



Newsletter

Catholic Parishes Kangaroo Point • East Brisbane • Buranda



Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7 July 2024

Mass Times

ST LUKE'S CHURCH

43 Taylor Street,
Woolloongabba

Friday: 9:00am Mass

Sunday: 8:00am Mass

ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH

81 Mowbray Terrace,
East Brisbane

Wednesday: 8:00am Mass

Saturday: 5:00pm Vigil Mass

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH

26-36 Leopard Street,
Kangaroo Point

Sunday: 9:00am Mass

Reconciliation: *By appointment*

Your Prayers

We ask you to pray for the recently deceased *Shirley Goldsworthy, Peggy Jenkins, Eddie Parker and John Chrisafi*

Please remember the sick
Brian Prove, Michael Mulligan, Jeanette McMahon.

Baptisms

Baptisms are held on the **Fourth Sunday** following the 9:00am Mass at *St Joseph's Kangaroo Point.*

Preparation is held on the **Third Sunday** at *Sts Peter and Paul's Bulimba*

Please telephone the parish office for further details

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationships of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

Fr Peter's Message

God Did Not Make Death

Following a week where several funerals were celebrated in our parish, I found the opening words from the book of Wisdom in last Sunday's readings, both confronting and consoling.

"God did not make death, nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living" *Wisdom 1:13.*

If we are feeling brave enough, it might be an appropriate time for us to face that difficult issue about the role of God in our death. Phrases like, "All in God's good time" and "God must have wanted them in heaven" seems to suggest that God, who is the author of life, is also the decider (and instigator of our death). While there is a certain truth in that premise, we need to be careful not to turn God into the great puppeteer who is sitting in some operations room in heaven making arbitrary decisions about who will live and who will die today.

I was about to say "unfortunately" I see a lot of death in my work as a priest. But while there is sadness associated with some death, there is a reality to it that allows me to acknowledge something of what will happen to each of us, no matter how much we may try to put off the fateful day. Obviously, we would all wish for more time to live and to love and to enjoy a life that we sometimes take for granted, yet there is another more truthful part of us that knows that it shall come to us as it has to all through history. Naturally in that time of fear and uncertainty we turn to that which we understand offers solace and certainty, that offers purpose and cause: that is God – or rather our constructed version of God. There in lies part of our problem. How we see God makes a difference to how we see life and consequently death.

I am so pleased I gave God a chance to grow out of the rather stilted and childish image that I had in my youth. That was a God who made me have a 'buster' on my bike as well as sorting out my birthday presents or lack of them. A God totally responsible for the good and the bad in my life. "All part of God's plan" was the expected response to unrealised goals. Is it any wonder than that we soon arrive at an image of God which needs to be both tolerated and adulated, a God who is capricious and arbitrary, all of which sits uncomfortably with the loving, benevolent, creator God whom we call Father, who counts every hair on our head.

The truth I have come to see is that mistakes happen, accidents are more about lack of care and poor timing and bodies wear out from living. While there are many lives that could be extended through greater care and generosity, we are still working on that. How we feed and clothe the world's poor, how we negotiate the greed and oppression of certain governments, how we get medical assistance to those who are most in need. These are not God given problems but are largely of our own making.

Therefore, I cannot accept that God sends natural disasters on families. God does not kill us off. In fact, God wants nothing to do with death. We know this because of what we see in Jesus. In him, there is no darkness, only light, no revenge or retribution. God does not barge in but waits patiently for an invitation to enter our lives at whatever level we choose. Ready to meet us where we are, to embrace us and hold us close when the going gets tough, and help us find the way forward, even on that last day when we find the way home.

Meanwhile God is there saying "Is there anything I can do to help?"

Fr Peter Dillon,
Administrator



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Around our Parishes

What's happening

Parish Lucky Number (KPEB)

The winner of last week's lucky number was: **Lyn Horner**
Any parishioners interested in being part of the Lucky Number Draw simply need to speak with Isobel at the foyer of St Benedict's Church at Mass on Saturday evening.

Proceeds of the lucky number draw go to support the St Vincent de Paul and other social needs in the Parish. **GOOD LUCK!!!**

VOCATION VIEW:

 Like the people of Nazareth, we may face challenges and resistance on our faith journeys. With unwavering faith, we can overcome obstacles and persevere. Please pray for vocations. Scan the QR code to find our more or call 1300 133 544 www.vocationbrisbane.com Follow us on @vocationbrisbane

TWO MINUTE HOMILY by priests from the Brisbane Archdiocese. You are able to watch this week's homily at — <https://shorturl.at/dotuG>

PARISH SCRIPTURE GROUP will next meet on **Tuesday 30 July** in St Benedict's Church, East Brisbane at 7pm.

