details for their records. Please contact the parish office to organise a copy.

Today's Message

(Dianne Bergant)

Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us, helping us in our weakness. The first disciples had Jesus to explain the parables; we have the Spirit to enlighten us. It is the Spirit who helps us to interpret the teaching of Jesus and to be receptive to the challenges that they pose. The presence of sinners in the kingdom of God is often a stumbling block to good people. There will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means that the righteous will have to live with the sinner and, even more challengingly, show them the same kind of concern that they show to others. The presence of sinners does not necessarily erode the quality of the kingdom. Rather, it provides disciples an opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness. There are two images of judgment in the readings. The one in the gospel is terrifying and decisive. We must remember that this is a parable. In the first reading and in the psalm response the justice of God is said to be lenient, clement and kind. The power of God is demonstrated not in retribution but in mercy. God is said to be 'merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in kindness and fidelity', and repentance is a very real possibility. This is the image that gives us hope.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 25/26 JULY

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
1ST READING: 1KGS 3:5, 7-12
2ND READING: ROM 8:28-30
GOSPEL: MT 13:44-52



'Come celebrate with us'

**Parish Dinner
to celebrate our
75th Diamond Jubilee
Friday 18 September 2026**

Information & ticket sales
available from next weekend

