
Granville

Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. 31.

August 2, 2026

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



~ THE SOURCE AND SUMMIT ~

Our Obligation and Maintaining Reverence at Holy Mass

As we begin the month of August, it is fitting to anchor our spiritual lives in the central jewel of our Catholic faith: the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The Mass is never a mere social gathering or a simple memorial meal; it is the unbloody memorial of Christ's supreme sacrifice on Calvary. Through the ministry of the priest, simple bread and wine are truly, substantially transformed into the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ - a great mystery known as Transubstantiation. Because Our Lord becomes truly present on our altar, the sanctuary of our church is holy ground.

Since the Holy Eucharist is the fountainhead of all divine grace, the Church places a solemn duty upon every baptised Catholic; the obligation to participate in Holy Mass every Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation. Rooted directly in the Third Commandment to keep holy the Lord's Day attending Mass each Sunday is not an optional spiritual bonus for the particularly devout, but the fundamental duty of love we owe

to Almighty God. To deliberately fail in this duty by skipping Mass without a grave reason - such as serious illness, genuine impossibility, or the care of an infant - constitutes a serious sin against God's love. When we intentionally avoid going to Mass, we sever ourselves from the spiritual nourishment Christ explicitly designed for our salvation. Reclaiming the sanctity of Sunday requires us to prioritise the Mass above sports, visiting the shops, leisure, and weekend errands.

A deep belief in the Real Presence naturally demands a deep spirit of reverence, a sacred awe that must be lived out by both the priest at the altar and the congregation in the pews. The priest, acting *in persona Christi*, that is in the person of Christ, is called to offer the Holy Sacrifice with solemn dignity, deep humility, and meticulous fidelity to the sacred rubrics of the Church. When the clergy celebrate the sacred mysteries with visible devotion and care, the true beauty of the liturgy shines forth, drawing all present into deeper worship. Equally, as the faithful, our

behaviour must reflect our faith. True reverence requires us to maintain a prayerful silence in the church before Mass begins, to genuflect devoutly towards the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle when entering our pew, to dress with respect, to strictly observe the one-hour Eucharistic fast, and to approach Holy Communion only when in a state of grace, having sought Sacramental Confession beforehand.

To help quieten your mind and focus your heart on the holy mysteries about to unfold, you may wish to pray this short prayer silently today before Mass commences:

Lord God, Almighty Father, I come before Your holy altar to participate in the Holy Sacrifice of Your divine Son. Cleanse my heart and mind of all worldly thoughts, distractions, and pride. Grant the priest who offers this Mass the grace and wisdom to serve You faithfully, grant me a humble, contrite heart to receive Your Word and Your sacred body worthily. May this Holy Mass be offered for Your glory, for the pardon of my sins, and for the salvation of the world. Amen

THE PARISH OFFICE

Address

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T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

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

Tuyet Duong and Savelina Sikimeti

Flower Arranging

Ana Brown and Latu Manu

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 2:

P. Zaiter, C. Buultjens, N. Chidiac

Readers

Vigil Rosette Chidiac, Rebecca Hanson,
Gerry Pinto

10:00 a.m. Jasmine Miranda,
Merlin Sandhiya, Sisters

Children's Liturgy

Armani Barakat and Victor Liu

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 Warden, 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, 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, Jack Newell, Jean Newell, Jessica
Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen, Michael O'Brien, Peter Olsen,
Zackary Orenshaw, Samuel Pickering, Edward Pidgeon, Robert
Pidgeon, Sheila Pidgeon, Flory Pinto, Peter Robertson, Grace
Saliba, Louis Saliba, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Alex Taktak,
John Toye, John Vella, Peter Van Duc Vu, Graham Wales,
Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe,
William Yott, Jessie Zammit, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter

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.

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.

Maintaining the Cleanliness of Our Churches

A reminder to all parishioners and visitors to help maintain the beauty and solemnity of our churches. Recently, a noticeable amount of rubbish, including used tissues, service bulletins, and empty water bottles, has been left behind in the pews following Masses.

Our churches are the house of God, and caring for these holy places is a shared act of reverence and deep respect for His presence. Please take a moment to check your area before departing, ensuring all personal belongings and rubbish are taken with you.

