



WHITSUNDAY CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A — 09 August 2026

GOD'S WORD

1 Kings 19:9.11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

Romans 9:1-5

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would

willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

Psalms 129:5

Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord,
I trust in his word.
Alleluia!

Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'



REFLECTION

by Dian Bergant (LiturgyHelp)

Although divine power is manifested in dramatic ways, it is also present in what is unassuming. Traces of God can be seen in the delicacy of a violet, in a cool summer breeze, in the blush of innocence, in the fiery eyes of justice. Every one of us lives in the midst of God, breathes the breath of God's life, and is constantly touched by the exquisite artistry of God's creativity. Life itself is a mountain experience of God. As wonderful as life may be, it can also be very frightening at times. There are misunderstandings and rancour, jealousy and vindictiveness, greed and a hunger for power. Our personal lives can come unravelled and we can feel that we are genuinely 'at sea'. Every human being is tossed about by the exigencies of life. It is at times like these that we need faith in Jesus. Even though we do not recognise him, he is there in the midst of our chaos. Having the power of God, he is the definitive champion of all chaos, and so he is able to allay our fears and calm the sea. A true experience of God, whether it be within the ordinariness of life or one of life's tribulations, is both transformative and effusive. It is a reality that cannot be contained; it must be proclaimed. Disciples must be ready to do what they can in order that the good news of God's revelation be made known to others.

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

This Week's Funeral

A memorial service for Adrian Struma will be held on Wednesday, 12th of August 2026 at 11AM at St Catherine's Church. We ask for prayers for his soul and the bereaved family.



Prayer Request

We ask for prayers for the family of Pauline Stevens and who recently passed away in Mackay. Pauline was a devoted parishioner in our parish.

V9: A Parish That Fosters Vocations

In our final week we pray that our parish becomes a community where every vocation is named, encouraged and celebrated. Vocations flourish where people feel supported, prayed for and accompanied. We pray for families, teachers, priests and parishioners who help young people listen for God's call. We ask the Holy Spirit to bless our parish with openness to every vocation, including priesthood, religious life, marriage and generous single life. May the seeds planted during this Novena continue to grow. "If you are what you should be, you will set the world on fire." St Catherine of Siena

Eucharist28 Update: Eternal Life in the Eucharist

The International Eucharistic Congress ('Eucharist28') is coming to Sydney in 2028! At every Mass, the celebration of the Eucharist is a moment of communion, where we are united in Christ, who's body and blood we share. In the Scriptures, Jesus tells us, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day." (John 6:54) Through the Eucharist, Christ unites us to Himself and draws us into the eternal life He promises. This invitation is for everyone, even those who have died. At each Mass, the Church offers the Eucharistic sacrifice for the faithful departed, that they may experience eternal life and unity with Christ. To help your parish and community experience this moment of Eucharistic renewal on the journey to Eucharist28, head to eucharist28.org for more.

Last Sunday's Collection

1st Collect 2nd Collect PG Env PG Bank Trans.
\$ 504.20 \$ 249.0 \$ 970.00 \$ 3,076.00
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!



This Week's Anniversaries

09 AUG- Verona Dinnie, Lawrence Peter Ferraris, Maria Isabel Plemenuk; Margaret Gasper, Thomas McNelly, Kathleen Caprioglio, Frank Ford, Terry Hickey, Pierina Donadelli, Terry Duell, John Cole

10 AUG- Hayley McBride, Brian McCormack, Michelle Butterworth

11 AUG- Catherine Goggin, Sara Thorne, Luigi Olivetta, Teresa Terranova, Benjamin Valmadre, Geoffrey Valmadre, Kerery Guadry, John Thistelwaite

