
Granville

Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. 26.

June 28, 2026

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



SANCTIFYING *the* SMALL MOMENTS *of* DAILY LIFE

As the month of June draws to a close, our weekly liturgy settles into this period of Ordinary Time. This liturgical season is sometimes misunderstood as a period of lesser importance, a sort of spiritual placeholder between the great seasons of grace. However, in our rich Catholic tradition, Ordinary Time represents the steady, daily growth of the soul. It is the time for cultivating deep holiness in the quiet, hidden moments of routine. In this Sunday's Gospel, St. Matthew presents us with a radical blueprint for this spiritual advancement, challenging us to reorient our deepest affections and discover the immense supernatural value hidden within our ordinary, everyday duties.

Our Lord begins His instruction with a statement that can sound quite startling to modern ears: "Anyone who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me." In the deep treasury of Christian spirituality, this is understood not as a command to diminish our love for our families, but as the foundational law regarding what theologians call the right order

of charity. God must always be the absolute centre of the human heart. When we love God first and above all things, our love for our families, friends, and neighbours is not destroyed; rather, it is purified, anchored, and made genuinely selfless. To love Christ first ensures that we love everyone else more perfectly, free from the fragile expectations and dependencies that so often complicate purely human relationships.

Immediately following this call to ordered love, Our Lord introduces the mystery of the cross, stating that whoever does not take up his cross and follow Him is not worthy of Him. In the context of our daily lives, our crosses are rarely spectacular or grand acts of public witness. For most of us going about our daily lives, the cross is quietly fashioned out of the ordinary demands of our state in life. It is found in the patience required to care for an elderly relative, the honesty needed to work with absolute integrity under difficult conditions, or a hidden humility required to forgive someone who has

slighted us. To take up this daily cross requires a quiet mortification, that is the denying of, our own self-will, which transforms our routine obligations into acts of profound sacrificial prayer.

Remarkably, Our Lord concludes His teaching by highlighting the immense supernatural weight of our smallest actions, promising that whoever gives even a cup of cold water to a disciple because he is a disciple will certainly not lose his reward. This beautiful truth reminds us that in the wonderful providence of God's grace, no details of daily life is too small to be completely sanctified. Every mundane task offered to God out of love - whether it is preparing a family meal, performing repetitive workplace duties, or offering a kind, listening ear to a lonely parishioner - carries an eternal resonance. As we enter the coming week, let us look at our daily routines with new eyes, seeking to order our loves correctly and embrace our small, hidden crosses with joy, knowing that Christ sees and rewards every single act of love.

THE PARISH OFFICE

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Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parish Administrator

Rev. Fr. Galbert Albino

Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Annette Akkary, Sam Eid, Sharlene Eid,
Paulo Lasalo

Flower Arranging

Patricia Robertson and Sharon Minns

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 7:15 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 1:

D.Portelli, A.Quinlan, L.Toman, N.Begley,
W.Krasinski, J.Galea

Readers

Vigil Rosette Chidiac, Sisters,
Rebecca Hanson

10:00 a.m. Jasmine Miranda, Merlin
Sandhiya, Mary Georges

Children's Liturgy

Resumes after School Holidays

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, John Borg,
Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmello Gioenco,
Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter
Higgins, Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Jacob Lee, Josephine
Magro, Zoe Mrzljak, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben
Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provest, Ricardo
Tognini, Sam Wardan, Gerard Watts.



Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.

IN MEMORIAM

Juanita Zavalla Adato, Gil Adato, Victor Azzopardi, Joseph
Baini, Carmen Bonello, Charlie Bonello, Dick Cahill, Gwen
Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Albert Camilleri, Les Camilleri, Tessie
Camilleri, Christine Derwin, John Dover, Alan Frost, Carmen
Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech,
Sam Grech, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki, Paul Karam, Nouhad
Khoury, Kaye King, Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe,
Mouna Malkoun, Lucila De Manuel, Roy McDonald, Aileen
McIntyre, Jack McIntyre, Nancy McIntyre, Marie McDonald,
Giovanna Mondello, Santo Mondello, Anthony Newell, Jessica
Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen, Michael O'Brien, Peter Olsen,
Zackary Orenshaw, Samuel Pickering, Edward Pidgeon, Robert
Pidgeon, Sheila Pidgeon, Peter Robertson, Grace Saliba, Louis
Saliba, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Alex Taktak, John Toye,
Anthony Vella, John Vella, Peter Van Duc Vu, Graham Wales,
Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe,
William Yott, Jessie Zammit

