



WHITSUNDAY CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A — 27 September 2026

GOD'S WORD

Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. (R.)

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)

3. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

Philippians 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing.

Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

John 10:27

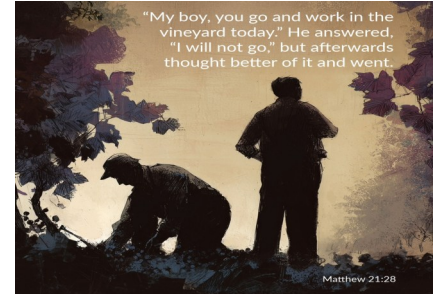
Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said.

Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'



REFLECTION

by Dinanne Bergant/LitugyHelp

In every life there is a struggle between obedience and disobedience, and this struggle takes various twists and turns. At times we are willing to conform to regulations set from the outside, and at times we are not. We are invited to choose in favour of the reign of God, or we are free to ignore the invitation. Those who are fundamentally righteous sometimes fall from grace, and people considered evil to the core sometimes reform their lives. What ultimately counts are not the promises made, but the actions taken. We are called to discipleship, and there may well be urgency in this call, but it is an invitation that is to be accepted freely. As is the case with life itself, options are placed before us all the way along the road. We are invited to choose in favour of the reign of God, or we are free to ignore the invitation. However, the invitation always remains open to us, because God's desire for our acceptance is persistent and enduring. The real choice set before us today is the imitation of Christ. The specific characteristic of Christ today is his humility. Since demanding one's rights can undermine the loving quality of community, Jesus' humility is offered for our imitation. It is very clear that whichever aspect of discipleship we examine, some aspect of community is also present. To be a disciple of Jesus is to follow him humbly as a member of a believing community.

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.

Diocesan Notices

Congrats Bishop Tim!

Congratulations to our very own Bishop Tim Harris, who has been named #21 in the Townsville Bulletin's Most Influential list!

From guiding our parishes to advocating for social justice and supporting the most vulnerable, Bishop Tim continues to be a compassionate, strong moral and spiritual voice across North Queensland. We are so grateful for his dedicated leadership, service, and heart for our community. Please join us in celebrating and praying for Bishop Tim as he continues his ministry!



Bishop Tim Harris. Images by Giovanni Portelli Photography.

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Eucharist28 – Walking with Christ

In the Eucharist, Jesus is truly present.

We believe that Jesus is present:

- Body
- Blood
- Soul
- Divinity



under the appearances of bread and wine.

This is called the Real Presence of Christ.

The Eucharist is therefore much more than an ordinary piece of bread. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the words of the priest at Mass, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ.

What Happens When We Receive Holy Communion?

Before receiving Communion, we should prepare our hearts.

We ask ourselves:

- Am I ready to receive Jesus?
- Do I believe that Jesus is truly present?
- Am I sorry for my sins?
- Am I trying to follow Jesus?
- Am I ready to love and forgive others?

When the priest says: **"The Body of Christ."**

We respond: **"Amen."**

What does "Amen" mean?

It means: **"Yes, I believe."**

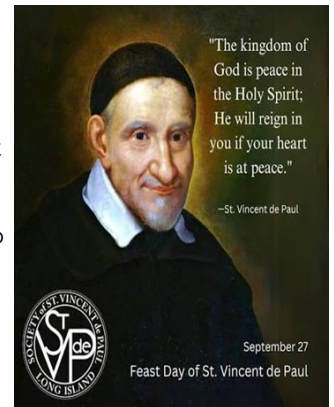
We believe what we are receiving is truly the

Life Messages

Instead of trusting in lame excuses, we need to seek God's mercy. We often use flimsy excuses to silence our conscience. They run like this: "I didn't realize how sinful I was"; "I was just too busy with work, family, and a decent social life to have time for Sunday Mass"; "That's what all my family does – it's got to be OK!"; "The devil made me do it – it wasn't my fault!"; "I couldn't be different from everyone else—I'd look stupid!"; "I meant to straighten things out – I just didn't get to it." These are not valid excuses at the judgment seat of God. Hence, if we have been disobedient to God in our past life, we need to knock at the door of God's mercy now. We need to remember that what God in his mercy did for the tax-collectors and harlots Jesus encountered, the Matthews, the Augustines, the Margarets of Cortona, and the millions of unknown penitents who are now Saints in Heaven, He can, and will, do for us, if we repent of our past sins and renew our lives as the first-asked son in the parable did. It is never too late for us to be transformed.

