



WHITSUNDAY CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A — 19 July 2026

GOD'S WORD

Wisdom 12:13.16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there.

By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call. Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)

All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do arvellous deeds, you who alone are God. (R.)

But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. (R.)

Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our

hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Matthew 11:25

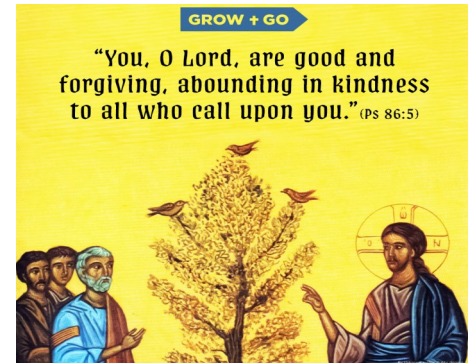
Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'



In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables

and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

When I Was A Stranger

Next Sunday, 26th of July after 6pm Mass at St Martin's Church, we will have our monthly When I Was A Stranger to welcome visitors and meet other parishioners. Kindly bring a plate to share.

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

CWL AGM

The CWL Whitsunday, is holding its Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 23rd July. There will be a Mass at 9 am to be followed by the Meeting in the Hall. Refreshments will be served and a Raffle drawn. All current members attending, please bring a plate to share. All ladies of the Parish, please consider this as an open invitation to learn about our Branch and its activities.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

Next Sunday, 26th of July, we are celebrating the 6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly to honour the gift of the older generations and their valuable contributions to our community. This will commence at 10:30am at TGC Hall of St Catherine's Catholic College. It is a free event for the elderly members of the whole Whitsunday community, so you are welcome to invite your neighbours and share this wonderful celebration.

Bishop's Appeal for Diocesan Ministries

Support the Bishop's Appeal for Diocesan Ministries and help sustain the vital ministries that strengthen faith, support those in need, and serve our communities. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference. Help us reconnect with God's mission and become new in Christ. Envelopes are available at the church entrance.

Consecrated Life and Its Witness

In Week Six we continue praying for religious vocations especially for those discerning vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. These vows are pathways to freedom, allowing a person to love God and others with an undivided heart. Religious life strengthens the whole Church through prayer, community and service.

We pray for those who feel drawn to this way of life and for those who accompany them in discernment. May our parish support religious vocations with gratitude and encouragement.

"Only what You will, my God.

Use me as You will."

- St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Last Sunday's Collection

1st Collect 2nd Collect PG Env PG DirectDep
\$ 300.15 \$ 266.80 \$ 128.50 \$ 190.00

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!



Baptism

This Sunday, 19th of July, we will welcome baby **Janella Espina** in our Catholic community, as she receives the sacrament of Baptism. Please include their family in your prayers and that Janella will grow with God's grace and guidance.



Wedding

Craig Lawler & Sarah Harkess
Saturday, 25th July 3pm VMR, Cannonvale

This Week's Anniversaries

19 Jul- Rosita Mitchell; Janette Morrison, Ross Hayes
20 Jul- Henry Muller, Celestine Stevenson, John Krog
21 Jul- Aldo Stefani, Benjamin Spalla, Noeline Dray,
Selina Monaghan, Carmelina Daffara,
Paul Pettiford, Fr. Tom Gard
22 Jul- Cecilia Taylor William Nicholls
23 Jul- William Benton, John Britt,
Dante Balma
25 Jul -Giovanni Madonnna

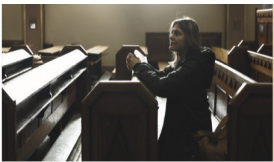


MASS ROSTER

	Saturday 18th JULY 2026 6pm St Catherine's Church	Sunday 19th JULY 2026 8am St Catherine's Church	Sunday 19th JULY 2026 6pm St Martin's Church
	Mass	Mass	Mass
Welcomer	Peter O	Joan H	Lynne E
Sacristan	Colleen B & Joan M	Margaret A & Pauline O	Lynne E
Introduction & POF	Julia B	Margaret A	Sam H
1st Reading	Joan MG	Di S	Isabella E
2nd Reading	Cathy R	Jimmy B	Leanne T
Gospel	Fr Sibi	Fr Sibi	Fr Sibi
Eucharistic Ministers	Bill B & Chris D	Margaret P & Pauline O	Paul C
Powerpoint	Aleena	Mariz F	Isaiah C
Collection	Raymond & Brian	Dan & Miller	Khoi & Kha
Offertory	Elsina J & Gabby M	Jasper E & Jakob B	MaryLee T
Altar Servers	Cedric & Oscar		

PARISH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

SAT 18	SUN 19	MON 20	TUE 21	WED 22	THU 23	FRI 24	SAT 25	SUN 26
10am Reconciliation Bowen	8am Mass + Baptism St Catherine's Proserpine (8am Mass in Bowen)		930am Liturgy Nursing Home (8am Mass in Bowen)	730am Rosary, Novena 8:00 Mass St Catherine's Proserpine	9am Mass w/ Students St Catherine's Church Proserpine	8am Mass St Catherine's Proserpine (8am Mass in Bowen)	10am Reconciliation Proserpine	8am Mass St Catherine's Proserpine 10:30 am Grandparents Day TGC School 8am Mass St Marys Bowen
6pm Vigil Mass St Catherine's Proserpine 6pm Vigil Mass St Marys Bowen	6pm Mass St Martins Cannonvale (11am Mass in Collinsville)						6pm Vigil Mass St Catherine's Proserpine 6pm Vigil Mass St Marys Bowen	6pm Mass + When I Was A Stranger St Martins Cannonvale (11am Mass in Collinsville)