First Thursday Holy Mass in Latin

This Thursday, being the first Thursday of the month, **Holy Mass in Latin will be said at Holy Trinity Church at the new time of 7:15 p.m.**

The first Thursday of the month is traditionally offered as an act of reparation to the wounds of Our Lord and in honour of the Blessed Sacrament and as a day to pray for Priests in honour of Our Lord Jesus Christ, High and Eternal Priest.

First Friday Mass, Rosary and Adoration

Join us this Friday at Holy Trinity Church for our regular First Friday of the month devotions in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Confessions will be heard from 6:15 p.m., the Rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m., Holy Mass will be offered at 7:00 p.m. followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 p.m.

Invitation to Attend Diocese of Parramatta Cluster Meeting

The Bishop has requested all parishes of the Diocese to participate in an upcoming regional gathering. In alignment with the current Pastoral Plan, neighbouring parishes are being invited to come together in clusters to discuss themes and priorities as they have been set out in the Pastoral Plan.

To fulfil this request, our parish must provide a delegation of five to eight parishioners who represent a diverse range of ages, backgrounds, and active ministries. This gathering will take place on Tuesday, 21 July, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Bethany Centre, Parramatta.

If you wish to attend, please contact the parish office to register your interest.

Congratulations to Our Confirmation Candidates

We offer our warmest congratulations and blessings to the children of our parish who received the Sacrament of Confirmation earlier this week. Through the anointing with Holy Chrism, these children have been sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and more perfectly bound to the Church. May they always walk in the light of faith and bear witness to the Gospel.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Fr. Wim Hoekstra, who offered the Mass and conferred this sacred sacrament upon our youth on behalf of the Bishop. Our thanks also goes to our dedicated Sacraments Coordinator, Rosette Chidiac, for her tireless efforts, leadership, and prayers in preparing these children.

Additionally, we extend a special word of thanks to John Al-Ekhtiyar from Johnnyalek Media for beautifully assisting us with photography for both the Confirmation and First Communion Masses.

Please keep our newly confirmed youth in your prayers.

Planned Giving Envelopes Available for Collection

New planned giving envelopes for the upcoming financial year are now available for collection at the doors of both parish churches.

Thank you to all current contributors for your continued generosity and vital support of the parish. If you are not yet part of our planned giving programme, we warmly invite you to join us in supporting our parish's mission and ministries. Contributing is simple, with flexible options available for both cash envelopes and convenient online giving.

Please collect your envelopes today or contact the parish office to join.

Holy Trinity Church Audio System Upgrade Appeal

A sincere thank you to everyone who continues to support the audio system upgrade at Holy Trinity Church. Thanks to your remarkable generosity, we have now raised just over \$26,000 toward our \$60,000 goal. To help us reach this target, we have also applied for a Community Building Partnership Grant through the NSW Government, though approval is not guaranteed at this stage.

This project is the next important chapter in our long-term refurbishment program, which has successfully revitalised both of our beautiful parish churches, ensuring they remain worthy places of solemn worship. To complete this work, we still remain in great need of major sponsors and significant donations. We are deeply mindful of current cost-of-living pressures; however, if you can assist with a contribution, please contact the Parish Office during the week.

For electronic donations, secure online contributions can be made at holycrossgranville.org.au/donate or by scanning the QR code below.

Thank you for your enduring stewardship, generosity, and care for both of our churches and parish. May we continue to build on the legacy of those before us who entrusted these sacred buildings to our care.