Feast of St Vincent de Paul

The Feast of St Vincent de Paul is celebrated each year on 27 September. St Vincent de Paul (1581-1660) was a French Catholic priest renowned for his dedication to the poor, sick, abandoned and marginalised. He is remembered especially for his charity, compassion and practical service to those in need. His example inspired the foundation of the Society of St Vincent de Paul (Vinnies) and many other works of charity throughout the world.



Kid's Corner



Make Good Choices

Jesus asks us to make good choices. Circle the good choices and cross out the poor choices.

When my bedroom needs tidying, I should...



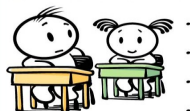
- ... go outside and play
- ... put some of my things away
- ... play with my computer
- ... sort out my rubbish

When I accidentally bump into someone, I should...



- ... tell them it was their fault
- ... say "I'm sorry"
- ... ask them if they are okay
- ... run away quickly

When someone new joins our class, I should...



- ... invite them to come and play
- ... look at them, but not talk to them
- ... ignore them completely
- ... welcome them to our class

Parish Notices



ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH
PROSERPINE

MASS TIMES

Saturday | 6:00 PM
Sunday | 8:00 AM
Tuesday | 5:30 PM
Wednesday | 8:00 AM
(Novena & Rosary at 7:30 AM)
Thursday | 9:00 AM
Friday | 9:00 AM

CONFESSIONS
Saturday 10:00 – 10:30 AM

1st FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
8AM ADORATION

1st SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
YOUNG FAMILY MASS & BREAKFAST AFTER MASS
We stay back and have a small gathering to welcome visitors and meet parishioners.

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH
CANNONVALE

MASS TIMES
Sunday | 6:00 PM

CONFESSIONS
5:30 PM

1st SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
Liturgy of the Word and Communion 6PM
No Confession

Last SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
When I Was A Stranger
We stay back and have a small gathering to welcome visitors and meet parishioners.

ALL SAINTS CHAPEL
HAMILTON ISLAND

MASS TIMES
Every 1st Sunday of the month
7:00 PM

CONFESSION
6:30 PM

New Mass Times

Please be informed that there have been some changes to our Mass Times, which will take effect next month. We kindly ask everyone to check the updated Mass schedule section for the latest times.

Also, we are delighted to announce that Sunday Mass is returning to Hamilton Island! Mass will be celebrated at All Saints Chapel every first Sunday of each month at 7:00 PM beginning this October. We look forward to gathering together again in faith and celebrating the Eucharist with our Hamilton Island community. Thank you for your continued support to our parish.

When I Was A Stranger

As we celebrate Migrant and Refugee week this Sunday, we encourage parishioners to wear your cultural dress at St Martin's during the Mass. It would be lovely to bring some foods that represents your country of origin, and share with us.

This Week's Anniversary

27 Sep— Jean Altmann, Michael Pender, Clarrie Grimstone, Judith Fenton, Cecilia Tobin, Jim Glendenning and Anna Gardel
28 Sep — John Yeates , George Potter, Phyllis Margaret Dray
01 Oct - Diana Crossley, Hariott McNeil, Francis McDonald
02 Oct— Anthony Moscato, Thomas Cronin, Regina Moretto, Josh Murphy & Beatrice Borellini
03 Oct— Basil Plemenuk

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. Let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace, Amen.



