



WHITSUNDAY CATHOLIC PARISH

St Catherine's - St Martin's - Whitsunday Islands

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A — 05 July 2026

GOD'S WORD

Zechariah 9:9-10

The Lord says this: 'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!

See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.'

Psalms 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14 R. v.1

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

I will give you glory, O God my King, I will bless your name for ever. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. (R.)

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. (R.)

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God. (R.)

The Lord is faithful in all his words and loving in all his deeds. The Lord supports all who fall and raises all who are bowed down. (R.)

Romans 8:9.11-13

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead

will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

Matthew 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!

Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

REFLECTION

by Dian Bergant (LiturgyHelp)

The readings for today engage us in a reflection on the nature of the Trinity, as well as the ways that we are enriched by each of the divine Persons. The gospel acknowledges the sovereignty of God. This is followed immediately by mention of the handing over of all things to

Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Matthew 11:29



Jesus, making him a kind of vice-regent of God. Paul speaks of the Spirit, clearly a divine reality, but different from Jesus and the one called God. According to Paul, this Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus and the Spirit of God, implying that somehow both Jesus and God claim the Spirit. It is this Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead, and it is this same Spirit who dwells in Christians.

The grace of this Triune God touches our lives in some ways that are tangible and other ways that demand faith. The most tangible manifestation of God is Jesus himself. God has been revealed to us through this Jesus. While Jesus was a tangible person, our accepting of him as the manifestation of God requires faith, and this faith is no easier today than it was at the time of Jesus himself.

The overriding disposition of these readings is humility. Jesus, the human manifestation of the divine, is meek and humble, and the true disciple is called to be humble. A second disposition is placed before us – grateful praise. In the psalm we praise and bless God; we extol God's holy name. In Jesus we have known the tender touch of God, and we are grateful.

Welcome to Visitors and New Parishioners

A warm welcome to all of you! Our community is built on faith, love, and service, and we are excited to have you with us. We would love to connect with you. Please feel free to visit us in the office during office hours.

Parish and Diocesan Notices

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers Training

Our parish is conducting a mandatory training and refresher session for all current and aspiring Mass Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. This will be held **this Sunday, 05 July, after 8am Mass**. It is open for new volunteers and current ministers. Please make time to attend this training.

Planned Giving Summary of Contributions

Please be advised that we will be sending out the individual Summary of Contributions next week. Thank you for your continued generosity, devotion, and support of our parish community. Your contributions allow our ministries and programs to thrive. Thank you again for your faithful stewardship and for being such a vital part of our church family.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday

This Sunday, 5 July, we join Catholics across Australia in celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday. This year's theme is Walking Together in Christ: 40 Years On! We give thanks for the faith, culture and witness of First Nations Catholics, and pray that our parish may continue to walk in respect, listening and friendship.

Synod26: Final Document

On the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Monday 29 June, Bishop Tim signed the Declarations and Directives of our recent Diocesan Synod. In the Final Document, these are accompanied by a Pastoral Letter and a Statement of Commitment from the Bishop, followed by a record of the Synod journey from its convocation through to what we have learned, and are still learning, as a Diocese. Bishop Tim has prepared a video message for the people of the Diocese this weekend.

The Final Document is available at:
tsvcath.au/Synod26

Please continue to pray that the fruits of the Synod will take root in our Diocese and its parishes, schools, agencies and ministries.

Last Sunday's Collection

1st Collect	2nd Collect	PG Env	PG DirectDep
\$ 165.00	\$ 567.35	\$ 362.60	\$ 413.50

Planned Giving Program: For your contribution to the parish, you can direct deposit it to the parish account: **Whitsunday Catholic Parish**
BSB 034-207 ACCT 810014
Reference: PG_Name



You can also scan the QR code to make donations or payments.

Thank you for your generosity!



Scan to donate

Healing Prayer

Please say a healing prayer for
Peter Lewis, Adrian Sturma,
Winnie Urbano & Gene Dray.

"Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven." James 5:14-15;

This Week's Anniversaries

05 Jul- Killian Dermott

06 Jul- Laurence Dolan, Robert Hegerty, Paul Denham

07 Jul- Pietro Tibaldi, Brian Court, Maisie Meldrum-Kennedy

08 Jul- oseph Cecini Frank Reardon James Bulholz,

Kate Read, Henry Cecini and Florence Holmes

09 Jul- Minnie Macpherson

**10 Jul- Andrew Dobbins, Michael McCormack,
Peter Dorman and Kathleen Cornley**

11 Jul- Stefani Aldo Charles La Caze, Norm West,

Edwin Callahan, Barry Russell, Francesca Demartini



MASS ROSTER

	Saturday 4th JULY 2026 6pm St Catherine's Church	Sunday 5th JULY 2026 8am St Catherine's Church	Sunday 5th JULY 2026 6pm St Martin's Church
	Liturgy	Mass	Mass
Welcomer	Peter O	Joan H	Lynne E
Sacristan		Margaret A	Paul C
Introduction & POF	Margaret A	Alice H	Sarah C
1st Reading	Christine O	Di Stevens	Michael H
2nd Reading	Isabella O	Cathy R	Isabella E
Gospel	Bill B	Fr Sibi	Fr Sibi
Eucharistic Ministers	Joan M	Dan D & Nathan H	Paul C
Powerpoint	Aleena	Jill F	Isaiah C
Collection	Raymond & Brian	Arnold & Miller	Khoi & Kha
Offertory	-	Mariola & Maria	
Altar Servers	-		

PARISH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

SAT 04	SUN 05	MON 06	TUE 07	WED 08	THU 09	FRI 10	SAT 11	SUN 12
Fr Sibi (10 am Bowen Reconciliation)	8 am Mass St Catherine's Proserpine		930am Liturgy Nursing Home Proserpine	730am Rosary, Novena & Liturgy St Catherine's Proserpine		Fr Sibi (8am Mass in Bowen)	10 am Reconciliation St Catherine's Proserpine	8am Liturgy St Catherine's Proserpine Fr Sibi (8am Mass in Bowen)
6pm Liturgy St Catherine's Proserpine Fr Sibi (6pm Mass in Bowen)	6pm Mass St Martin's Cannonvale	Fr Sibi in Townsville (Priest In-Service) Scheduled building maintenance this week. For safety reasons, we request that you refrain from coming near the parish premises during this time. Thank you!					6pm Mass St Catherine's Proserpine	6pm Liturgy St Martins Cannonvale Fr Sibi (5pm Mass in Collinsville)



July 5, 2026

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zec 9:9-10 | Rom 8:9, 11-13 | Mt 11:25-30

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

In today's first reading, Israel's king comes riding "on a colt, the foal of an ass." This is a far cry from the horses and chariots the kings of other nations rode into battle as they sought to assert their authority and subdue their enemies. But Israel's king is not like other kings; he banishes horses and the warrior's bow, proclaiming peace to all the nations. Despite his meekness, "his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth." What we're given here is an image of peace achieved not by asserting military might, but through justice and humility. Of course, this image of a king riding a colt into Jerusalem will remind us of Jesus, who entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and destroyed his enemies (death and sin) not by political revolution but by laying down his life. If being a Christian is about claiming Christ as our king, then we must reject the temptation to seize power by asserting dominance, but instead act in ways that promote justice and peace.

SERVE Today's readings give us a glimpse of the heart of God: meek, humble, compassionate. This week, find one concrete way you can emulate his heart by serving those in need in your community. Through these actions, you bear witness to "his Spirit that dwells in you."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

An essential part of the Church's mission is what we call the "preferential option for the poor." In his Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexisti*, Pope Leo XIV says that "this 'preference' never indicates exclusivity or discrimination toward other groups, which would be impossible for God. It is meant to emphasize God's actions, which are moved by compassion toward the poverty and weakness of all humanity. Wanting to inaugurate a kingdom of justice, fraternity, and solidarity, God has a special place in his heart for those who are discriminated against and oppressed, and he asks us, his Church, to make a decisive and radical choice in favor of the weakest." (16) What this means is that we are called to put the poor, the vulnerable, the marginalized, and the suffering at the center of our concern. In our prayer, ministry, and outreach, we are called to prioritize their needs. When we live this out, we are extending the love of Jesus, whose own heart provides a place of welcome for those who are heavily burdened and in need of rest.



Pilgrimage of the Migrant Jubilee Cross - UPDATED SCHEDULE

The Migrant Jubilee Cross is coming to the Diocese of Townsville from 7-17 July as part of its national pilgrimage across Australia.

This sacred symbol celebrates the faith, resilience and contributions of migrant and refugee communities and invites us all to pray in solidarity with those who journey in search of hope, peace and belonging.

Parishioners are warmly invited to participate in the various events and prayer opportunities throughout the Diocese.

For Bowen & Proserpine,

Tuesday, 14th of July

8am— Mass St Mary's Church (Bowen)

11am— Prayer Service St Catherine's Church (Proserpine)

For the full itinerary and further information, please visit the diocesan website www.tsv.catholic.org.au or Diocese of Townsville Facebook page.

