



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

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 - 2 August 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.**

FIRST READING

Ps 69:2, 6

Thus says the Lord: Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

Is 55:1-3

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 114:8-9, 15-18. R.v.16

**R. The hand of the Lord feeds us:
he answers all our needs.**

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.
2. The eyes of all creatures look to you and you give them their food in due time. You open wide your hand, grant the desires of all who live.
3. The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, call on him from their hearts.

SECOND READING

ROM 8:35, 37-39

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us. For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

MT 4:4

**Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes
from the mouth of God. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

MT 14:13-21

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick. When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

R.

R.

R.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Wis 16:20

**You have given us, O Lord,
bread from heaven,
endowed with all delights
and sweetness in every taste.**

FEED

the
BODY



FEED
the
SOUL

PARISH CONTACTS

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www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au
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Parish Priest

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Deacon

Rev Mr Mick Flew (retired)

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Sacred Heart Primary Westmead

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Assistant Principal: Jodie Smith

Assistant Principal: Katherine Stennett

Westmead Hospital Chaplain

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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)

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

1 / 2 August

1 / 2 August

3 August

6 August

8 August

8 / 9 August

7-23 August

30 August

St Dominic;

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Confirmation Enrolment Ceremonies at weekend Masses

4 August

The Transfiguration of the Lord

St Mary of the Cross

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Communion Service replaces daily mass Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri at 9am

Tamil Community Mass

St John Vianney;

Memorial/s

Feast

Solemnity

5.30pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Confirmation Program - Attendance is required at the following

1/2 August

4 August

9 August

8 September

Enrolment Ceremonies at weekend Masses (6pm Vigil, 8am, 9.30am)

Parent Meeting

Groups start for 4 weeks

Confirmation Mass

7pm

7pm

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

Theresa Anh Dang



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 2 ROSTERS—WEEKEND MASS

Please notify Fr Walter you are in attendance

EMoE - 8 / 9 August

6:00pm: O. Nagel

8.00am: M. Schinella

9:30am: M. D'Souza

Readers - 8 / 9 August

6:00pm: A. Pinto / A. Pinto

8.00am: N. Ramos / P. Alvares

9.30am: A. Sutanto / J. D'Souza

Junior Altar Servers - 8 / 9 August

6:00pm: A. Esterado / C. Cristobal

8.00am:

9.30am: G. Vicente / D. D'Souza

Senior Altar Servers - 8 / 9 August

6:00pm: J. Nagel

8.00am: D. Howse

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



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



Join Sacred Heart Parish Westmead in celebrating our Diamond Jubilee on Friday 18 September 2026 at 6:30pm at Waterview Function Centre, Bicentennial Park.

Following canapes on arrival, the evening includes, a three-course dinner, DJ entertainment, raffles and auctions, all funds going towards building the new parish church. Tickets are \$160 For ticket enquires, scan the QR code or see flyer in the church or on our website.



Today's Message

(Dianne Bergant)

The response of today's psalm is an excellent summary of the theme that runs throughout today's readings: *The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.* The compassion of God is foremost in these readings – recognising need within the people and responding with an overflowing abundance. In the gospel, the abundant response of God is the miraculous feeding of more than five thousand people with twelve baskets full of leftovers. As it became late in the day, the disciples wanted Jesus to send the people away to the nearby villages so that they could buy food for themselves. But Jesus is moved with compassion for the people. He knows that as it is now evening they probably won't be allowed to enter any of the local villages and, even if they were, they probably didn't have money with which to buy food. So it is compassionate care that moves Jesus to act.

The passage begins with Jesus receiving the news of John the Baptist's death. His response to this terrible news is to take time out, to go away to a quiet, lonely place to pray and grieve. He was entitled to be frustrated and angry with them for intruding on his grief. Instead, when they tracked him down, he went ashore and healed them and taught them. When it came to the evening he went one step further in his compassion and made sure that all were fed.

At the time of writing, the gospel writer knew that his audience would be familiar with the Eucharistic meal. The words and actions of Jesus in this miraculous feeding event foreshadow the events of the Last Supper: he took the bread and fish, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples to distribute. This event is a Eucharistic one just as much as the Last Supper.

Fr Walter will be away for three weeks on Annual Leave from August 7 to August 23. Daily Parish Masses will be replaced during this period by a Communion Service led by Deacon Mick Flew on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday at 9am.

Weekend Parish Masses will be held as usual - 6pm Vigil, 8am & 9.30am.



NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 8/9 AUGUST

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1ST READING: 1 KGS 19:9, 11-13

2ND READING: ROM 9:1-5

GOSPEL: MT 14:22-33