Last Sunday's Collection

1st Collect 2nd Collect Planned Giving
\$ 464.80 \$ 251.45 \$ 3,532.00

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!



Mass Schedule

This Weekend (Sep 26 & 27)

St Catherine's (Proserpine)	Saturday	6:00 pm
	Sunday	8:00 am
St Martin's (Cannonvale)	Sunday	6:00 pm

Weekday Masses (Sep 28-Oct 2)

St Catherine's (Proserpine)	Tuesday	5:30pm
	Wednesday	7:30 am
	Rosary, Novena, followed by Mass	8:00 am
	Thursday	9:00 am
	Friday	9:00 am
	Adoration	8:00 am

Nursing Home	Tuesday	9:30am
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Next Weekend Masses (Oct 3 & 4)

St Catherine's (Proserpine)	Saturday	6:00 pm
	Sunday	8:00 am
St Martin's (Cannonvale)	Sunday	6:00 pm
	Liturgy w/ Communion	
All Saints Chapel (Hamilton Island)	Sunday	7:00 pm

MASS ROSTER

	SAT 26 SEP 2026 6pm St Catherine's	SUN 27 SEP 2026 8am St Catherine's	SUN 27 SEP 2026 6pm St Martin's
Sacristan	Joan M & Lane T	Margaret A	Lynne E
Welcomer	Peter O	Joan H	Michael & Leslie
Intro. & POF	Christine O	Margaret A	
1st Reading	Joan M	Nathan H	Isabella E
2nd Reading	Matthew M	Alice H	Clyde T
Offertory	Aaliyah C & Gabby	Dimech Family	
Eucharistic Ministers	Lane T & Bill B	Jill F & Dan D	Michael H
Collection	Raymond & Brian	Peter B & Miller O	Seth & MaryLee
PowerPoint	Aleena J	Mandy A	Lynne
Altar Servers	Cedric, Oscar & Eli		

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 Emmanuel Anorue

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

126 Main St, Proserpine, Qld 4800

PO Box 401 Proserpine, Qld 4800

07-4945 1025

whitsundayparish@tsv.catholic.org.au

Online

<https://www.tsv.catholic.org.au/>

whitsunday-parish-proserpine

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

StCatherinesCatholicCollege

Principal: Sam Hinton

From the

PRIEST'S DESK



Dear friends,

I was away in Townsville throughout the past week for appointments in the diocesan office, Council of priests meeting and clergy In-service. It was another moment of encounter and interaction with my brother priests working in other parishes around the diocese. We shared moments of fun, learning and experience. Among the many topics that were discussed, two things stood out for me which affects us as a parish community. The first was about marriage tribunal matters. Many parishioners are unsure of how the church can be of help to them especially with the issue of irregular marriages. Parishioners are encouraged not to keep silent if you don't know what to do. Do not assume that you will be turned away, do not withdraw yourself from the church. The Church as the visible sign of God's presence in the community rejects no one. Book appointment with the parish office for direction or you can call the diocesan office for help. Our voices need to be heard.

The second was the issue of Work Health and Safety (WHS). While we appreciate the goodwill and sacrifices of parishioners and all our volunteers, who voluntarily give their time and talent for the good of the parish, we as a church equally care for the overall wellbeing of everyone.

Some volunteers are still very young at heart but physically and mentally are no longer active as they used to be. Please if you are a volunteer and you find yourself in this situation, we advise that you reconsider stepping aside so that others too can help. We want to make sure that everyone is safe in the church space and reduce our risk of casualties or harm to any parishioner.

As we journey into the new week, let us carry with us the admonitions from Paul in today's 2nd reading, be united in your convictions and united in your love for one another. In your minds, you must be the same as Christ Jesus. Have a pleasant week.

Fr Emmanuel
Parish Administrator

WORDS TO PONDER:

*Faith is not only about what we say,
but about what we do."*

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

- What does the Eucharist mean to our family?"
- How do we prepare