12 AUG- George Sax, Hayley Bachmann

13 AUG- Maud Macpherson/Findlay, Douglas Law

14 AUG- Bettina Engwirda, Luigi Fiorito, Lillian Edwards (Tess)

15 AUG- Annie, Stanley, Mary Farrell, Luigi Alvera, Eileen Kenneally, Nita Hay



MASS ROSTER

	Saturday 08 AUG 2026 6pm St Catherine's Church	Sunday 09 AUG 2026 8am St Catherine's Church
	Liturgy	Mass
Welcomer	Peter O	Joan H
Sacristan	Joan M	Margaret P & Pauline
Introduction & POF	Isabella / Christine O	Mandy A
1st Reading	Matthew M	Julia B
2nd Reading	Glenda P	Jimmy B
Gospel	Bill B	Fr Sibi
Eucharistic Ministers	Joan M	Margaret P & Pauline
PowerPoint	Aleena J	Mandy A
Collection	Raymond & Brian	Dan & Miller
Offertory		Mariola & Maria
Altar Servers		

PARISH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

SAT 08	SUN 09	MON 10	TUE 11	WED 12	THU 13	FRI 14	SAT 15	SUN 16
10am Reconciliation St Mary's Bowen	8am Mass St Catherine's Proserpine		930am Liturgy Nursing Home Fr Sibi @ 8am Mass St Mary's in Bowen	730am Rosary, Novena & Mass St Catherine's Proserpine 11am Memorial Service St Catherine's Proserpine	8am Mass St Catherine's Proserpine	Fr Sibi @ 8am Mass St Mary's in Bowen	10am Reconciliation St Catherine's Proserpine	8am Liturgy St Catherine's Proserpine Fr Sibi @ 8am Mass St Mary's Bowen
6pm Liturgy St Catherine's Proserpine Fr Sibi @ 6pm Vigil Mass St Mary's Bowen	6pm Mass St Martins Cannonvale						6.00pm Vigil Mass + Sabian's Welcome Proserpine	6pm Liturgy St Martins Cannonvale Fr Sibi @ 5pm Mass Collinsville



August 9, 2026

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a | Rom 9:1-5 | Mt 14:22-33

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

As I prepared to become a teacher, a professor reminded me that the most effective way to command the attention of a room full of boisterous students is to lower my voice. Matching their volume only adds to the chaos. But approaching with a low, calm voice demands attention due to the contrast in volume. Prior to the scene in which Elijah encounters God on Mount Horeb, he was fleeing for his life. He was distraught. Likewise, in the Gospel the Apostles were in distress as they were tossed about on the sea. Chaos, anxiety, and distress are unfortunately all too common experiences. But God breaks through our worries and brings peace. God speaks to Elijah in a whisper. Christ walks calmly toward the disciples in the rocking boat. God doesn't match the chaos and the volume of our broken world. When Christ says, "Peace be with you," it is a genuine extension of peace to our weary souls from the Prince of Peace. The challenge for us comes in finding the quiet to experience the peace that Christ offers.

LISTEN

Particularly with the expansive nature of technology, it can be difficult to block out the world in order to silence our minds and hearts. But we know from Christ's example of prayer and from Elijah's experience on Mount Horeb that God speaks to us in the quiet. Spend some time this week in quiet solitude to make yourself available to encounter God and hear his voice.

A Safe Environment for All

The Catholic Diocese of Townsville believes that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical, emotional, spiritual and psychological harm. The Diocese has established a policy and risk management strategy, comprising eight key procedures to do everything in its power to provide a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults. To report a concern about abuse or misconduct concerning church personnel: contact the Diocese of Townsville directly P: 4726 3264 or E: diocese@tsv.catholic.org.au; or make a disclosure to the Professional Standards Office Queensland (PSOQ) by downloading a disclosure form at psqld.catholic.net.au and send to PO Box 3264 Brisbane Q 4001 or E: psqld@catholic.net.au. Alternatively, contact PSOQ on 3324 3070 or 1800 337 928 (free call).

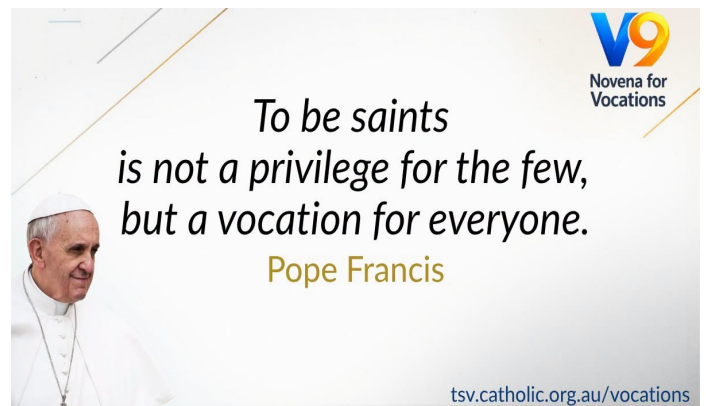
An invitation to take time out for your spiritual life this year.