July 19, 2026

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 12:13, 16-19 | Rom 8:26-27 | Mt 13:24-43

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

There have been moments in my life when I have not been able to find words for prayer, which leaves my efforts feeling unproductive and fruitless. But prayer's worth is not measured by the words we say. Prayer is the lifting of the mind and the heart to God. We place ourselves in the presence of God and allow our desires, our suffering, and our weakness to be transformed by his grace. In Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans he writes, "we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings." In prayer, we place our hope in that what we bring to God will be heard and magnified by his divine grace. And as Christians, we live with the intention of pleasing God, and we trust that God transforms our actions into something meaningful as well. As the mustard seed grows into a large tree or a small teaspoon of yeast enlivens an entire loaf of bread, God takes what we offer – regardless of whether or not we have the right words, or even any words at all – and transforms it into something extraordinary.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In the first reading, we are reminded of God's leniency in the face of justice. God's mercy does not mean a lack of accountability – Christ desires and commands that we love God and love our neighbor. But in his mercy, he does not condemn us for our sin but rather gives time for us to repent. As a Christian community, we are called to show that same mercy – that same patient forbearance with one another. By doing so, the love of God ripples across a community through acts of charity and compassion, making individuals feel known and cared for. In this kind of environment, like the birds who find rest in the branches of the large mustard bush, all who seek the Lord will find a welcome among God's people.

PRAY Prayer is not only offered in word but also in sacrifice offered on behalf of another. Today, think of someone who needs your prayers. Bring their intention to God either in word or by offering a sacrifice on their behalf, not thinking about what is equal but what reflects God's mercy.

Migrant Jubilee Cross Pilgrimage

The Whitsunday Catholic community gathered last Tuesday, 14th of July, in a powerful display of faith, unity, and inclusion to welcome the Migrant Jubilee Cross during its historic national pilgrimage, led by Melissa Castorina (*Director of Music and Liturgy*) and Rebecca Ryman (*Pastoral Projects Officer*) of Townsville Diocese. Thank you to our parishioners, students and staffs of St Catherine's Catholic College who came together at St Catherine's Church to venerate this sacred symbol.

This spiritual milestone successfully united us all, celebrating the diverse cultural backgrounds that profoundly enrich our local Catholic community.



Parish Groups

Catholic Women's League

Fourth Thursday of the month at 10:00am 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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FB: whitsundaycatholicparish

St Catherine's Church

126 Main Street, Proserpine, Qld

St Martin's Church

4 St Martins Lane, Cannonvale

St Catherine's Catholic College

96-114 Renwick Rd Proserpine

07 4945 1414

enquiries@prspne.catholic.edu.au

<https://www.facebook.com/StCatherinesCatholicCollege>

Principal: Sam Hinton

Office of the Bishop



Pastoral Letter to the People of Whitsunday Parish

Dear Friends,

Greetings. I write to convey that I have appointed Fr Emmanuel Anorue as Administrator of Whitsunday Parish effective 1 September 2026. Fr Emmanuel is presently the Administrator of Charters Towers and Hughenden Parishes.

I continue to be grateful to Fr Sibichan Kaippanplackal, the Administrator of Bowen, who continues to do his very best in challenging circumstances. Fr Sibi is certainly working overtime.

This delay in appointing a new Pastor since Fr Shilbin Kurian MCBS returned to India has been because no one was available as all the priests of the Diocese had their present role or retired. It needs to be understood too that sourcing clergy is not an easy exercise.

A Diocese has to carefully plan moves of clerics for all sorts of reasons. In this case, Fr Shilbin requested to leave due to family reasons.

I have asked Fr Sibi to continue in his "juggling" of two parishes until the new Administrator takes up his appointment. Again, it cannot happen immediately as Fr Emmanuel has had some recent surgery and then he will be taking his annual leave.

I am sure you will welcome Fr Emmanuel in due course. I thank him for accepting this appointment.

With every best wish,

MOST REV TIMOTHY J HARRIS
Bishop of Townsville

*Excerpt from 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

105. For AI to respect human dignity and truly serve the common good, responsibility must be clearly defined at every stage: from those who design and develop these systems to those who use them and rely on them for concrete decisions. In many cases, however, the internal processes leading to a result remain opaque, making it harder to assign responsibility and correct errors. This is where accountability becomes crucial: the possibility of identifying who must "account" for decisions, justify them, monitor them, and, when necessary, challenge them and remedy any harm caused. [127]

106. Calling for prudence, rigorous evaluation and even, at times, a slower pace in adopting AI does not mean opposing progress; instead, it is an exercise of responsible care for the human family. This need is all the more urgent given the frequent imbalance between the speed of technological growth and the slower development of awareness, norms, safeguards and institutions capable of governing its effects. It is not enough to invoke ethics in the abstract; robust legal frameworks, independent oversight, informed users and a political system that does not abdicate its responsibility are required. Otherwise, change will be governed only by technocratic thinking and presented as necessary and inevitable, ultimately imposing rules shaped by those who control data, infrastructure and computing power.

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