



KANGAROO POINT EAST BRISBANE CATHOLIC PARISH



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Deut 4:1-2, 6-8
Second Reading: James 1:17-18, 21-22,27
Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Responsorial Psalm

The just will live in the presence of the Lord

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7
Second Reading: James 2:1-5
Gospel: Mark 7:31-37

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,
that we might be as the first fruit of his creation.

Alleluia!

MASS TIMES:

St Benedict's Church

81 Mowbray Tce, East Brisbane

Saturday: 6:00 pm Vigil Mass
Reconciliation: 5.30pm

Wednesday: 9.00 Mass
Changes will be in newsletter

St Joseph's Church

26-36 Leopard St (Anglesey St),
Kangaroo Point

Sunday: 9:00am Mass

SVDP Helpline - 07 30101096
Furniture Helpline - 1300 551 894

We pray for parishioners and friends who are ill.

*Names of the Sick: due to privacy laws,
names of the sick can only appear in the
newsletter with the permission of
immediate family.*

**We pray for our recently
departed,
may they rest in peace,**

**For those who anniversaries
are at this time,
we remember them.**



We are reaching the business end of the football season and interestingly both the NRL and the AFL have a very top heavy ladder with several teams vying for the top four places. Whatever teams make it to the finals, one cannot help but marvel at the skill, enthusiasm, the sheer determination of the athletes who have made it to that level of competition. The same can be said for Usain Bolt who this weekend is jumping from sprinting to playing soccer for the Central Coast Mariners. Not to mention the Sunshine Coast Lightning winning the National Netball League. We won't mention the Wallabies after last weekend's Bledsoe Cup loss to the All Blacks! While all of us can day-dream and imagine standing on a dais collecting a gold medal or winning a grand final, we know in reality that, to be the best in any field, requires sacrifices, focus and unrelenting practice.

What is true for top sports men and women is also true for anyone who wants to get the best out of themselves – there are rules that have to be followed, real sacrifices that need to be made, discipline incorporated into the timetable of daily life. The simple truth is that if we fail to follow the rules and give ourselves over to whatever makes us feel good we will end up being slaves to our own feelings. **In biblical language, that slavery is called hell – damning ourselves for what we could have done but did not do, for what we could have had but now do not have.**

The first five books of the Old Testament are also called the Torah and they contain the laws written down by Moses. The ancient Israelites cherished and revered the Law of God, the Torah. Put simply, they believed that if a person incorporated the laws and regulations handed down to them in the Torah, they would be given the strength and power to pass through life free of this world's seductions, distractions, and diversions... and so find their way to God.

The problem with the Torah, as with so much of life, is that we can easily slip into a mere external observance of the rules and uncritically incorporate discipline into our routine without understanding its purpose or intention. These are the rules and regulations that are used by others to stifle our potential; these are the disciplines that we quote to choke the possibilities in others.

That is why I think that all too often laws are seen from the wrong perspective. They are seen as restricting us rather than

liberating us. To be sure, they restrict and control our urges, drives and feelings. To be sure, they keep us from doing what we feel like doing when we feel like doing it. But that is not their chief purpose. The chief purpose of law is to free us to be focused, to keep us centred on what we can do in order to live wholesome and healthy lives, not just for ourselves but for the sake of helping and building up others.

I know from my own experience that if I am made to follow laws and rules and regulations because I am made to, or just for the sake of following them, then all it does is lead to defiant compliance. And I also know from bitter experience that once defiance enters into the equation I am only a step away from breaking away from discipline, becoming once again a slave to my own self.

As we hear in this weekend's Gospel, Jesus faced the scribes and Pharisees who were preoccupied with the enforcing of rules and regulations. They saw only the external letter of the law and lost the vision of its inner spirit. That is probably why Jesus called them hypocrites. It comes to a head when they demand that everyone comply with the letter of the law.

What Jesus wants to reinforce to those who will listen is found in the last lines of today's Gospel: **He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a person from outside can make them unclean; it is the things that come out of a person that make them unclean. For it is from within, from people's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these things come from within and make a person unclean.'**

In a modern culture that has become self-indulgent, self-gratifying, and self-justifying the exploits of the top sports men and women remind us of what sacrifice, focus and unrelenting practice can achieve. If owned and incorporated into the timetable of our daily life, the law of God can have the same effect. More than that, once owned, these laws give us freedom and lead us to what we dream we want to be, and for what Jesus Christ died for us to have.

