

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A
12 July 2026

Faith Communities
of Adamstown
Cardiff and Kotara



Catholic Diocese
OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE



'Son of Man did not come to be served,
but to serve.' (Mt 20:28)

"That They May All Be One." ~ A humble service with a smile~

All Saints Catholic Home - Blackbutt South

Parish Grand Jubilee Year 2025-2026

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Weekday Mass

Tuesday	9:30AM Adamstown
Wednesday	7:00AM Kotara
	9:30AM Adamstown
Thursday	9:30AM Cardiff MacKillop Rm
Friday	9:15AM Kotara
Saturday	9:00AM Kotara (1 st Saturday)
Sunday Mass	
Saturday (Vigil)	5:00PM Kotara (AEST)
Sunday	8:00AM Adamstown
	9:30AM Kotara (see page 3)
Adoration	5:00PM Kotara (Sunday EST)

INFORMATION

Churches

St Columba's Church	153A Lockyer Street ADAMSTOWN NSW 2289
St Kevin's Church	228 Main Road CARDIFF NSW 2285
St Philip's Church	31 Vista Parade KOTARA NSW 2289

Presbytery

Parish Priest	Fr Joseph Figurado
Postal Address	31 Vista Parade KOTARA NSW 2289
Presbytery Phone	02 4957 5949
Mobile	0452 280 687

Parish Office

Office Team	Mrs Liza Ruitenbach Ms Justine Atkinson Thi Trang Le (Sr Lucie)
Sacramental Coordinator	Thi Trang Le (Sr Lucie)
Street Address	230 Main Road
Postal Address	PO Box 233 CARDIFF NSW 2285
Office Phone	02 4954 0977
Email	asbsparish@mn.catholic.org.au
Parish Website	www.allsaintsblackbuttsouth.org.au

Office Hours

Tuesday	9:00AM to 3:00PM
Wednesday	9:00AM to 1:30PM
Thursday	9:00AM to 3:00PM

Parish Schools

St Columba's School	Lockyer Street ADAMSTOWN NSW 2289
St Kevin's School	226 Main Road CARDIFF NSW 2285
St James' School	30 Vista Parade KOTARA NSW 2289

Colleges

Trinity College	Park Avenue ADAMSTOWN NSW 2289
St Paul's College	70 Primrose Street BOORAGUL NSW 2284
St Francis Xavier's College	286 Parkway Avenue HAMILTON NSW 2303

Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

Bishop	Bishop Michael Kennedy
Street Address	841 Hunter Street NEWCASTLE WEST NSW 2300
Postal Address	PO Box 780 NEWCASTLE NSW 2300
Phone Number	02 4979 1200
Email	chancery@mn.catholic.org.au
Website	www.mn.catholic.org.au

MASS AT ALL SAINTS PARISH

New to the Parish?

Welcome. Please let us know who you are by completing a 'New to the Parish' form.

Silence Before Mass

To create a prayerful atmosphere, please observe 4-5 minutes of silence before Mass. This allows fellow parishioners to focus on their prayers.

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 one or more candles at our Votive Candle stands. Gold coin donations. Proceeds support the Parish.

Keeping Each Other Safe and Well

If you are not well, stay at home or use a mask. If you need to sneeze or cough, remember to do so into your elbow.

Bulletins

Please ensure all items for the bulletin are received at the Parish Office by noon on Tuesday. Email subject - Bulletin. **Please take your bulletin home after Mass.**

Children's Worksheets

Each weekend there will be a new Children's Liturgy worksheet at the Church entrance.

Communion from the Chalice

A person with symptoms of cold, flu, COVID or other virus should not share the chalice with others. In the Catholic Church, intinction by communicants is not permitted. Whatever may remain of the Blood of Christ after Holy Communion must be consumed immediately by the priest, deacon, acolyte or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion. No-one should be pressured or coerced to do this if they have reasonable concerns about it.

Respectfulness

Whilst every genuine effort is offered in All Saints Parish, to assist people with their various needs, please remember our clergy, employees, and our volunteers have a right to be always treated with respect. Remember too, that today's Parish is subject to more regulations and paperwork which can determine an outcome. Thank you.