Thank you for your thoughtful cooperation and continued stewardship in keeping our parish churches clean, welcoming, and worthy of solemn worship.

Holy Trinity Church Audio System Upgrade Appeal

A sincere thank you to everyone supporting the audio system upgrade at Holy Trinity Church. To help fund this next vital step in our parish refurbishment, we have applied for a NSW Government Community Building Partnership Grant.

If you would like to make a contribution toward this project, please contact the Parish Office or donate securely online at holycrossgranville.org.au/donate or by scanning the QR code below.

Thank you for your enduring stewardship and care in preserving our sacred buildings.



Reminder for Mobile Phones to be Switched Off Before Commencement of Holy Mass

Before the Holy Mass begins, parishioners are reminded to turn off or switch their mobile phones to silent upon entering the church.

The church is the house of God and a place of sacred silence. A ringing phone directly disrupts the solemnity of the liturgy and distracts others from prayerful devotion before the Blessed Sacrament.

Please leave the noise of the world outside the church doors, offering our Lord your undivided attention. Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining quiet reverence and sanctity in our churches.

Annual Procession in Honour of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Friday, 14 August

On Friday, 14 August, on the Vigil of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the parish will hold its annual candlelight procession in honour of this day. Following Holy Mass at Holy Trinity Church at 6:00 p.m. the procession will form and walk to Holy Family Church.

To help with the procession, we are asking for people to volunteer as safety marshalls whose role it will be to help people to cross the roads safely and to help guide the procession. Please speak with Richard Zaiter, or contact the parish office if you are able to help.

The parish bus will be available to take people from Holy Family Church to Holy Trinity Church for Mass and the procession and then to take people back to Holy Trinity Church after the procession. Thank you to Joe Chidiac for once again arranging this for us.

Please join us as we honour the Most Blessed Virgin Mary on this most holy day as we take our faith to the streets as a sign of our gratitude to Almighty God for all that He does for us and also as a witness to our holy Catholic faith.

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a holy day of obligation, meaning that all are obligated to attend Mass on that day or its vigil (except for those legitimately unable to do so because of their age or their health). On Saturday 15 August, there will be two Masses said for the solemnity. The first being at Holy Trinity Church at 8:15 a.m. and the second at Holy Family Church at 9:15 a.m. Please note that the regular vigil Masses on Saturday evenings will not be to commemorate the Solemnity as these Masses will be offered for as regular Sunday vigil Masses

**CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION
IN HONOUR OF THE
ASSUMPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**



**HOLY
CROSS
PARISH
GRANVILLE**

FRIDAY, 14 AUGUST

**Holy Mass:
Holy Trinity Church:
6:00pm**

*followed by procession
to Holy Family Church.*

"By looking at Mary's Assumption into Heaven we understand better that even though our daily life may be marked by trials and difficulties, it flows like a river to the divine ocean, to the fullness of joy and peace."

Pope Benedict XVI



Holy Trinity Church: Cnr Bennalong St and Randle St, Granville

Holy Mass will also be offered on Saturday, 15 August at the following times:
Holy Trinity Church at 8:15am and Holy Family Church at 9:15am

A Reminder this Solemnity is a Holy Day of Obligation.



THE KING'S DAUGHTER IN GILDED CLOTHING

~ The East Syriac Tradition ~

Continuing our journey through the many traditions of the universal Church, our exploration moves further eastward along the ancient trade routes to the Persian Empire and the shores of the Indian Subcontinent. Here we encounter the East Syriac Tradition, a liturgical family whose heritage developed entirely outside the boundaries of the Greco-Roman world. Rooted in the apostolic zeal of Saint Thomas the Apostle, who according to ancient tradition reached the Malabar coast of southwestern India in A.D. 52, this tradition embodies a profound blend of Semitic theology, Persian historical influence, and vibrant Indian culture.

