



# JESUS, THE GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

~ East Lake Macquarie ~

◆ St Francis Xavier's Belmont ◆ St Patrick's Swansea ◆ St Pius X Windale ◆

· THE MOST HOLY TRINITY · YEAR A · 31 MAY 2026 ·

## Parish Presbytery

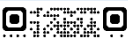
**Parish Priest** Fr Gerard Mackie PP  
**Postal Address** PO Box 277  
BELMONT NSW 2280  
**Phone** 02 4945 1244  
**Email** [gem5403@gmail.com](mailto:gem5403@gmail.com)


## Parish Office

**Accounts and Administration Officer** Mrs Liza Ruitenbach  
**Street Address** 40 Ernest Street  
BELMONT NSW 2280

**Postal Address** PO Box 277  
BELMONT NSW 2280

**Phone** 02 4945 4402  
**Email** [elmparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:elmparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

**Facebook**  [Jesus the Good Shepherd Parish-East Lake Macquarie](https://www.facebook.com/category/Catholic-Church/Jesus-the-Good-Shepherd-Parish-East-Lake-Macquarie-10554244421379/)

**Webpage**  <https://mn.catholic.org.au/parish/jesus-the-good-shepherd-east-lake-macquarie/>

**Columbarium** All enquiries via Parish Office

## Office Hours

**Monday** 8:30AM to 1:30PM  
**Wednesday** 8:30AM to 1:30PM  
**Thursday** 8:30AM to 1:30PM

## Schools

### St Francis Xavier's Catholic Primary School Belmont

**Principal** Mrs Freda Pascoe  
**Street Address** 42 Ernest Street  
BELMONT NSW 2280  
**Postal Address** PO Box 206  
BELMONT NSW 2280  
**Phone** 02 4945 2404  
**Email** [admin@belmont.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@belmont.catholic.edu.au)  
**Website** [www.belmont.catholic.edu.au](http://www.belmont.catholic.edu.au)  
**OOSH** <https://stnicholasoosh.org.au/belmont>

### St Patrick's Catholic Primary School Swansea

**Principal** Ms Lucy Harvey  
**Street Address** 213 Northcote Avenue  
SWANSEA NSW 2281  
**Postal Address** PO Box 141  
SWANSEA NSW 2281  
**Phone** 02 4971 1560  
**Email** [admin@swansea.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@swansea.catholic.edu.au)  
**Website** [www.swansea.catholic.edu.au](http://www.swansea.catholic.edu.au)

### St Pius X Catholic Primary School Windale

**Principal** Mr Stephen Pryde  
**Street Address** 2 Lake Street  
WINDALE NSW 2306  
**Postal Address** As above  
**Phone** 02 4948 8467  
**Email** [admin@windale.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@windale.catholic.edu.au)  
**Website** [www.windale.catholic.edu.au](http://www.windale.catholic.edu.au)

## Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

**Bishop** Bishop Michael Kennedy  
**Street Address** 841 Hunter Street  
NEWCASTLE WEST NSW 2302  
**Postal Address** PO Box 780  
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300  
**Phone** 02 4979 1200  
**Email** [chancery@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:chancery@mn.catholic.org.au)  
**Website** [www.mn.catholic.org.au](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au)

## Liturgical Celebrations

### Weekday Mass Times

Monday: 8:30AM Belmont  
Tuesday: 8:30AM Windale  
Wednesday: 8:30AM Swansea  
Thursday: 8:30AM Belmont  
Friday: 8:30AM Swansea  
Saturday: **NO MASS**

### Sunday Mass Times

Saturday: 5:00PM Swansea  
Sunday: 7:30AM Windale  
9:00AM Belmont

### Live Stream

Our Mass continues to be livestreamed daily and available via Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/category/Catholic-Church/Jesus-the-Good-Shepherd-Parish-East-Lake-Macquarie-10554244421379/>.

### Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer is prayed 15 minutes before our weekday Mass.