Parking at Kotara Church

When the car park at St Philip's Church is full, please do not park on any grassed areas. You are invited to park opposite the church at St Nicholas' Early Education car park.

A SHORT HOMILY FROM FR JOSEPH

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

My dear brothers and sisters,

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us the familiar Parable of the Sower. The seed is the same in every case—it is the Word of God. The difference is not the seed, but the soil on which it falls. The question Jesus asks each one of us is: **What kind of soil am I?**

Three simple lessons emerge:

1. Open your heart to God's Word.

If our hearts are hardened by pride, anger, or indifference, God's Word cannot take root.

2. Persevere in faith.

Like the seed on rocky ground, faith that has no deep roots fades when difficulties come. Prayer, the Eucharist, and Scripture help us grow deep roots.

3. Remove the weeds.

Worries, distractions, and the pursuit of wealth can choke our spiritual life. We must make room for God every day.

Jesus assures us that a heart open to Him will bear fruit—"a hundredfold, sixtyfold, or thirtyfold." May we become fertile soil, receiving God's Word with joy and putting it into practice through lives of faith, hope, and love.

Amen

PRAYER INTENTIONS



We remember in our prayers...

Sick: Dorothy Taylor, Darrel Callinan, Dean Hart, Allison Hillery, Joseph Mackenzie, Lexie Martin, Curtis Ridgeway, Jack Schofield, Martin Pavitt, Leonie Pickett, Karen Curran, Jan Hobson, Lewis Peel (Purcell), Loris Jackson, Linda McDonald, Chris Patsan, Dorota Bakowska, Gae Alderton, Alexander Klein, Maria Kanonczuk, Jarrad Bryant, Tom Campbell.

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

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Patricia Dudman, Jack and Allan McVie, Mary Plowman, Seph and Maria Gyselhart, Warren Sheppard, Peter John Hannigan.

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 Intention envelopes are available at the church entrance and can be placed onto the first collection plate. Mass Intentions for publication may be written on a Mass Intention envelope, or by email, or phone; by 12:00PM Tuesday each week ahead. Please write details clearly to avoid errors. A reminder that you need the permission of the person, or 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.

July's Intention is For respect for human life.

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Parish contact is Sr Lucie usually on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

P: 02 4954 0977 E: asbsparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Email Subject: Sacramental Program

SACRAMENTS AT ALL SAINTS PARISH

Anointing Masses

The next Anointing Mass is to be at St Columba's Church Adamstown **9:30AM Tuesday 3 November 2026**. If at any time you are in need of an anointing, you are welcome to approach the priest and ask for one at the end of a weekend Mass.

Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the first, second and third Sundays of the month, 11:30AM at St Philip's Kotara, except for January. Application forms are available from the Parish Office. Bookings and preparation are essential. Baptism enquiries may be made via the Parish Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Baptism Preparation: The program is held at 10:30AM every 4th Sunday of the month except December. Preparation is essential.

Funerals

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

Columbarium

For enquiries and appointments please contact the Parish Office on 02 4954 0977 or E asbsparish@mn.catholic.org.au.

Marriage

For all wedding enquiries or bookings, contact the Parish Office or Parish Priest.

Reconciliation

The celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available at Kotara Church **by appointment only** between 11:00AM and 2:00PM on Saturday.

FEAST DAYS

13 Jul Saint Henry
14 Jul Saint Camillus de Lellis, Priest
15 Jul Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
16 Jul Our Lady of Mount Carmel

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Is 55:10-11
Psalm Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8
Second Rom 8:18-23
Acclamation See Matthew 11:25
Gospel Mt 13:1-23

PARISH SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

Parishioners and visitors are invited to stay for a cuppa and a chat after Vigil / Sunday Mass:

Adamstown - second Sunday of the month in the Adamstown Church Foyer.

Cardiff - second Sunday of the month in the MacKillop Room. Also Thursdays after Mass.

Kotara - **fourth** Saturday of the month of **June** in the Kotara Church Hall.

Craft Group

All are welcome to share companionship and craft on Friday mornings at the meeting room at St Philip's Kotara between 10:00AM and 12:00PM. Come for a cuppa and good humour.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS

Ladies are welcome to join our St Columba's ladies and meet for lunch at Adamstown Bowling Club at 12:00PM on the second Thursday of the month.