To understand the East Syriac Tradition today, we must look primarily at two vibrant Eastern Catholic Churches: the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church, rooted in India, and the Chaldean Catholic Church, centred in historical Mesopotamia (modern-day Iraq). The Saint Thomas Christians - known historically as the *Nasranis* - faithfully guarded their apostolic inheritance for centuries, maintaining spiritual ties with the Patriarchate of the East while flourishing along the tropical coast of Kerala. Despite centuries of geographical isolation and later pressures of Latinisation during the colonial era, these communities have magnificently restored and reclaimed their authentic East Syriac liturgical identity in modern times.

At the heart of the East Syriac

worship is the Holy Qurbana (Holy Offering), celebrated with immense solemnity, rhythm, and song. Architecturally, the traditional East Syriac church reflects a clear movement from the earthly to the divine. The nave (*Haikala*) represents the earthly pilgrimage, while the sanctuary (*Madhbaha*) signifies heaven itself, often separated by a sanctuary veil or raised steps. In classical East Syriac church design, a central raised platform called the 'Bema' sits in the middle of the nave, serving as the focal point for the Liturgy of the Word - recalling the earthly Jerusalem where Christ taught, before the liturgy moves toward the sanctuary representing the heavenly Jerusalem.

Liturgically, the East Syriac Rite is distinguished by unique vestments, gestures, and sacred symbols that highlight its apostolic antiquity. The celebrant wears the 'Kotina' (a long white alb symbolising baptismal purity), bound by the 'Zunara' (cincture), and draped with the 'Paina' - a magnificent rounded out cloaks worn over both shoulders that conveys solemnity. Unlike the crucifix with a corpus common in Western Churches, the central symbol of East Syriac worship is the *Mar Thomas Cross* (St. Thomas Cross). This ancient emblem features a cross adorned with floral buds resting upon a lotus flower, topped by a descending dove representing the Holy Spirit. Because it features no

suffering body on the cross, it serves as a triumphant symbol of the Resurrection, new life, and the fruitfulness of the Gospel.

During the Holy Qurbana, reverence is expressed through rhythmic chanting, solemn prostrations, and the traditional exchange of peace (*Kassol or Kaikuri*), where the priest passes the peace from the altar down through the clergy and to the entire congregation via clasped hands. Central to this celebration is the historic Anaphora of the Apostles Mar Addai and Mari, one of the oldest continuously used Eucharistic prayers in Christian history, renowned for its ancient structure and theological depth. Furthermore, the dramatic drawing of the sanctuary curtain (*Thirasheela*) at key moments visually reminds the faithful of the veiled nature of God's glory, gradually revealing the mysteries as heaven meets earth on the altar. Today the Syro-Malabar Church stands as the second-largest Eastern Catholic Church in the world, harbouring dynamic communities across India, Australia, Europe, and North America. By encountering the East Syriac Tradition, we witness how the Gospel took deep, unshakable root in Asian soil while remaining in full communion with the See of Peter. Next week, our feature series will explore the Alexandrian Tradition, in particular the Coptic and Ethiopian Catholic Churches.

ASSUMPTION PROCESSION **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**



Volunteers are needed for the annual procession
in honour of the Solemnity of the Assumption of
the Blessed Virgin Mary on
Friday 14th of August at 6PM.

In particular, we need;

- Groups of 4 people to carry the bier
- Safety Marshalls
- Altar Servers



SCAN CODE OR CONTACT
PARISH OFFICE TO VOLUNTEER



Saints & STUFF

St. John Bosco

This Sunday's Gospel recounts the miraculous feeding of the five thousand. Faced with a massive, hungry crowd and only five loaves and two fish, Jesus shows immense compassion, transforming a humble offering into an abundant feast. A striking reflection of this divine generosity is found in the life of St. John Bosco, (Don Bosco) a 19th-century Italian priest dedicated to marginalised youth.

Don Bosco spent his life gathering homeless and abandoned boys off the streets of Turin, providing them with shelter, education, and spiritual care. On one famous occasion in 1860, his housemother realised there were only fifteen small rolls of bread left to feed more than three hundred ravenous boys gathered for breakfast. Trusting completely in God's providence, Don Bosco calmly took the basket and began handing out the rolls. Miraculously, the basket remained full until every single child had eaten his fill.

Don Bosco's remarkable ministry demonstrated that when we offer our small, limited resources to God, He can multiply them beyond human imagination. His life challenges us to bring whatever modest "loaves and fish" we possess to Jesus, trusting His endless compassion to feed a hungry world.