### Rosary

We invite everyone to pray the Rosary daily after the 8:30AM weekday Mass from Monday to Saturday. Rosary is also prayed on Saturdays prior to the Vigil Mass at St Patrick's Swansea, commencing forty (40) minutes before the Mass starting 5:20PM Summer and 4:20PM Winter.

### Feast Days

1 June St Justin, Martyr  
2 June Sts Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs  
3 June St Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs  
5 June St Boniface, Bishop and Martyr  
6 June St Norbert, Bishop | St Marcellin Champagnat, Priest  
7 June The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

### Mass at Jesus the Good Shepherd

The following information is to assist parishioners and visitors:

- ✓ **Face masks** are available at the church entrance.
- ✓ **Hand sanitiser** is available at the church entrance.
- ✓ **Holy Water** is available and changed regularly.
- ✓ Please **take your bulletin home** with you after Mass.
- ✓ A selection of **Children's worksheets** is available for children.
- ✓ The **Sign of Peace** remains contactless except between those residing in the same household.
- ✓ The **Communion Host** can be received in the hand, and on the tongue with care. For the latter please, proceed to the Priest only and at the end of the line.
- ✓ The **Precious Blood** can be received. A person with symptoms of cold, flu, COVID, or other viruses should not share the chalice with others. Intinction is only for priests.
- ✓ There are two (2) **collection plates** during Mass. Thank you for your continued support. The following option is available:
  - The **First Collection** supports all our Diocesan **Clergy**:  
Account name: ELM Parish Reference: <your name>  
BSB: 066-739 Account Number: 100005583
  - The **Second Collection** supports our **Parish** running expenses:  
Account Name: ELM Parish Reference: <your name>  
BSB: 066-739 Account Number: 100005586

### Votive Candles

Burning votive candles is a common sight in Catholic churches. The light signifies our prayer offered in faith entering the light of God. It also shows reverence and our desire to remain present in prayer even as we continue with our day. All are welcome to light candles. Gold coin donations. All proceeds support the Parish.

### Parish Office

When visiting the Parish Office:

- ✓ For your safety, use the footpath. **Do not** walk across the garden.
- ✓ All on-site visitors are required to sign-in.
- ✓ Hand sanitizer and face masks are available if needed.

## Sacraments

### Thinking of becoming Catholic?

See Fr Gerard or email [gem5403@gmail.com](mailto:gem5403@gmail.com).

### Anointing of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick is available. See Fr Gerard

### Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism enquiries are made via the Parish Office.

**Baptism Preparation:** The program is held every first Saturday of the month, except January, at 11:15AM in the Parish Hall at Belmont. Enrolment forms are available at each church or from the Parish Office. Our next session is on **Saturday 6 June 2026**. Bookings are essential.

### Funerals

To organize a funeral please contact the Funeral Directors who will then contact the Parish Priest.

### Columbarium

For an information contact the Parish Office.

### Marriage

For all wedding enquiries or bookings, contact Fr Gerard.

### Penance

The celebration of the Sacrament of Penance is available.

Penance Times:

Belmont: Saturday morning after Mass  
(Be seated and wait in the pew in front of the organ)  
Swansea: Saturday evening before Mass  
(Be seated in pew near confessional back of the church)

## Children's Liturgy

**JOIN US** at St Francis Xavier Church Belmont for Children's Liturgy of the Word during 9:00AM Mass on the **third Sunday of every month**.

This child-centred liturgy offers a friendly, safe, and engaging space (in the church hall) where children can hear and reflect on the Gospel in a way that speaks to their hearts.

All children are warmly invited to participate – come and share in the joy of faith made simple and meaningful for our youngest parishioners.

Stay after Mass for a relaxed morning tea – a great chance to connect with fellow families and parishioners!