All are invited for a cuppa and a chat in the MacKillop Room at Cardiff after the Thursday morning Mass.

All are welcome to share companionship and craft on Friday mornings at the meeting room at St Philip's Kotara between 10:00AM and 12:00PM. Come for the cuppa and humour.

SAFEGUARDING



The parish of *All Saints Blackbutt South* has an enduring commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. Information brochures are available at the church entrance. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult, contact the Office of Safeguarding via E childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au or P 02 4979 1390.

For more information: W www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au
Complaints <https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/making-a-complaint/>

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility, but it starts with ME!

ADORATION

Adoration is available on Sundays at Kotara Church at 5:00PM in Wintertime and 5:30PM in Summertime. The first half hour of Adoration is in complete silence and during the last fifteen minutes there are hymns and supplication of prayers. All are welcome.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Christian Meditation is held at 6:00PM every Tuesday at St Philip's Church Kotara. All are welcome. Enquiries: Anne C E annecuskelly@hotmail.com.

MINISTRY ROSTERS

12 JULY 2026	KOTARA 5:00PM	ADAMSTOWN 8:00AM	KOTARA 9:30AM
Commentator	Emma South	Dot Reynolds	Paul Gleeson
Readers	Christine Sheppard Faye Robertson	Lauren Ross Diana Hannigan	Cathy Waugh Diane Callinan
Presentation of the Gifts	Donna & Harper Morgan	Goodman Family	Maher Family
** Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion	Janelle Oliver, Jessica Moulder & Marilyn Thomson	Stan Heaney, Vickie Pettett & Preciosa Winter	Angela Hall, Elizabeth Doyle & Sharon Murphy
19 JULY 2026	KOTARA 5:00PM	ADAMSTOWN 8:00AM	KOTARA 9:30AM
Commentator	Marilyn Thomson	Paul Smith	Anne Lamotte
Readers	Rachael Lakin Nance Schreiber	Basia Wedesweiler Ainara Alonso Mateos	Veronica Mulroy Elizabeth Doyle
Presentation of the Gifts	Dever Family	Kathy Kelly & Bernadette Maher	Lerch Family
** Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion	Narelle Heard, Janelle Oliver & Faye Robertson	Vickie Pettett, Narelle Smith & Lauren Ross	Sharon Murphy, Paul Gleeson & Majella Maher

** Please note the rostered EMoHC is needed when there is a **priest only**. If a Deacon is present, then he is the other Eucharistic Minister.

PARISH NEWS

St Kevin's Church – Repairs Update

Repairs have been made to the church floor, and we are waiting for carpet to be installed, and for a quote for the back wall. In the meantime, **Sunday 9:30AM Mass** continues to be celebrated at St Philip's Church 31 Vista Parade Kotara and **Thursday weekday Mass** in the MacKillop Room at the Cottage Cardiff, until further notice.

Sacramental Program

Children who are preparing for Confirmation and First Eucharist next term are invited to attend Mass from now until the Commitment Mass on 26 July. Please make them and their families feel welcome.

Volunteers Thank You Morning Tea

Thank you to everyone who joined in to celebrate our volunteers last weekend. A reminder that the St Kevin's community will celebrate its Volunteer Morning Tea after the repairs to our church are complete.

Parish Family Groups

The Passionist Family Groups provide an extended family for all who wish to belong. Everyone is welcome to join.

Greensleeves Enquiries: Craig & Liz M 0412 825 383.

Mellow **Yellow** Enquiries: Sharon
E smu93562@bigpond.net.au

Rainbow General enquiries: Christine M 0403 696 944 or Kerina M 0409 448 255.

Red Rovers Enquiries: Maree M 0412 688 685.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Young Adult Retreat 2026: To Be Human

The Young Adult Retreat returns this year, inviting young adults aged 18–35 to explore what it means *To Be Human* and fully alive in this life and for eternity. This retreat offers a unique opportunity to deepen your faith, build lasting friendships, and connect with other young adults from across the Diocese. Featuring expert speakers from around NSW and Australia, a dynamic and engaging program, praise and worship, and the sacraments, this promises to be a transformative weekend.