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Being Fed by His Grace

1329 The Lord's Supper [is so called] because of its connection with the supper which the Lord took that evening with his disciples and which anticipates the wedding feast of the Lamb in the heavenly Jerusalem. The Breaking of Bread... is the gesture that Jesus used when he blessed and distributed the bread, especially at the Last Supper. It is by this action that his disciples will recognise him after his Resurrection.

1351 From the very beginning Christians have brought, along with the bread and wine for the Eucharist, gifts to share with those in need. This custom of the collection, ever appropriate, is inspired by the example of Christ who became poor to make us rich.

2837 "Our daily bread" refers to the earthly nourishment necessary to all for subsistence, and also to the Bread of Life: the Word of God and the Body of Christ received in the Eucharist. It is taken in an "always today" sense, as the necessary, superabundant gift of the Father.

CATHOLIC Trivia

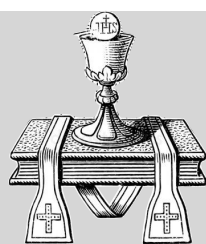
Tolkien's Sacred Middle-earth

Did you know that The Lord of the Rings, one of the most celebrated literary works in history, is deeply rooted in Catholic theology? Its author, J.R.R. Tolkien, was a devout Catholic who explicitly described his epic legendarium as "a fundamentally religious and Catholic work."

While Tolkien avoided heavy-handed allegory, his faith quietly shapes every corner of Middle-earth. Most famously, the One Ring is destroyed in the fires of Mount Doom on March 25th. This was a deliberate choice by Tolkien, as March 25th is the feast of the Annunciation and the historical date of Good Friday, symbolising the ultimate defeat of evil and the salvation of the world.

Other sacred parallels are woven throughout the story. The Elvish lembas bread that sustains the hobbits on their perilous journey was directly inspired by the Holy Eucharist. Furthermore, the luminous Elven queen Galadriel reflects Tolkien's profound devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, embodying grace, purity, and spiritual light in times of darkness.

Tolkien demonstrated that deep faith does not limit creative imagination; rather, it elevates it. His enduring legend remains a reminder that even the smallest person can alter the course of the future through humility, hope, and self-sacrifice.



MASS MATTERS

~ The Preface and the Sanctus ~

The Eucharistic Prayer opens with the Sursum Corda ("Lift up your hearts"), commanding us to detach from earthly distractions and elevate our souls into eternity. The Preface articulates our cosmic thanksgiving, leading directly into the Sanctus ("Holy, Holy, Holy"). Repeating "Holy" three times reflects ancient Hebrew praise, expressing the absolute, transcendent perfection of the Holy Trinity.

This hymn beautifully merges Isaiah's mystical vision of angelic worship with the crowds' triumphant Palm Sunday acclamation, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." In this sacred moment, the veil between heaven and earth thins: we actively unite with the angels to greet Christ, who is about to arrive physically upon our altar.

The Readings

Introit
(Psalm 69:2,6)

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

First Reading
The Prophet Isaiah
(Isaiah 55:1-3)

Thus says the Lord:
Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat
and rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

Responsorial Psalm
(Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16)

℟. The hand of the Lord feeds us:
he answers all our needs.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. ℟.

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. ℟.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. ℟.

Second Reading
Letter of St. Paul to the Romans
(Romans 8:35. 37-39)

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ,
even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or
lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked.
These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power
of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no
prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any
power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever
come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ
Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation
(Matthew 4:4)

Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel
The Gospel of Matthew
(Matthew 14:13-21)

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death
he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by
themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the
towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw
a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said,
'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send
the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy
themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for
them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they
answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.'
'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the
people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five
loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the
blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his
disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much
as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining,
twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five
thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

Communio
(Wisdom 16:20)

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

*"In this miracle, Jesus does not create bread out of nothing,
but starts from the little that the disciples bring Him... He
shows us that God can do great things with the little we offer
Him, provided we place it in His hands. The Lord meets the
needs of humanity, but wants to render each one of us
a concrete participant in His compassion."*

- Pope Benedict XVI