CATHEDRAL PARISH TOWNSVILLE

Sacred Heart Cathedral, St Joseph's Church North Ward
St Patrick's Church South Townsville, St Mary's Church West End,
St Francis Xavier's Church Railway Estate, St Joan of Arc Church Magnetic Island

COR AD COR LOQUITUR
heart speaks to heart

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A | 25 October 2026

PASTOR'S PEN:



Dear Cathedral Parish Family

A very warm and heartfelt welcome to you all!

As we gather once again around the table of the Lord, I welcome each one of you with a grateful heart. Whether you have been part of our parish family for many years or are still finding your place among us, please know that you are welcome, valued, and an important part of who we are.

As we come to the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Word of God invites us to reflect on something fundamental to our Christian identity: love of God must always be expressed through love of our neighbour. These two commandments cannot be separated. Our love for God becomes visible in the way we treat people, especially those who are vulnerable, struggling, forgotten, or in need of our compassion.

Our faith becomes meaningful when people encounter God's love through our actions. As we continue our journey together, may we never lose sight of the fact that every person who walks through our Cathedral doors has a place in this family.

Life in Our Parish
It has been another busy and grace-filled week in our parish, and I am grateful for the many ways in which our community continues to grow and serve.

Both Monday and Thursday afternoons, our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) sessions continued under the leadership of Fr Will. It is always a joy to see people taking steps in their journey of faith, and learning more about the richness of our Catholic tradition.

I also had the privilege of making pastoral visits to families who had contacted me, sharing a little of their lives, listening to their concerns, and offering pastoral support where needed. These encounters remind me that being a parish priest is not only about celebrating the sacraments; it is also about being present, listening, walking alongside people, and sharing in both their joys and their struggles.

Our usual weekly Mass at Bolton Clarke Aged Care Facility was another special moment of prayer and fellowship. I was also privileged to administer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick to residents. May the Lord continue to strengthen them.

I would also like to express my special thanks to all the baptismal families who joined us for the celebration last Sunday, and to our parishioners who stayed behind to welcome and celebrate with them. The well-prepared sausage sizzle was a lovely expression of community spirit and hospitality. Thank you for helping our newly welcomed families experience something of the warmth, generosity, and belonging that make our parish special.

Looking Ahead: Let Us Stay Connected
My lovely people, the weeks ahead will bring even more activity to our parish. In the midst of our busy schedules, I encourage everyone to keep your parish newsletter each week and take time to read it carefully. It is one of the best ways to stay informed about upcoming celebrations, Masses, parish activities, and other important announcements. When we remain informed, we are better able to participate, plan ahead, and support one another as a community.

One important celebration coming up very soon is All Souls' Day on Monday, 2 November. This is a special day in the life of the Church when we remember our loved ones who have died and commend them to the loving mercy of God.

To give everyone an opportunity to participate and to offer Mass for their departed loved ones, two Masses will be celebrated at the Cathedral on Monday, 2 November: one at 7:00 am and another at 5:30 pm. You are warmly invited to attend either Mass and to book a Mass intention for your loved ones who have died.

A Heartfelt Thank You
Before I conclude, I want to say something that comes sincerely from my heart: thank you, Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish family.

Thank you for your support in so many different ways. Thank you for your flexibility when plans change, for your understanding when things do not always happen as quickly as we would wish, and for your encouragement when the demands of parish life become challenging. Thank you for your generous gifts, your quiet acts of kindness, your prayers, your willingness to help, and your presence in the life of our community.

May the Lord bless you and your families abundantly. May He strengthen you when you are weary, comfort you when you are troubled, give you hope when the road ahead seems uncertain, and fill your hearts with His peace.

With my prayers, gratitude, and every blessing,
Fr Sylvester Emetuche
Dean and Parish Administrator

Welcome Visitors and New Parishioners!

We are delighted to have you with us! If you are new to the parish, we would love to get to know you.
Our parish motto, "Cor ad Cor Loquitur" (Heart Speaks to Heart), reminds us that faith is not just words, but a living connection, a conversation of love between each of us and God, and among one another.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

25 October 2026: 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading: Exodus 22:20-26

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2

(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
   my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
   My God is the rock where I take refuge;
   my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
   The Lord is worthy of all praise:
   when I call I am saved from my foes. (R.)