The House of Prayer is again offering 24 hour retreats throughout the year for anyone who would like to come away from the demands of the everyday and attend to their spiritual life in guided retreats. Suggested donation \$60.
RSVP to: houseofprayer@tsv.catholic.org.au
Everyone is welcome.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Doing the work of God does not mean that we always have to get louder. Proclaiming the Good News may mean that our words grow softer while the gentleness and peace from the Spirit become more visible. I find it interesting that as the crowds are dispersing and the Apostles are getting into a boat, Jesus finds a spot of solitude to pray. All too often in my own ministry, I see the tasks that need to be completed and disregard my own need for solitude. But it is in this quiet that we hear the voice of God that gives life to ministry and that guides us in the path of holiness. God will not add chaos to the world – peace is in his nature and he cannot act contrary to his nature. And so in the midst of our busyness and brokenness, God lowers his voice and calls us to attention.



The Generous Single Life

Some serve Christ through a generous single life lived with freedom and love.
Pray for those offering their gifts in this vocation.

Put Your Talents to Use

The St Vincent de Paul Society serves our community by providing relief to those in need, but the work happens behind the scenes too. Local conferences are currently seeking volunteers to assist with cashbooks and data entry. If you have a knack for numbers and a heart for service, please contact membership.tvlle@svpdpqld.org.au to learn more.
For our local vinnies, contact (07) 4945 3156 or email Maria at sc4800@svpdpqld.org.au.

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–2pm

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St Catherine's Church

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St Martin's Church

4 St Martins Lane, Cannonvale

St Catherine's Catholic College

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07 4945 1414

enquiries@prspne.catholic.edu.au

<https://www.facebook.com/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

The limit, the heart and the grandeur of the human person

18. Our relationship with life seems to be in crisis today. Everything that appears as a "limit" – incapacity, illness, old age, suffering, vulnerability – tends to be seen primarily as a defect to be corrected, rather than as a reality through which our humanity matures and opens itself to relationship. And yet we must remember that humanity flourishes not despite limitations, but often *through* them. The light of faith offers a perspective on reality that helps us recognize what we call the "contingency" of the things of this world. While it is right to strive to alleviate the suffering that marks human life, it is also wise to acknowledge our fundamental finitude, knowing that "religious experience, and in particular Christian faith, propose that we live, without oversimplification, this ambivalence between human greatness and limitation, interpreting it in the light of our original and fundamental relationship with God." [131]

119. It is precisely within our limitations that the following find a place: compassion, as well as a sincere concern for the needs of others; a generosity that can emerge even in the midst of darkness and failure; spiritual experience and the worship of God. We see this at many moments when our limits become tangible: when we face rejection, when we suffer the illness or loss of a loved one, when we encounter our own weakness or failure. Mysteriously, it is precisely in such moments that we can discover a new wisdom, tangibly experience the closeness of others and encounter the presence of the Lord.

© <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/encyclicals/documents/20260515-magnifica-humanitas.html>

Hope is Alive

Join Bishops Tim Harris, Joe Caddy, Danny Meagher and Ken Howell,
together with

Archbishop Shane Mackinlay

for the

Queensland Bishops' Mass

Wednesday 19 August 9:30am

Sacred Heart Cathedral, 270 Stanley St, Townsville

Queensland Bishops' Mass

Everyone is warmly invited to celebrate the Qld Bishops' Mass at 9:30am on Wednesday 19 August at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Townsville. This is a rare opportunity to celebrate Mass with all five Bishops as we gather in faith under the theme "Hope is Alive."

Complimentary bus for those wanting to attend!

Phone 47263266 or click <https://forms.gle/Gd6NpWrLGtRJ1ETH6> for more details