AN EVENING WITH THE LORD

6:15pm - 6:45pm: Confession

6:30pm: Holy Rosary

7:00pm: Holy Mass followed by Adoration

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Holy Trinity Church
Cnr. Randle St. and Bennalong St. Granville



THE PILLARS OF DIVINE REVELATION

~ PART TWO: SACRED TRADITION ~

Welcome to the second instalment of our three part bulletin series exploring the foundational pillar of our catholic faith. Last week, we looked at the beautiful gift of Sacred Scripture, God's written Word. We reflected on how the Bible guides our steps and shapes our lives. But as we noted, Scripture does not stand alone. It is part of an interlocking foundation that includes Sacred Tradition and the Magisterium. These three components work together like a three legged stool to preserve the Gospel message. Today, we turn our attention to the second essential pillar: Sacred Tradition.

What comes to mind when you hear the word "tradition?" Many of us think of warm family customs, like gathering for a specific meal on Christmas Eve or a family BBQ on Grand Final day. While those customs are beautiful, the Church uses the term "Sacred Tradition" in a much deeper sense. In Catholic theology, Sacred Tradition refers to the living transmission of the Word of God. It is the entire message of Christ, preached by the apostles and continuously passed down to every generation under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

To truly understand this pillar, we look back at the very beginning of Christendom. Long before a single line of the New Testament was written down, the early Christians were already living the faith. They gathered to break bread, baptised

new believers, and shared the oral teachings of the apostles. The faith was lived before it was recorded in ink. In fact, it was through this lived experience of Sacred Tradition that the Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, eventually discerned which books belonged in the Bible.

This highlights a beautiful truth emphasised since the Second Vatican Council: Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition are not separate or rival sources of truth. Instead, they flow from the exact same divine wellspring. Scripture is the Word of God in written form, while Tradition is the Word of God as it is lived out, prayed, and handed on in the life of the Church. We cannot fully understand the Bible without the living context of the Church's Tradition, and Tradition is constantly fed by the scriptures.

To help us understand this, the Church makes an important distinction between small-"t" traditions and capital-"T" Tradition. Small-"t" traditions are expressions of faith that can adapt over time or vary between cultures, such as specific liturgical music or local devotions. On the other hand, capital-"T" Tradition refers to the unchangeable core of our faith given by Christ. This includes the Creeds we profess, the seven sacraments we celebrate, and our core moral teachings. These cannot be altered because they form the permanent deposit of faith.

Because of this, Sacred Tradition

is never a dusty museum piece. It is dynamic and alive. As the Church grows across the centuries, our understanding of these divine mysteries deepens, but the truth itself never changes. The Holy Spirit is constantly active in the Church, helping us to apply the timeless Gospel of Jesus to the unique challenges of our modern world. Tradition ensures that we remain completely faithful to Christ's original teaching while speaking to the hearts of people today.

How do we live out this pillar in our daily parish life? We do so by actively participating in the sacraments and the liturgy, where Tradition is most vibrantly alive. We also live it when we pass the faith on to the next generation. We are not isolated individuals trying to figure out the Christian life on our own; we are part of an unbroken, living chain of believers stretching all the way back to the apostles.

As we reflect on our place in this great living chain of faith this week, let us ask for the grace to treasure the gift of Sacred Tradition and share it generously with others. Next week, we will conclude our series by looking at the final pillar: the Magisterium. We will explore how the Church's living teaching office acts as a faithful servant to protect and interpret both Scripture and Tradition for us today. May we hold fast to the rich heritage of faith that has been lovingly passed down to us.



HOLY MASS IN LATIN

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

7:15 P.M.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
Cnr. Randle St. and Bennalong St. Granville



Saints & STUFF

St. Julian of Norwich

In this week's Gospel, Jesus assures us of God's intimate, loving care and the immense spiritual value of welcoming even the smallest act of kindness. A magnificent model of trusting completely in this divine hospitality is St. Julian of Norwich, a 14th-century English mystic and anchoress who chose a life of solitary prayer.

When St. Julian was thirty years old, she became violently ill and received a series of intense spiritual visions of Christ. Upon her miraculous recovery, she recorded these revelations in *Revelations of Divine Love*, which became the very first book written in the English language by a woman. Julian famously described God's love as a safe, welcoming home, comparing our existence to a tiny hazelnut held safely in the palm of God's hand.