## Prayer Requests

### Please pray for

**Sick:** Laura Langan, Geoff Brown.

(Once the person is no longer in need of prayer, would you kindly inform the Parish Office)

**Recently Deceased:** Colleen Carroll.

**Anniversaries:** Mary Guthrie.

*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. ✠ May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, though the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

Mass Intentions for publication may be submitted on an envelope on the collection plate, or to the Parish Office by email, or by phone; by 9:00AM Wednesday each week ahead. **Envelopes are available at the church entrance.** Please write details clearly to avoid errors. A reminder that you need the permission of the person, or their family, to enable us to publish names.



## Pope's Prayer Intentions

You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month.  
<https://www.popesprayer.va/>

### May's Intention is That everyone might have food.

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

## Safeguarding in Our Parish

### Our Children and Vulnerable Adults

The Parish of Jesus, the Good Shepherd is committed to the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. Information brochures are available at the entrance to the Church. Our **Parish Promoters of Safeguarding** are all the members of the Parish Pastoral Council.

## Reflection

by Greg Sunter



The readings selected for Trinity Sunday provide an opportunity to reflect on the nature of God. Over recent weeks, we have celebrated the Ascension and Pentecost – both of which reveal something about the nature of God through Jesus and the Spirit. Trinity Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate the unity of God whom we acknowledge as Father, Son and Spirit. Today's gospel reminds us that there is a seamless continuity between the different experiences of God. Although we sometimes regard the God of the Old Testament as judging and vengeful, today reminds us that God is, was, and always will be a God of love. The gospel reminds us that 'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son.' Love is the characteristic of God that is experienced as Father, Son and Spirit. God loved the world into being and loved the people so much that God made a covenant relationship with them and repeatedly drew them back into that relationship when they strayed. God loved the world and the people so much that God became physically present through Jesus as yet another attempt to draw all people into an awareness of the loving relationship God desired for them. When Jesus could no longer remain a physical presence in the world, God's Spirit became more evident to continue the work of drawing people into that loving relationship with God.

Rather than focusing on the mystery of the Trinitarian God, today is an opportunity to marvel at the single-mindedness of God who is so determined to reveal the length and breadth of God's love to us. That revelation has been made manifest in different ways throughout time but remains constant and unchanging.

### Historical Context – We believe...

The teaching on the Trinity was not formally constructed until the 4th Century and was documented in the creed that emerged from the Council of Nicaea. The Creed that is said today in the Sunday liturgy is a version of that original Nicene Creed. The Nicene Creed spells out Christian beliefs about the nature of God, Jesus and the Spirit and was worded very carefully to negate a variety of heretical views that were held at the time. It is as much a statement about what we do not believe as it is a statement about what we do believe!

### Scriptural context – Trinity

At no point in the New Testament is the term 'Trinity' used. That understanding of the nature of God came much later. However, there are a number of scriptural references that led to this theological understanding. The Annunciation, the baptism of Jesus and the great commissioning of the disciples to baptise in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all examples of the three persons of God being recognised or active in the gospels. Today's second reading shows St Paul using the three experiences of God as a blessing of the people of Corinth.

### Living the Gospel – Sign of the Cross

Every time we bless ourselves or begin prayer with the sign of the cross, we reaffirm our belief in the Trinity. That seemingly simple prayer, 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,' is, in fact, a confirmation of our belief in a triune God – three in one. The earliest use of the sign of the cross only involved tracing a small cross with the thumb or finger on the forehead as it is still done in baptisms or blessings today. Later, describing the shape of the cross on forehead, abdomen and shoulders became the common practice. © Greg Sunter

If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult, contact the Office of Safeguarding via P 02 4979 1390 or

E [childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au).

**For further information visit:**

Website: [www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au](http://www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au)

Facebook: <https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/>

Complaints: <https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/making-a-complaint/>



## Parish News

### Welcome

We welcome new parishioners and visitors. We invite you to pick up and complete our 'New to the Parish?' flyer.

### Children's Worksheets

Each weekend there is a new Children's Liturgy worksheet available at the Church entrance, and some old ones too.

