St John Vianney's Catholic Parish

embracing the worshipping communities of
Manly & Gumdale

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Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A - 11 and 12 July 2026

Parish Administrator
Fr Baiyi Gong
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gongp@bne.catholic.net.au

Deacon
Laurent Fontaine
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Josephine Cullen
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Parish Pastoral Council
Chair: Anne Skitmore

Parish Finance Committee
Chair: Arthur Gaka

Safeguarding Officers
Jane O'Brien and Neil Taylor
lsr.manly@bne.catholic.net.au

SJV Primary School Manly
Principal: Mr Jaydem Hadson
P: 3097 2900 E: pmanly@bne.catholic.edu.au

Sacraments of Initiation
All enquiries for Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation, please contact the parish office.

Funerals and Weddings
All enquiries regarding Funerals and Weddings, please contact the parish office.

Parish Mission Statement

We follow the words of our patron, St John Vianney, who said "He is here."

We recognise Christ is in the Word, the Eucharist, and in us, His people, with a special reverence for Him, in the poor and marginalised.
We are called to make Christ present through our prayer and charity.
We seek to grow in our spiritual lives and create a community where everyone is welcome;
the young and the old, together to experience the loving presence of God.
We believe He is here amongst us and we joyfully go out to make Him present to all.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet, the Quandamooka, Yuggera and Turribal Peoples, and pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and culture.

Understanding Scripture - **Parable of the sower**

Matthew's telling of this well known parable highlights some of his favourite themes. It is prominently placed as the first parable in Matthew's 'Sermon in Parables' (13:1-52; see Introduction). The 'Sermon in Parables' is central in two ways: it is the third of five sermons and chapter 13 is the middle of the gospel. All eight parables in this sermon are about the kingdom of heaven (13:19, 24, 31, 33, 44, 45, 47, 52). These fictitious stories taken from everyday life suggest aspects of the kingdom. Part of the appeal of parables is their resistance to definitive interpretation: it is not possible to say, 'This is *the* meaning.' Each of the parables suggests rather than defines what the kingdom 'is like.'

Note, first, that the parable of the sower is not a lesson on agricultural technique nor a historical record with clues to ancient farming practices. Nor is it actually about the sower: the sower appears only in the first verse and then disappears. Nor is the parable about various kinds of soil, despite its great appeal to make moral points about ourselves, e.g., 'I am like the rocky ground.' The parable is about the seed, i.e., 'the word of the kingdom' (13:19). The Sower (Jesus) scatters the seed extravagantly and indiscriminately: this is consistent with the abundance, generosity, and graciousness that characterise the kingdom. The superabundant harvest reiterates those themes and also points to the mysterious but certain ways in which God's kingdom grows.

The harsh quote from Isaiah 6:9-10 serves two purposes. First, in Jesus, Scripture is being fulfilled (Sunday 3; see also Matthew 13:34-35); second, 'knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you' (13:11), i.e., knowledge of the kingdom is revealed, not acquired (see last Sunday's gospel, 11:25). Without this blessing (13:16-17), looking and hearing will not suffice (13:13-15); consequently, without revelation, conversion and healing (13:15) are not possible. Though this may offend our egalitarian sensibilities, it highlights the core truth that the kingdom is God's doing, not a human accomplishment. All depends on grace.

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Parish Pastoral Council Members
Anne Skitmore (Chair), Carmel Smith (Vice Chair), Pam Biggs-Chapman (Secretary), Denis Hohnen, Jeffery Bourke, Jen Burrows, Maureen Bentley

The week ahead...

13th July	**Mon**	No Mass **Parish Office Closed**
14th July	**Tues**	6pm Mass **Parish Office Closed**
15th July	**Wed**	9am Rosary 9.30am Mass, followed by morning tea **Parish Office Open 8.30am - 1.30pm**
16th July	**Thurs**	**Our Lady of Mount Carmel** No Mass **Parish Office Closed**
17th July	**Fri**	No Mass **Parish Office Closed**
18th July	**Sat**	4.30pm Reconciliation [or by appointment] 5pm Sunday Vigil Mass
19th July	**Sun**	7am Mass (St Jude's) 9.30 am Mass (SJV)

Fr Baiyi's Weekly Prayer

Almighty God, you sent your only Son to teach us your word, like the sower who sows seed in the field. If the seed falls on good soil, it yields an abundant harvest.

Help us to fight against the thorns in our lives, namely, the worries of this world and the lure of earthly riches, and prepare the soil of our hearts to receive your word and bear abundant fruit. Through Christ our Lord.

UPCOMING SJV PARISH SOCIAL EVENTS

Parish Feast Day - 1st and 2nd August

Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers - Friday 18 September

Please register your interest and/or book your seat on the relevant booking sheets in the foyer.

St John Vianney's Feast Day
2nd August 2026

Our two churches are invited to celebrate the Parish's Feast day on the weekend of 1st and 2nd August

Special Feast Day Mass

Saturday 5pm (St John Vianney's)
Sunday 7am (St Jude's)
Sunday 9.30am (St John Vianney's)

Additional activities

- Morning tea after 9.30am Mass
- 11am Guest Speaker: Fr David Willis
  Fr David will speak about, and reflect on, the life of our Patron Saint, St John Vianney.
- BBQ Lunch will be served after Fr David's talk.

FREE!

All friends and families are invited.
For catering purposes please write your name on the booking sheet in foyer of each church or phone the parish office on 3853 7470

The Carmelite sisters invite you to celebrate with them *Our Lady of Mt Carmel.*

Sunday 19 July 10.00am Mass.

Celebrant: Archbishop Shane Mackinlay.

Stay for a picnic lunch - tea, coffee, sandwiches on sale. Piety stall, Sisters' craft works on sale. Spend quiet time in prayer.