When: Friday 17 July to Sunday 19 July

Where: Camp Elim – Forster

Register: <https://ALIVEYA26.eventbrite.com.au>

The Synodal Way: A journey into what the Global Synod Now Asks of Us

The Synod on Synodality has been one of the most significant events in the life of the Catholic Church since Vatican II. For the first time, lay women and men joined bishops in the Synod Assembly with equal voting rights. Shortly afterwards, Pope Francis adopted the Final Document as part of the ordinary teaching of the Church.

What does this mean for us and for the future of our Diocese? Join us as we explore the key themes of the Final Document, the implementation phase now underway, and opportunities to become involved in local Synodal Teams. Please bring a plate to share and register your attendance.

CHARLESTOWN Pastoral Centre: Wed 15 July 6:00PM-8:00PM

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-synodal-way-tickets-1991962613800?aff=oddtcreator>

WARNER'S BAY Church Hall Mon 20 July 6:30PM -8:30PM

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-synodal-way-tickets-1991965186495?aff=oddtcreator>

2026 Magdalene Awards

We warmly invite you to join us as we celebrate and recognise these remarkable women and their contribution to our diocesan community. Sunday 26 July, 9:30AM, Sacred Heart Cathedral

Register: <https://mn.catholic.org.au/event/save-the-date-the-2026-magdalene-award-celebration/>

OTHER

Seafarers Sunday 2026

Catholic Seafarers Sunday (or Sea Sunday) in 2026 is observed on Sunday, 12 July. The global Catholic maritime agency Stella Maris leads this observance under the official 2026 theme: "Harbours of Hope: The Church Alongside Seafarers".

Locally, donations of goods needed for our Seafarers Care Packs of toiletries, warm clothing, writing materials and cards/puzzles. For more info contact our Catholic Port Chaplain, Mark Spencer via E mark.spencer1@mn.catholic.org.au or for more information go to <https://stellamarisaustralia.org/>

Monetary donations can be made to the following account:

BSB:062 784 **Account Number:**1000 12583

Account Name:The Apostleship of the Sea

Eucharist28

The International Eucharistic Congress ('Eucharist28') is coming to Sydney in 2028! Eucharist28's theme, '*This is My Body, Given For You*', invites us to reflect on Christ's words as he instituted the Eucharistic Sacrifice. At each Mass, the priest repeats Jesus' words from the Last Supper, and the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. As we receive the Eucharist, we are called to carry His presence into our homes, workplaces, schools, parishes and communities. We're invited to allow Christ's presence to transform us as we share in the breaking of the bread. The journey begins now. Go to <https://eucharist28.org/resources> for catechetical material or <https://eucharist28.org/> for more.

About Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)

Aid to the Church in Need is the only international Catholic charity dedicated to the service of suffering Christians wherever they are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need. Founded in 1947, ACN is a pontifical foundation and provides vital aid for pastoral projects, religious education, and emergency relief in areas affected by conflict and poverty. For many years we have partnered with parishes to share about these projects. ACN operates solely on benefactor donations, with no funding from Church or State. Learn more on our website: www.aidtochurch.org

Come and Learn About Parish Renewal

Renewed & Sent is an initiative of the Diocese of Wollongong, in partnership with Divine Renovation, and will take place in Campbelltown from 1-3 October. It is an opportunity to step back, listen to what God is doing in other communities, and reflect on what renewal might look like in your own Parish. This is a not to be missed opportunity for anyone passionate about seeing their Parish come alive in faith and mission. Express your interest in claiming one of the 50 complimentary accommodation rooms being offered by CDMN Mission & Evangelisation - <https://mn.catholic.org.au/event/renewed-sent-parish-renewal-summit/> Please note, you will still need to register for the event via <https://renewedandsent.com.au/register/>, to cover the costs of participation (\$225 for general admission), and to organise transport to and from.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 16:15

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

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 R. Lk 8:8

(R.) 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.

2. And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth.

3. You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

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.

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

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 sons. 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 13:1-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

A sower went out to sow.

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 he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has 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 his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 83:4-5

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Or John 6:57

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