★★★ AMENDED SCHEDULE ★★★		
A JOURNEY OF FAITH & COMMUNITY		
SATURDAY 11 JULY		MASS – Good Shepherd Church, Mount Isa 6:00pm
SUNDAY 12 JULY		MASS – St Colman's Church, Cloncurry 8:30am
		MASS – Holy Rosary Church, Julia Creek 12 Noon
		MASS – St Thomas Anglican Church, Hughenden 6:00pm
MONDAY 13 JULY		PRAYER SERVICE – St Columba's Parish Meeting Rooms, Charters Towers 11:00am
TUESDAY 14 JULY		MASS – St Marys Church, Bowen 8:00am
		PRAYER SERVICE – St Catherine's Church, Proserpine 11:00am
WEDNESDAY 15 JULY		MASS – Ayr Nursing Home 10:00am
		PRAYER SERVICE – St Colman's School, Home Hill 1:00pm
THURSDAY 16 JULY		MASS – Holy Spirit Church, Cranbrook 7:00am
		PRAYER SERVICE – St Joseph's School, Mundingburra 11:00am
		MASS – St Patrick's Church, Ingham 5:30pm
FRIDAY 17 JULY		MASS – Sacred Heart Cathedral, Townsville 12 Noon
		SENDING FORTH MASS – St Teresa's Church, Garbutt 6:00pm

Thank you for walking this journey of faith and hope together.

Parish Groups

Catholic Women's League

Fourth Thursday of the month at 09:40am in the Parish Hall.

Care and Concern

A group reaching out to the lonely, grieving and most in need, needs communion, offering friendship and support. If you'd like to help and join the group. Please see the office.

Marian Devotees

Wednesdays at 7.30am, St. Catherine's Church. A group of people say a Novena to Miraculous Medal and pray a Rosary .

When I was a Stranger

Every last Sunday of the month, we gather after the 6pm mass St Martins Church. Please bring a plate to share.

Young Family Group

Each first Sunday of the month for the Eucharist Celebration, followed by the Parish Hall.

Our Team

Administrator:

Fr Sibichan Kaippanplackal

Secretary: Mariz Fletcher

Mission Leadership Team Chair:

Jill Farinelli

Mission Council Chair:

Mandy Ayers

Mission Finance Council Chair:

Chris Lane

St. Martin's Committee Chair:

Lynne Erricker

Office

Monday-Friday 9am-1pm

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St Martin's Church

4 St Martins Lane, Cannonvale

St Catherine's Catholic College

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[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/StCatherinesCatholicCollege)

StCatherinesCatholicCollege

Principal: Sam Hinton

THE HOLY SEE

MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV

ON SAFEGUARDING THE HUMAN PERSON
IN THE TIME OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

A valuable tool that requires vigilance

100. In light of what has been said, we can better understand why AI can be a valuable tool and, at the same time, why it calls for a measured and vigilant approach. In recent years, its private use has expanded significantly, prompting growing reflection on both the opportunities it offers and the risks tied to its rapid spread. In personal use, three aspects in particular deserve careful consideration: the ease with which results are obtained, the impression of objectivity and the simulation of human communication. The speed and simplicity with which information, complex analyses, media content and practical assistance can be accessed undoubtedly makes life easier. Yet they can also encourage excessive reliance and the search for ready-made answers, and weaken personal creativity and judgment. The apparent objectivity of the responses and suggestions these systems provide can lead us to overlook the fact that they reflect the cultural assumptions of those who designed and trained them, with all their strengths and limitations. The artificial imitation of positive human communication – words of advice, empathy, friendship and even love – can be engaging and at times genuinely helpful. However, for less discerning users, it can also be misleading, creating the illusion of a relationship with a real personal subject. When words are simulated, they do not build genuine relationships, but only their appearance. The artificial imitation of care or support can become particularly risky when it enters contexts where real relationships and emotional bonds are lacking. Here, the danger is not so much that a person may believe they are communicating with another person, but rather that they may gradually lose the very desire to form genuine human connections.

101. Broadening our perspective to the use of AI in society, we see that it is now embedded in decision-making processes across many sectors and at multiple levels: in communication, management and control. The gains in efficiency and the potential to improve certain services are clear, yet rapidly and uncritically adopting them exposes us to a range of risks, including the tendency to overlook the environmental impact. Current AI systems require enormous amounts of energy and water, significantly influencing carbon dioxide emissions, and place heavy demands on natural resources. As their complexity increases, especially in the case of large language models, the need for computing power and storage capacity grows too, which requires an extensive network of machines, cables, data centers and energy-intensive infrastructure. For this reason, it is essential to develop more sustainable technological solutions that reduce environmental impact and help protect our common home.

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