Fr Peter Brannelly, Dean

Kangaroo Point East Brisbane Parish

Parish Priest: Bishop Ken Howell
Administrator: Fr Peter Brannelly
Associate Pastor: Fr Odina Nwadike
Parish Administration: Nicola Vincent, Patricia Pryor
Parish Office Hours: Thu 8.30am—12.30pm
81 Mowbray Terrace, East Brisbane
P: (07) 3391 4663 **F:** (07) 3891 6738 **E:** kpoint@bne.catholic.net.au
W: www.catholicparishebkpt.org.au

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

26-36 Leopard St, Kangaroo Point QLD 4168
P: 07 3391 5397 | **F:** (07) 3391 5186
E: pkangaropt@bne.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Mr Micheal O'Sullivan
School Secretary/Enrolments: Mrs Emma Lorenzin & Mrs Sabrina Hawe
W: www.stjosephskpt.qld.edu.au



Roster – St Benedict’s (Saturday 6:00pm) 1 September

Altar Servers 1-2 September

Commentator	Readers	Extraordinary Ministers	St Benedict’s	St Joseph’s
B Navratil	J McIntosh; M Bantug	N Caladiao; I Sowerby		Adrian & Max Chan

Roster –St Joseph’s (Sunday 9:00am) - 5 August

Commentator	Reader	Extraordinary Ministers	CLOW	Opener	Piety Stall	Counters
	E Little; J Ware	C Finn; P O’Connell; K Biggs	Jenny & Marie-Anne	A Rull	S O’Connell	R & T Donovan

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

3 Sept —St Gregory the Great
8 Sept—Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Visit our parish WEBSITE at

<http://catholicparishebkpt.org.au>

Visit the website and subscribe to the weekly newsletter.

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are held in the parish on Sunday following the 9.00am mass or other times by arrangement. Preparation is held on the 1st Saturday of the month at the Cathedral at 9.30am.

THE CATHOLIC LEADER \$2 TAKE A COPY HOME TODAY

- * Esk churches unite for day of prayer and thanksgiving
- * Brisbane Catholics give Timorese children health lift
- * Faith guides PM Morrison
- * Survey suggests religious instruction gaining support from Queensland parents and schools
- * Seniors and children all smiles during intergenerational day
- * Battle for life heats up
- * Pope Francis begins Mass in Dublin saying sorry for abuse scandals
- * Human compassion shows in Kerala floods
- * Driving hope to prison
- * Child Protection Sunday calls all to embrace Christian duty to care and protect vulnerable
- * CEO works from earthy faith, love of social justice
- * PLUS: A regional focus on Toowoomba

LUCKY NUMBERS

\$2.00 could win you \$25.

Support your parish and buy your lucky number from the piety stall. Drawn weekly

Winner - # NUMBERS AVAILABLE!

Last weekend’s collection \$998.55

Please consider Planned Giving by Direct Debit. Forms available at the piety stall.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES Commencing this week, the weekday Mass at St Benedict’s will be held on Wednesdays at 9.00am.

KEYS For safety reasons, a security audit will be conducted on who has access to St Joseph’s and St Benedict’s. Anyone in possession of a key, or if you are no longer in need of it, please email kpoint@bne.catholic.net.au.

CATHEDRAL CONCERT SERIES *Songs of Praise Sunday 9th September, 3.00pm*, Cathedral of St Stephen The St Mary’s Singers from St Mary’s Cathedral in Sydney present Songs of Praise; Elgar’s *Te Deum* and other sacred choral works. Tickets available online @ www.ststephensmusic.com/ 2018- concert-series.html or at the door. Adult \$30, Concession \$25 Afternoon tea included.

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS Couples celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary (or longer) with family & friends, are invited to the annual Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass to be celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge. **Saturday 6th October, @ 10.00am.** For catering purposes please RSVP to cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au or telephone 3324 3030. Cathedral car park is available.

CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2018 Queensland Child Protection Week is held during the first full week of September each year. Schools, businesses, community groups and government organisations come together, to consider how best to promote the value of children and focus attention on issues of child abuse and neglect. Children are a gift from God and must be protected from harm of every kind. Many Archdiocesan personnel through their ministries and services are in a unique position to identify child abuse and neglect and to do something about it. The Archdiocese expects all personnel, including clergy, employees and volunteers to act upon concerns or complaints of abuse, and comply with reporting obligations. Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility.



Your Voice Matters

Plenary Council 2020
Listen to what the Spirit is saying

What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?

Have an opinion?

Everyone is invited to have their say:

plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

Submission Close: 6th March

Wishing all our fathers and father figures many blessings this weekend.

Our Church, our community. Doing good.

Next weekend our parish will do a special collection for the **Annual Catholic Campaign**, to support the vital ministries in our Church.

