



12 July 2026: 15th Sunday of the Year (A)
Extraordinary Form: 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Dear Parishioners,

At a time when children are off school, and some families have extra opportunity for recreation or travel together, the Church invites us – as she does in all spheres of our lives – to live these moments in the spirit of the Gospel and, according to St Ignatius Loyola's call to find God in all things, to find him also here in times of leisure and of rest.

In an Angelus address of July 2021, Pope Francis reflected on Our Lord's instruction to his disciples to "rest a while" after a period of apostolic activity and mission. Jesus, "concerned about their physical and interior tiredness" was aware, according to the Pope, of "a danger that is always lurking there for us too: the danger to be caught up in the frenzy of doing things" where "what is most important are the results that we obtain and the feeling of being absolute protagonists". Not only in schools or secular workplaces but in the Church as well, Pope Francis suggests, "we are busy, we run around, we think that everything depends on us and, in the end, we risk neglecting Jesus and we always make ourselves the centre."

And so to the importance of rest and recreation, of "unplugging" ourselves. We do this, according to the Pope, by returning "to the heart of things: to stop, to remain in silence, to pray", something assisted by learning to "take a break, to turn off the mobile phone, to contemplate nature, to regenerate ourselves in dialogue with God." The Holy Father states that, far from cutting us off from others, such a "contemplative outlook" gives birth to a new openness and compassion towards others: "only a heart that does not allow itself to be taken over by hastiness is capable of being moved; that is, of not allowing itself to be caught up in itself and by things to do, and is aware of others, of their wounds, their needs. Compassion is born from contemplation."

Rest, contemplation and compassion, combine in what Pope Francis describes as an "ecology of the heart" of which the Virgin Mary – whom the Pope was honouring in the customary Angelus Prayer – is the true model.

Yours in Christ

The Fathers of the Oratory



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, 16TH JULY

"A country's vitality is deeply tied to the value it affords to human life in every form and condition, acknowledging the dignity endowed upon every human person by virtue of their very existence. The inherent worth of every human life has led the noble hearts of generations to praise the marvellous works of the Creator (cf. Ps 139:14) and stand in reverence before so precious a gift."

*Address of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV on the
acceptance of the Liberty Medal of the
National Constitution Center (USA)*

Church Schedule: Saturday: Mass 8:30; Exposition & Confession from 17:00; Benediction at 17:40; Vigil Mass 18:00 **Sunday:** Exposition at 17:00; Benediction at 17:40; Confession from 17:30; Mass 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 (EF) and 18:00 **Monday to Friday:** Mass 6:30, 8:30 daily. Rosary daily at 9:00. **Parish Office:** Open weekday mornings from 09:00 - 10:00. Kindly call or WhatsApp Ann on 073 247 1316 (09:00 - 12:00) to arrange appointments outside these hours. **Pastoral Care:** Call 073 247 1316 or 082 925 2549.

Readings: Daily Missal – 1039; Sunday Missal – 358

Psalm Response: The seed that fell into good soil yielded a hundredfold.

Liturgical Week		Mass Intentions
Sat		18:00 For Charlotte Venske (Her family)
Sun	15th Sunday of the Year	7:00 Andrée Desterbecq RIP; 8:30 Pro Populo; 10:00 Ints of the friends & benefactors of the Oratory (The Oratory); 18:00 For those on our Pious List
Mon	<i>Feria / St Henry</i>	6:30 For Fr Henry on his Feast Day (The Oratory); 8:30 Ints of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
Tue	<i>Feria / St Camillus de Lellis</i>	6:30 Winston & Anthony Gardner RIP (Gardner family); 8:30 Arthur, Miriam & Peter Sullivan RIP (Sheila Sullivan)
Wed	<i>St Bonaventure</i>	6:30 Donor's Ints; 8:30 Ray Quin RIP (Anniv.) (His family)
Thu	<i>Feria / Our Lady of Mount Carmel</i>	6:30 Donor's Ints; 8:30 Ints of Rumbi Muserere
Fri	<i>Feria</i>	6:30 Donor's Ints; 8:30 For the Chowles & Marujo families
Sat	<i>Feria / Mass of our Lady</i>	8:30 Donor's Ints; 18:00 Peter van Staden RIP (Maureen van Staden)
Sun	16th Sunday of the Year	7:00 Ints of Gail Gardner; 8:30 Valerie Barber RIP; 10:00 Ints of Ronél Jackson) (Jonél Roos); 18:00 Pro Populo

Announcements

Father Billy Barnes passed from this life on Friday 10 July 2026. We offer our condolences to Bishop Vincent, the priests of the diocese, Father Billy's family and all those whom he served.

Lesley Greensmith passed away on Wednesday 8 July 2026.

Parish Notices

Special Collection: There is a special collection next weekend (18/19 July) for Peter's Pence. Peter's Pence is the name given to the financial support offered by the faithful to the Holy Father by which Catholics from across the world share in the concern of the Successor of Peter for the many different needs of the Universal Church and for the relief of those most in need.

Southern Cross magazine: The July issue of the Southern Cross magazine is available in the Repository at R40 per copy.

Diocesan News

St Augustine's International Food Evening: St Augustine's Cathedral in Central is hosting an international food evening on Friday 31 July at 18:00. All parishes have been asked to support and contribute to this event. St Bernadette's will be running the German Stall. Ticket books (at R100 each) can be purchased from the repository or from the parish office at St Bernadette's.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul, Walmer Conference, wishes to inform you that our bank details have changed.

Please make use of the following bank details in the future:

Account Holder name: Society of St Vincent de Paul (St Bernadette's Conference – Walmer)

Bank: Standard Bank

Branch Code: 051001

Account Number: 310032598

Swift Code: SBZAJJ (for international donors only)