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
   Praised be the God who saves me.
   He has given great victories to his king
   and shown his love for his anointed. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Gospel Acclamation: John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

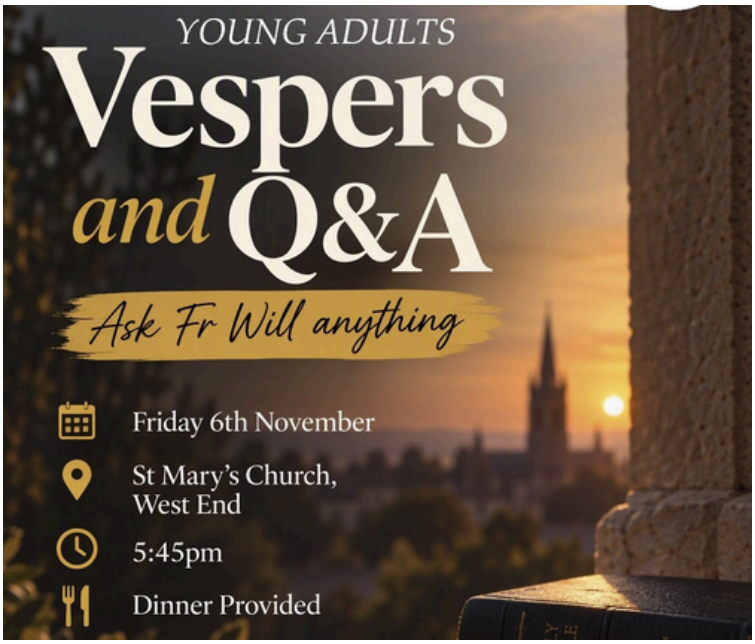
When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

ONE IN CHRIST UNITED IN Mission 100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

catholic mission



This week, you are invited to partner with Catholic Mission and the Church in Malawi as we support families rebuilding after devastating floods and help children access education close to home. Through Projects like St Peter's Nyamikuta Primary School, the Church is creating a place where children can learn, be nourised and grown with dignity, regardless of their background or beliefs. As we celebrate 100 years of world Mission Day, we are reminded by Pope Leo XIV that we are 'One in Christ, United in Mission'. **Join with us in celebration and action by supporting this work with a compassionate gift. Use the provided appeal envelope, scan QR code, or visit catholicmission.org.au/united to make a difference today.**



CATHEDRAL PARISH NOTICES

The Cathedral Parish warmly welcomes:

Uriah; Sutton Jay; Leonardo Dominic; Romeo Thomas; Grace Jayne & Clare Hope who will be baptised at Sacred Heart Cathedral and Charlotte Jane who will be baptised at St Francis Xavier this Sunday.



Volunteer Training Session

The Cathedral Parish invites all Parish Volunteers to a special training session.

Date: Saturday 7 November from 9.30am to 11.30am
Venue: St Mary's Hall, Ingham Road, West End

Program:

- Welcome and Prayer from Fr Sylvester.
- Safeguarding in-service for Volunteers with Craig Brereton
- Safety, fire and evacuation with Christina Pery

Please stay for a BBQ lunch

PLANNED GIVING CAMPAIGN

This month, we are asking our parishioners to consider making regular contributions to our Parish, so that we can continue our faith-based works. With your assistance, we can ensure our parish thrives, through ministries such as our parish-led sacramental programs, administering to the sick and elderly, formation for new Catholics, Parish community events and church repairs.

You can contact your bank to set up a regular payment to the parish weekly, fortnightly or any time period. The benefits of regular debits are that you no longer have to carry cash, cards or envelopes. You are in control of the payment amount and can cancel with your bank at any time.

For our Parish, your regular direct payments are easier for us to process, reduce the costs of envelopes and help us to plan our budget.

Please collect a brochure about regular planned giving from the back of the Church. It contains your options for electronic payments.



Please pray for the Sick: Almighty and Eternal God, You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You. Hear us for Your sick servants: Violet Stone; Toni Goodhew; Dina Royo; Pat Lee, Paula Gillam; Rosario Schesky; Emma; John Reyes; Sam Knight; Esme Stackhouse; Jan Palmer; Rafael Zarate; Nila Crossan; Sue Palmer; Deb Lowrie; Emma Moss (Luckel); Cecil Allen; Bernardene Morlin; Susan Alexander; Elizabeth Shinnick; Greg Luckel; Loreto & Bolton Clarke Nursing Home residents. For whom we implore the aid of Your tender mercy, that being restored to bodily health, they may give thanks to You in Your Church. Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer for the Souls of the Departed: Loving and merciful God, we entrust the soul of all who have died to your mercy. You loved them greatly in this life; now that they are freed from all its cares, give them happiness and peace forever. The old order has passed away; welcome them now into paradise where there will be no more sorrow. No more weeping or pain, but only peace and joy with Jesus, your Son, and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen

** Please be advised that the Parish Office requires individual and/or family permission for inclusion in the public prayer list under the Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012.*

The Cathedral Parish Office is located at McGuire House, beside the Sacred Heart Cathedral
(PO Box 1510) 270 Stanley Street, Townsville Qld 4810 | Ph: (07) 4771 4461 | Email: cathedralparish@tsv.catholic.org.au

Parish Roster: 31 October / 01 November 2026: Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

CATHEDRAL 10am:
Coordinator: Emelita N
1st Reader: Philomena X
2nd Reader: Maniraj D
Prayer of the Faithful: Darryl A
Collection: Terry H / Voluntia
Eucharistic Minister: Deborah M / Karin D
Slides: Chea

CATHEDRAL 5pm
Coordinator: Grace D
Welcoming: Mutya S
1st Reader: Dale C
2nd Reader: Vien G
Prayer of the Faithful: Aileen S
Eucharistic Minister: Grace / Lachlan

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, North Ward 6pm
Commentatoe: Matt P
1st Reader: Vanessa
2nd Reader: Toni M

Cleaning Group: 4

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, North Ward 9am
Commentator: Kieran K
1st Reader: Lionel S
2nd Reader: Sue L
Eucharistic Ministers: Greg L; Lisa M; Toni G

ST MARY'S CHURCH 8am
Commentator: Allan
1st Reader: Robyn
2nd Reader: Pia
Prayer of the Faithful: Allan

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH 7am
Coordinator:
1st Reader: Sue W
2nd Reader: Mary M
Prayer of the Faithful: Pam L
Altar Server: Wade S

ST JOAN OF ARC CHURCH
Commentator: Dot C
1st Reader: John W
2nd Reader: John W
Collection: Dennis S
Music: Kristin W
Pickup/Drop off Priest: Dot C

VOLUNTEER
If you can spare some time on a Friday morning or afternoon, or Saturday morning, we are seeking Volunteers to assist to clean the Cathedral and St Joseph's Church.

Cathedral Parish Sunday Mass Collections: 17 / 18 October 2026

Collections	Cathedral	St Mary's	St Francis Xavier	St Joan of Arc	St Joseph's	TOTALS
First	$1,462.25	$244.60	$431.50	$270.50	$346.40	$2,755.25
Second	$204.85	$125.60	$124.50	$-	$141.80	$ 596.75
Planned Giving	$ 20.00	$170.00	$210.00	$ 15.00	$210.00	$ 625.00
Eftpos/QR Code	$2,695.00	$ 30.00	$ 92.00	$ -	$375.00	$3,192.00
Total	$4,382.10	$570.20	$858.00	$285.50	$1,073.20	$7,169.00

***Thank you** to all parishioners for your ongoing financial support of our parish and its good works. Your generosity helps continue the important ministries and services provided across the many worshipping communities in our parish.*
Parish-Centered in Christ Missions - Maintenance - Ministries



CATHEDRAL PARISH MASSES

Monday: 7:00am Sacred Heart Cathedral
(followed by exposition until 12noon)
Tuesday: 7:00am Sacred Heart Cathedral
Wednesday: 7:00am St Mary's West End
Thursday: 7:00am St Francis Xavier Railway Estate
Friday: 7:00am Sacred Heart Cathedral
12:00pm Sacred Heart Cathedral
(Reconciliation at 11:00am)
Saturday: 8:30am St Mary's West End
(Followed by Reconciliation)
6:00pm St Patrick's School Hall (Vigil)
Sunday: 7:00am St Francis Xavier Railway Estate
8:00am St Mary's West End
9:00am St St Patrick's College Hall
10:00am Sacred Heart Cathedral
5:00pm Sacred Heart Cathedral
5:15pm St Joan of Arc Magnetic Is.

Baptisms by appointment
Cathedral | 1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sunday
St Mary's | 2nd Sunday
St Joseph's | 4th Sunday
St Francis Xavier | 5th Sunday
Please contact the Cathedral Parish Office on
07–4771 4461 for bookings.

Dean & Cathedral Parish Administrator:
Very Rev. Fr Sylvester Emetuche
Associate Pastor: Rev. Fr William Brennan
Parish Operations Manager: Christina Pery
Administration Officers:
Juliet Walker & Jo-Anne O'Brien
Parish Assistant: Cyd Vivar
Director of Music & Liturgy: Melissa Castorina
Mission Council Chair: Kieran Keyes
Finance Council Chair: Anthony Burke
RCIA Inquiries: rcia@tsv.catholic.org.au



