



WHITSUNDAY CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A — 12 July 2026

GOD'S WORD

Isaiah 55:10-11

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

Psalm 64:10-14 R. Lk 8:8

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. **(R.)**

And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. **(R.)**

You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **(R.)**

The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **(R)**

Romans 8:18-23

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning

till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

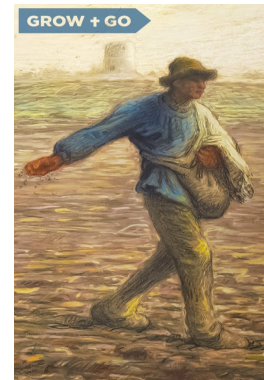
Matthew 13:1-23

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again,



GOD IS GENEROUSLY OFFERING HIS GRACE AND HIS MERCY TO EVERYONE EQUALLY, IN ALL PLACES, AT ALL TIMES.

but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

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

Planned Giving Summary of Contributions

As we conclude the 2025-2026 financial year, we want to express our deepest gratitude for your continued support of our parish. Your steadfast generosity through our Planned Giving Program enables us to maintain our church, fund our ministries, and serve those in need within our community.

Kindly visit the office for your printed Planned Giving Summary for FY 2025-2026. Thank you for being a vital part of our parish family and for walking with us in faith and mission. May God bless you and your families for your ongoing kindness.

BAPTISM TEAM

We'd like to introduce our newly formed Parish Baptism Team. Isabella O'Sullivan, Gabrielle Gilroy and Sarah Van Blerk will now join Margaret Annells in this ministry. Our dedicated team is here to walk alongside families as they prepare for this sacred sacrament. They will help guide parents through baptismal preparation, answer questions, and offer a warm welcome into our community. Thank you ladies for your willingness to be of service.



12/7: Praying for Religious Life

This week we pray for women and men called to religious life. Religious life is a beautiful response to Christ, lived through prayer, community and mission. Some communities serve in schools, hospitals or outreach ministries. Others live contemplative lives of silence and intercession. All witness to the truth that God is the source of lasting joy. We pray for those who feel drawn to simplicity, service and deeper prayer. May their witness inspire others to consider this vocation with openness and trust.

"He does not ask our worthiness. He asks our openness." Mother Teresa

Last Sunday's Collection

1st Collect 2nd Collect PG Env PG DirectDep
\$ 580.75 \$ 281.50 \$ 175.00 \$ 635.00

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!



Scan to donate

Caritas Australia Ukraine Emergency Appeal

Caritas Australia is urging the Australian community not to look away as the war in Ukraine continues for a fifth straight year. As violence escalates in other parts of the world, Ukraine is slipping from headlines, but for millions of people the suffering has not stopped.

You can learn more or make a donation today at www.caritas.org.au/ukraine

This Week's Anniversaries

12 Jul- Pierina Bosca, James McGinn, Vivian Ball, Violantina Pini, Joel Hinchcliffe
13 Jul- Jennifer Orenshaw
16 Jul- Noel Peter Bourke
17 Jul- Thomas Ocroft
18 Jul- Maddelena Faletti, John Nielsen, Peter Tibaldi,

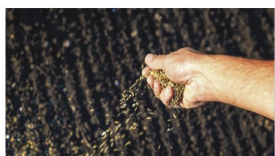


MASS ROSTER

	Saturday 11th JULY 2026 6pm St Catherine's Church	Sunday 12th JULY 2026 8am St Catherine's Church	Sunday 12th JULY 2026 6pm St Martin's Church
	Mass	Liturgy	Liturgy
Welcomer	Peter O	Joan H	Lynne E
Sacristan	Colleen B & Joan M	Margaret A	Lynne E
Introduction & POF	Joan M	Alan W	
1st Reading	Suzanna F	Mary Anne P	Isabella E
2nd Reading	Glenda P	Isabella M	Michael H
Gospel	Fr Sibi	Margaret A	Paul C
Eucharistic Ministers	Lane T & Bill B	Joan M	Paul C
Powerpoint	Aleena	Sarah V	Isaiah C
Collection	Raymond & Brian	Dan & Miller	Khoi & Kha
Offertory	Aliyah C & Gabby M		
Altar Servers	Cedric & Oscar		