It is the one time a year that all of the parishes in the Archdiocese come together to help vital works of our church and local community.



Please consider a thoughtful gift. It will be the answer to someone’s prayer.



Support the good works of the Church.
Give today: 07 3324 3200 or catholiccampaign.com.au



THE ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

**TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE**

Brothers and sisters: Peace be with you!

As we cross another threshold in the long journey of responding to the crisis of sexual abuse in the Church, I want to speak a word to you, a word of hope and encouragement.

I speak first to the victims and their families who have suffered most through it all. Especially to those in the Archdiocese of Brisbane who have been traumatised by abuse I offer a most heartfelt apology. I think too of the many fine clergy and religious in the Archdiocese who have been so mired and burdened by what has happened. But there is no-one in the Church who hasn't been wounded in some way by abuse. When one in the community suffers, all suffer. That's the way it is in the Body of Christ; when one part of the body is in pain, the whole body suffers.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia have just published a joint response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. We have accepted, accepted in principle or supported 98 per cent of the Royal Commission's recommendations. As requested by the Royal Commission, we have referred some to the Holy See, and we are pursuing discussions with the Vatican.

The one recommendation we cannot accept concerns the seal of the Sacrament of Penance, since to accept it would be contrary to our sense of faith and would corrode religious freedom. We don't believe that abolishing the seal would make children any safer. Nor do we believe that the seal and the safeguarding of children are mutually exclusive; and we'll do all we can to ensure both the safety of children and the inviolability of the seal. In our view, legislation abolishing priest-penitent privilege is based on a lack of understanding of what actually happens in Confession and moves in a purely hypothetical world. It's difficult then to see how the law will work in practice. The bishops and religious leaders have the utmost respect for the rule of law; but we believe that this proposed law will prove impracticable. It will not make children safer and it will undermine religious freedom. That's why it's bad public policy.

The response of the bishops and religious leaders has been published with the four-volume final report of the Truth Justice and Healing Council, which helped shape our response. There are many words, and they are important; but more is required. Now is a time for action. Some of the action is already being undertaken; we aren't beginning from scratch. But much of it lies ahead; and the bishops and religious leaders commit to doing whatever is required. To help us nationally in that task we've established the lay-led Implementation Advisory Group who have been involved in finalising our response.

The Most Reverend Mark Coleridge

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In the first place, action will be the responsibility of bishops and religious leaders. But it will also involve the entire Catholic community in one way or another. This sense of shared responsibility for building a culture of safeguarding can be troubling for some. It's true that clergy and religious were responsible for most of the abuse in the past, and bishops and religious leaders for most of the cover-ups. Therefore they bear a special burden of responsibility. Currently serving bishops and religious leaders may not be personally responsible for abuse or cover-up, but they have a duty to address the crisis; and they will need to call upon all the members and resources of the Catholic community to do that effectively.

The new demands being made of volunteers in parishes and other communities are proving challenging. But we're asking only what we judge necessary for the building of a new culture of safeguarding in the Church. Cultural change of this kind is always demanding. Some of the new provisions are required by law; others are to ensure that the Archdiocese is a genuinely safe place for all, but especially for the most vulnerable.

To help build a culture of safeguarding the bishops and religious leaders have established Catholic Professional Standards Limited, an independent lay body which will set nationally consistent safeguarding standards and monitor compliance with them across the Church in Australia.

One especially important action will be provision of pastoral care to survivors of abuse and their families. This was the original purpose of the Towards Healing protocol, but it was overtaken by redress payments which tended to obscure its pastoral purpose. Now that the Church has committed to the National Redress Scheme we hope that the financial element can be dealt with elsewhere and that we can focus more on pastoral care for survivors and their families. That's what the Church should do best.

Soon the cathedral will have a shrine to St Mary MacKillop in the front turret which is currently the Unity Chapel. In that space there's a candle placed on stone brought from Jerusalem. I intend to make that candle and stone a memorial to the suffering of all those abused and a sign of hope that there is light in the darkness. It will stand in the Chapel of St Mary MacKillop and will be a way of entrusting to her care the abused, their families and all who have suffered because of abuse in the Church. Mary knew the pain of victims and the strength of survivors, which is why we will entrust to her all victims and survivors.

The response of the bishops and religious leaders was released on the eve of National Child Protection Week and Fathers' Day. We look now to the Father of all mercies to forgive us, to heal the wounds of survivors and to lead us all into the light of Easter. May the light of the Risen Christ shine in the deep dark places "until the day dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts" (2 Peter 1:19).



+Mark Coleridge