### Bishop's Staff Day 2026

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP. Our Parish is included in Bishop's Staff Day this year. We are calling on parishioners to take part on Tuesday 2 June, from 10:00AM-2:00PM. This special gathering is an opportunity for diocesan staff to step out from their offices and into parish life to "come together around our shared mission" and connect more deeply with parish communities. Over 200 staff will be split into groups of 40 to visit one of seven (7) parish sites, with our parish being one site. Your presence will help tell the story of our parish; it's faith, its people, it's quiet acts of service and hope. In meeting one another, we strengthen the bond that holds us together as the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. Please consider being part of this important day. RSVP IS ESSENTIAL for catering by 31/5/2026 Enquiries to Nicki Graham via M 0417 773 444 or E [Nicola.Graham@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:Nicola.Graham@mn.catholic.org.au)

### Join in Celebrating this Special Occasion

Fr Camillus extends an invitation to all our parishioners to join him in celebrating a special **Mass of Thanksgiving** in honour of his **10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Priestly Ordination** on Saturday 6 June 2026 at Corpus Christi Church, Waratah at 10:30AM followed by a reception at Corpus Christi Primary School Hall. There will be no parish morning Mass on 6 June 2026.

Also, Fr Camillus will be presiding at **Exposition and Benediction** on Friday 5 June at Saint Francis Xavier Church, Belmont at 5:00PM as part of his thanksgiving. As Fr Camillus writes; "I would be deeply honoured by their [the Parishioners of East Lake Macquarie Parish] presence as we gather in prayer and thanksgiving for God's grace and faithfulness over these past ten years." A **gathering** will be held in the hall afterwards. It would be appreciated if those attending the reception following Exposition and Benediction could provide a plate of finger food to share.

### Solemnity of Corpus Christi

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will follow the 9:00AM Mass at Belmont with Benediction at 10:30AM on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.

## Parish Groups

### Catholic Grandparents Association

Jesus, The Good Shepherd Parish is now affiliated with the Catholic Grandparents Association (CGA). Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Godparents, and all Catholic seniors, if you would like to join, contact Paul C M 0422 252 453. The purpose of the group is to pass on the faith. For more information go to [www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org](http://www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org).

### Children's Liturgy of the Word

Our next Children's Liturgy of the Word will be celebrated, **Sunday 21 June 2026**, during the 9:00AM Mass, and every third Sunday of every month at Belmont Church. A Sign-In Book is available before Mass. See page 2.

### Choir

A choir has been formed to sing Latin Gregorian chant occasionally at the 9:00AM Mass at St Francis Xavier's Church, Belmont. All welcome. Enquiries: Andrew on M 0405 772 779.

### Cuppa and a Chat - Parish Cuppa Tea

**Belmont** - JOIN IN a morning tea at Belmont Hall after the 9:00AM Mass normally on the third Sunday of every month. All are welcome. Our next one is **21 June 2026**. Enquiries: Joice.

**Windale** - JOIN IN a morning tea at Windale Hall after 7:30AM Mass normally on the fourth Sunday of the month. All are welcome. Our next one will be **28 June 2026**. Enquiries: Sr Maria.

### Family Group Movement

The Passionist Family Groups provide an extended family for all who wish to belong. Everyone is welcome to join. Enquiries: John and Pauline via M 0418 482 568 or E [mcqraths\\_12@hotmail.com](mailto:mcqraths_12@hotmail.com).

### Friendship Group

The next Friendship Group for singles lunch will be held on Sunday 7 June 2026 at 12:00PM at Swansea RSL, Bridge Street, Swansea. RSVP before 5:00PM on Thursday 4/6/2026 by contacting Mary on M 0408 498 898. New members welcome.

### Social Justice Committee

The Social Justice Committee has placed donation boxes at the entrances to our churches. Please donate generously as funds raised goes towards supporting our three (3) projects: international, national and regional.

Our Social Justice Committee is calling for new members. We meet three to four times a year. If you'd like to join or learn more, contact Mary R M 0402 498 898.