PARISH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

SAT 11	SUN 12	MON 13	TUE 14	WED 15	THU 16	FRI 17	SAT 18	SUN 19
10 am Reconciliation St Catherine's Proserpine	8am Liturgy St Catherine's Proserpine Fr Sibi (8am Mass in Bowen)		8am Mass (Bowen) 11am Prayer Service St Catherine's (Proserpine)	730am Rosary, Novena & Liturgy St Catherine's Proserpine 8am Mass (Bowen)	8am Mass St Catherine's Proserpine	8am Mass St Catherine's Proserpine	10am Reconciliation St Catherine's Proserpine	8am Mass St Marys Bowen 8am Mass + Baptism St Catherine's Proserpine
6pm Mass St Catherine's Proserpine	6pm Liturgy St Martins Cannonvale Fr Sibi (5pm Mass in Collinsville)						6pm Vigil Mass St Marys Bowen 6pm Vigil Mass St Catherine's Proserpine	6pm Mass St Martins Cannonvale



July 12, 2026

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:10-11 | Rom 8:18-23 | Mt 13:1-23

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

If you're anything like me, you probably hear today's Gospel and immediately try to identify yourself with one type of seed Jesus talks about: the seed that fell on the path, the seed that fell on rocky ground, the seed among thorns, or the seed in good soil. But have you ever stopped to wonder why the sower is throwing seeds so haphazardly? This is worth meditating on, too. I believe it says to us that God is generously offering his grace and his mercy to everyone equally, in all places, at all times. But we aren't all in a place where we are open to receive that gift. In those moments when we feel as though we're not bearing the fruit that we hope to, perhaps it's time to examine our spiritual surroundings and see if there is something we can change that might help us to be more receptive to God's grace. Perhaps it's as simple as checking out a faith-sharing group that can help us tend our spiritual soil so it is ready to receive what God is doing out.

PRAY

There's a certain patience we must exercise when sharing God's word with others. When I find myself struggling with impatience – with myself or with others' slow progress – I often find solace in the prayer "Trust in the Slow Work of God" from Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ, particularly these lines: *Above all, trust in the slow work of God / We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay / We should like to skip the intermediate stages / And yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability – and that it may take a very long time.*

REFLECTION

by Dian Bergant (LiturgyHelp)

The readings for this Sunday call us to self-examination. The gospel describes various levels of receptivity, the willingness to allow ourselves to receive from another, to be influenced by another, perhaps even to be transformed. The more independent we are, the less likely we will be open to others and, consequently, less receptive to their ideas. By definition disciples are receptive to the one they follow. To be a disciple of Jesus requires receptivity, so it is important that we scrutinise ourselves to discover the extent to which we are open. To what should we be receptive? To the words of Scripture, the words of the liturgy, the words of the sacraments, the living tradition of the community. God's word is sown in many forms and under many guises. It makes little difference who sows the seed. How will we receive it?

Besides the word of God, the readings speak of the world of God. The people of biblical times were aware of the revelation of God in and through the natural world. Isaiah teaches about the effectiveness of the word of God through the metaphor of rain. The psalmist uses the natural world to describe God's work of salvation. Paul claims that eschatological fulfilment will include all of creation. Finally, Jesus' parables are rooted in stories about nature. We cannot afford to close our eyes to the needs of the natural world, or stop our ears to the cries of the earth, or harden our hearts to the world of which we are a part, for the word of God will accomplish the end for which God sent it.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Our first reading from Isaiah speaks of the power and efficacy of God's word, comparing it to the rain and snow that come down and water the earth, making the soil fertile, helping the seed to grow into a bountiful harvest that can be made into bread that nourishes. What we grasp from all of this is that God's word bears fruit *over time*. As evangelizers, it's important to consider that we often won't see fruit right away when sharing God's word with others. That word must take root, grow, and be cultivated. This process will take time, but the long-term fruit is worth our sustained and patient effort as we nurture relationships of accompaniment with others.



A JOURNEY OF FAITH & COMMUNITY

Pilgrimage of the Migrant Jubilee Cross

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)

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 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

Responsibility, transparency and the governance of AI

102. The use of AI is never a purely technical matter: when it enters processes that affect people's lives, it touches on rights, opportunities, status and freedom. Important and sensitive decisions – concerning employment, credit, access to public services or even a person's reputation – risk being fully delegated to automated systems that do not know "compassion, mercy, forgiveness, and above all, the hope that people are able to change," [125] and can therefore give rise to new forms of exclusion. There are clearly harmful uses, such as the manipulation of information or violations of privacy. Yet there is also a subtler danger, for when AI systems present themselves as neutral and objective, they end up reflecting and reinforcing the stereotypes or ideological bias of their designers and developers.

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

All grandparents & elderly of the Whitsunday community are invited to come together and join our morning tea celebration of the

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2026

Celebrating the gift of older generations and their wisdom, and invaluable contributions to our families and society.

"I will never
forget you"

(Isaiah 49:15)

SUNDAY 26 July 2026 10:30AM

St. Catherine's Catholic College

(Tom Gard Center)

96 Renwick Road, Proserpine

FREE
COMMUNITY EVENT

RSVP Tues. 21st July

Parish Office 49451025