Despite living through the horrors of the Black Death, her writings radiate absolute comfort, hope, and peace. She is best remembered for her reassurance that, through Christ's ultimate victory, "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well." Her life challenges us to rest securely in God's hospitality and extend that unconditional warmth to others.

St. Julian of Norwich, pray for us!

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Put Christ First Always

618 The cross is the unique sacrifice of Christ, the "one mediator between God and men." But because in his incarnate divine person he has in some way united himself to every man, "the possibility of being made partners, in a way known to God, in the paschal mystery" is offered to all men... In fact Jesus desires to associate with his redeeming sacrifice those very ones who are to be its first beneficiaries.

1006 "Except for the grain of wheat that falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." Death is the end of earthly life... In a certain sense, bodily death is natural, but for faith it is in fact "the wages of sin." For those who die in Christ's grace, it is a participation in the death of the Lord, so that they can also share his Resurrection.

1618 Christ is the centre of all Christian life. The bond with him takes precedence over all other bonds, familial or social. From the very beginning of the Church there have been men and women who have renounced the great good of marriage to follow the Lamb wherever he goes...

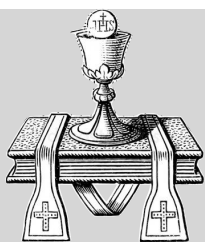
CATHOLIC Trivia

The Perpetual Mass

Have you ever considered that the prayer of the Church is a continuous, unbroken chain? There is a great reality known as the "perpetual Mass." Because the Catholic Church is truly universal, the celebration of the Eucharist effectively forms an unending wave of worship that circles our entire globe.

As the sun moves across time zones, parishes from Australia to the Americas are perpetually gathering to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice. Whether it is a quiet, dawn Mass in a rural village, a bustling, mid-morning liturgy in a major city cathedral, or an evening gathering on the other side of the world, the Mass continues without ceasing.

This is much more than an interesting geographical curiosity; it is a spiritual reality that anchors our lives. When we participate in our own local parish, we are not isolated worshippers. Instead, we are plugged into a constant, global act of praise that sustains the world. Even when we are resting or busy with our daily tasks, the prayer of the Church—and the sacrifice of the Mass—continues to rise to heaven. It is a source of comfort to know that our intentions, joined to this worldwide chorus, are held within a liturgy that never stops. When you are at the church, remember that you are always part of something beautiful.



MASS MATTERS

~ The Proclamation of the Gospel ~

We stand alert for the ultimate high point of the Liturgy of the Word: the Proclamation of the Gospel. We begin by standing to sing the Gospel Acclamation—traditionally the Alleluia, a joyful ancient Hebrew cry meaning "Praise the Lord"—to welcome Christ, who is truly present and about to speak directly to His people.

Before the priest begins to read, we trace three small crosses with our thumbs on our forehead, lips, and breast. This significant, silent gesture is a physical prayer: "May the Word of God be always in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart." Our standing posture demonstrates our reverence and readiness to hear Christ's own words, prompting us to take this truth out into the world and put it into action.

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Readings

Introit (Psalm 46:2)

All peoples, clap your hands.
Cry to God with shouts of joy!

First Reading **The Second Book of the Kings** (2 Kings 4:8-11. 14-16)

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 88:2-3. 16-19. R. v.2)

℟. Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. ℟.

Happy the people who acclaim such a king,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who find their joy every day in your name,
who make your justice the source of their bliss. ℟.

For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength;
it is by your favour that our might is exalted:
for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord;
our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. ℟.

Second Reading **Letter of St. Paul to the Romans** (Romans 6:3-4. 8-11)

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation (1 Peter 2:9)

Alleluia, alleluia!
You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people.
Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light.
Alleluia!

Gospel **The Gospel of Matthew** (Matthew 10:37-42)

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. 'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

Communio (Cf Psalm 102:1)

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.

"For our Saviour has not done away with, but regulated, the love we owe to parents, spouse, children. He did not say: 'Those who love them' but 'Those who love them more than me.' Love your father, but love the Lord even more; love him who brought you into the world, but love yet more He who gave you being... Your love for your family would indeed fall short if you did not lead them to God."

~ St. Augustine