2.00pm Evening Prayer - Benediction - Scapular enrolments.

Carmelite Monastery, 287 Wellington St Ormiston 4160.

www.carmeliteormiston.com

Weekend Rosters	Altar Servers	Commentator	1st Reader	2nd Reader	EMHC	Screen	Counter
11 July	Peter Denis Harvey	Maureen	Denise	Denis	Colleen Adeline Jen	Anjoline Anjelo	D
12 July	Lita	Helen	Trish	Mark	June Donna Carolina	Brodie Annabelle Leon	
18 July	Peter Henry Sienna	Jen	Maureen	Kylie	Alison Denis	Pam	E
19 July	Lita	Carolina	Steve P	Heather	June Sonia Donna	Emma	

"The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all."

This policy applies to **Clergy, Religious, Staff, Parishioners, Volunteers, students on placement and visitors to our sites.** For information or to report an incident, please contact our local Safeguarding Reps: Jane O'Brien & Neil Taylor on **lsr.manly@bne.catholic.net.au**

IMPORTANT

UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION 13TH -17TH JULY Please see calendar on page 2 for Parish office and church hours. **Please note:** Aurelie will still be available Mon/Wed/Fri 8.30-1.30pm by email and telephone. Josephine will be available Thursday 8.30-1.30pm via email and telephone.

Thank you for your patience, as we get closer to completion!

PLANNED GIVING - DONATION ENVELOPES

We are approaching the new cycle with the planned giving envelopes. If you would like to renew your commitment or learn more about the planned giving program, please contact the Parish office.

Knights of the Southern Cross Silver Circle - Winner for Draw 2 of 10

The winner for **Draw 2** of the current Silver Circle is **Motu with Ticket No 32**.
Congratulations **Motu**, and thanks to those who support the charitable works of the Wynnum Manly Branch of the Knights through this fundraising Silver Circle.

Special Announcements:

1. We are pleased to have installed three new Holy Water Fonts at the entrance of St John Vianney's Church. You will see one near the front door, to your right, as you enter the foyer, and 2 smaller ones as you enter the church proper. After this weekend, we will remove the old font that sat the rear of the foyer.

2. We recently advised of proposed changes to the newsletter - removing the readings from the back page - and are moving forward with this proposal. Thank you to those who provided their feedback. This week, the readings will still be on the back of the newsletter, as well as having separate printed copies at the back of the church. From next week, if you would like a copy of the readings for Mass, please collect it from the back table, beside the newsletters.

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LET US PRAY for those who are recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Laurie Atzeni, Sr Cyprian Thureson (former Presentation Sister in Manly), Mary Josephine Lai.

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Albert Blackwood, James Dwan, Leonard Bourke, Oswald Copley, Isabella Devlin, Rose Hunt, Kevin O'Halloran, Danny O'Halloran, Nancy Gleeson, Anne Henderson, Mervyn Iselin, Anne Keegan, Elizabeth Kinley, Sr Rose Lanigan, Rita Lloyd-Jones, Mildred (Matie) Mattinson, Maureen Malone, Lesley McGregor, Irene Milsom, Terry Morrison, Harold Nelson, John O'Donnell, Br Hilary (Chris) Peterson, Baby Darcy Smith, Shirley Sibley, Merle Skinner, Joseph Sorpassa, John Ryan, Dr Tim Smith, Monica Southern, Vittorio Stangherlin, Jack Still, Lilia Ting Toledo, Valma Tranter, Margaret Turpin, Mary Weis

WE ALSO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

John Abberdan, Jocelyn Barron, Jack & Mary Beard, Rafferty Beaumont, Ailbe Caplis, Reg Carmichael, Dell Chapman, Sue Wynne-Davies, Emily de Looze, Anne Dixon, Irene Gavrila, Maureen Handcock, May Horneman, Chris Lee, Elizabeth Lisenski, Dennis Long, Grace Moon, Carlos Manabat, Sue McDonald, Patrick Nofoakifolau, Robert Patterson, Richard Pook, Francis Raisch, Edward Rawhiti, Eric Roberts, Glenda Rogers, Therese Shepherd, Joanne Small, Barry Smith, and Emma Walters.

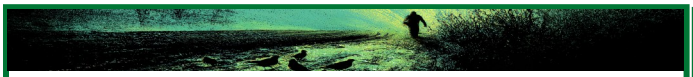
To include a name in our 'Recently Deceased', or 'For those Who Are Sick' the Privacy Act requires the permission of a close relative.

MAKING DONATIONS TO OUR CHURCH

By EFTPOS -
The EFTPOS terminal is at the Manly parish church.
You can swipe, tap or insert your card for the amount of your choice.

By direct deposit -
BSB: 064-786 Acc No: 100002778
Account Name: **St John Vianney's Parish, Manly.**

Or call in to the parish office and ask for gifting envelopes.



Liturgy of the Word
Fifteenth Sunday in ordinary time
Year A - 12 July 2026

First Reading Isaiah 55:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

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.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 64:10-14

Response: The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water,
   you fill it with riches.
   Your river in heaven brims over
   to provide its grain. **(R)**
2. And thus you provide for the earth;
   you drench its furrows,
   you level it, soften it with showers,
   you bless its growth. **(R)**
3. You crown the year with your goodness.
   Abundance flows in your steps,
   in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **(R)**
4. 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)**

Second Reading Romans 8:18-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

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 children.

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.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower:

All who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 13:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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 they will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what they have 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, 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 their heart: this is the person who received the seed on the edge of the path.

The one who received it on patches of rock is the one who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But there is no root in them, they do not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and they fall away at once.

The one who received the seed in thorns is the person who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so they produces nothing.

And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it; they will be the ones who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

The Gospel of the Lord

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