### St Patricks Craft Group

Our parish craft group gathers weekly in the Swansea Church Hall at 9:30AM on Mondays, except January. All welcome. Enquiries: Gay M 0419 211 573.

### St Vincent de Paul

To enquire or join one of our Parish Conferences, contact one of the presidents. Belmont - John D M 0424 695 721, Swansea - Jenny P M 0439 814 874, Windale - Paul C M 0418 240 604.

## Diocesan News

### Apologetics with Dr Robert Haddad

Do you want to grow deeper in your knowledge of the Catholic Faith? Want to grow more in knowledge of the Eucharist? Come and see renowned Catholic apologist, author, teacher and international guest speaker, Dr Robert Haddad who is thrilled to be presenting in the Hunter Valley. Dr Robert has especially chosen three talks to spark our interest and deepen our understanding of the source and summit of the Catholic faith.

**When:** Friday 12 June, 6:15PM – 9:00PM Saturday 13 June, 10:00AM - 3:30PM

**Where:** Kurri Kurri Parish Hall, 102 Barton Street Kurri Kurri

**Register:** Scan the QR code to register for this FREE event.

**More Info:** Contact Yvonne on 0450 323 206.



### Other News

#### Come and See Discernment Retreat – Sisters of Immaculata

An invitation to any single young women aged 18-35 years old who are interested in discerning a vocation to Religious Life and our community to a "Come and See" discernment weekend from Friday 5 June - Sunday 7 June 2026 in Armidale, NSW. The weekend will be an opportunity to Adore the Lord and learn to listen to God's voice as well as experience the prayer, community, charism and life of the Sisters of the Immaculata. For more information and to register, E [vocations@immaculata.org.au](mailto:vocations@immaculata.org.au) or M 0497 908 221. See emailed flyer.

#### Care for our Common Home

Catholics in Australia celebrate World Environment Day on 5 June by actively putting Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'* (Care for our Common Home) encyclical into action. Communities and parishes across the country mark the occasion with sustainable lifestyle commitments, ecological education programs, and localized climate initiatives.

## The Most Holy Trinity Year A

### Entrance Antiphon

Blest be God the Father,  
and the Only Begotten Son of God,  
and also the Holy Spirit,  
for he has shown us his merciful love.

### First Reading

Ex 34:4-6. 8-9

#### A reading from the book of Exodus

*The Lord God, ruler of all, merciful and loving.*

With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.

He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, 'Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.' And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. 'If I have indeed won your favour, Lord,' he said, 'let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage.'

The Word of the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm

Dn 3:52-56. R. v.52

1. You are blest, Lord God of our fathers,  
Glory and praise for ever!  
Blest your glorious holy name,  
Glory and praise for ever!
2. You are blest in the temple of your glory.  
Glory and praise for ever!  
You are blest on the throne of your kingdom.  
Glory and praise for ever!
3. You are blest who gaze into the depths.  
Glory and praise for ever!  
You are blest in the firmament of heaven.  
Glory and praise for ever!

### Second Reading

2 Cor 13:11-13

#### A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

Brothers, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The Word of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

See Apoc 1:8

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
to God who is, who was, and who is to come.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### Gospel

Jn 3:16-18

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*God sent his Son to save the world through him.*

Jesus said to Nicodemus,

'God loved the world so much  
that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost  
but may have eternal life.  
For God sent his Son into the world  
not to condemn the world,  
but so that through him the world might be saved.  
No one who believes in him will be condemned;  
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,  
because he has refused to believe  
in the name of God's only Son.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

### Communion Antiphon

Gal 4:6

Since you are children of God,  
God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son,  
the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.



### Next Week's Readings

#### The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ Year A

First Reading	Dt 8:2-3. 14-16
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 147:12-15. 19-20. R. v.12
Second Reading	1 Cor 10:16-17
Sequence	
Gospel Acclamation	Jn 6:51-52
Gospel	Jn 6:51-58