We invite you along to this small faith sharing group, where each person can grow in their own faith journey. **ALL WELCOME**



Safeguarding Commitment

The Archdiocese has **zero tolerance** for all forms of abuse & is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries & services.

The safety & wellbeing of children & adults-at-risk is paramount.

Looking ahead.....

7 July

Children's Liturgy of the Word—during the 9am Mass at St Joseph's

11 July

Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils meet—6.30pm NOTE CHANGED DATE

13/14 July

St Vincent de Paul WINTER APPEAL—across all Masses

24 July

Wednesday 8am Mass—CANCELLED

31 July

Wednesday 8am Mass—CANCELLED

SYNOD24 marks the Implementation Phase of the Fifth Plenary Council—an update.

Since 2018 our Australian church has been asking the question: 'What is the Holy Spirit asking of us at this time?' Through listening, dialogue and discernment, your voices have been heard and captured through Plenary Council Decrees. Now it is time to move our Archdiocese into action. 'How can we be a more co-responsible church on mission?'

Our Archdiocesan synod is the next step on the Plenary Council journey and will discern practical and measurable actions that we will take as an Archdiocese to implement the focus areas (Decrees) that came out of the Plenary Council. On 6/7 September and 11/12 October, the Archdiocese of Brisbane will celebrate a SYNOD to mark the next phase of the Plenary Council journey. This will discern the practical and Spirit-led actions that we as an Archdiocese need to undertake in the Implementation Phase. Bearing in mind that the Decrees have yet to be officially approved by the Apostolic See, these actions will be practical and able to be implemented immediately.

The Synod Engagement Team and the Synod Writing Team will engage in strategic consultations with key stake holders, community members and Church agencies to help discern creative dreaming and actionable ideas about what is already happening within the Archdiocese that should be affirmed, what lessons can be learned from others and where the gaps and needs are. *Please pray for our parish representatives in attendance.*

There will be a series of presentations given around the Archdiocese on what synodality actually is, what it means for the global church and for our own community. *You may like to attend the Brisbane East Deanery Information Session, led by Bishop Tim Norton, on Thursday 18 July at 7pm in the Mt Carmel school hall, Norfolk Street, Coorparoo.*

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL

The annual Vinnies winter appeal will take place across all three churches including St Joseph's, St Benedict's and St Luke's during **Masses next weekend—13/14 July**. This is the only appeal that seeks your support as members of the parish in the form of cash donations.

Parishioners can be confident that all cash collected during the winter appeal will be utilised to meet the ongoing demand for assistance that is provided by our local conference members. Conference members will be on hand at each of the three churches over the weekend to assist with any inquiries from parishioners.

For those parishioners who may be absence from the weekend Masses but would still like to contribute, you may do so via direct transfer as follows -

Account Name:

St Benedict's/St Joseph's SVDP

BSB:

064-786

Account Number:

100026599

Thank you for your generous support.

The Order of the Mass

GLORIA:

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,
we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the holy one,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

Amen

GOSPEL: Mark 6:1-6

A prophet is despised only in his own country.

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples
accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he
began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were
astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did
the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been
granted him, and these miracles that are worked through
him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the
brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His
sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would
not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is
only despised in his own country among his own relations
and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle
there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his
hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 2:2-5

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I
heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I
am sending you up to the Israelites, to the rebels who
have turned against me. Till now they and their
ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are
defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say,
"The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set
of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.

APOSTLES CREED:

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

(At the words that follow, up to and including 'the Virgin Mary', all bow.)
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day, he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations,
to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in
the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me
from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded
with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has
said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best
in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my
weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ
may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content
with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships,
persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's
sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

In other News ...

LITURGICAL MINISTRY

All Christian ministry is about service, not power or prestige. All those who minister in the Church act in Christ's name. Jesus offered the Church a model of true Christian service shortly before his death when he took off his outer garment, wrapped a towel around his waist, got down on his hands and knees and washed his disciples' dirty, smelly feet.

The term 'liturgical ministry' refers to service within and to the worshipping community. Members of the community are called to perform particular liturgical ministries in order to facilitate the assembly's liturgical prayer. These liturgical ministers include the priest celebrant or presider, ministers of communion, sacristans and servers, readers, ministers of music and hospitality ministers.

People are called to different ministries depending on their particular gifts and their individual personalities. Someone should only perform a certain ministry if she or he has the skills and qualities needed to serve the community well in that role.

The *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* states clearly that all involved in liturgical ministry 'must be and trained to perform their functions in a correct and orderly manner' (CSL 29).

The question for all liturgical ministers to ask themselves after carrying out their role is 'Did I help the community to pray?'

SACRISTANS AND SERVERS

Many people arriving for Mass would be unaware of the effort that goes into preparing the worship environment and the items needed for the celebration. The 'behind the scenes' ministry of sacristans is an essential service to the worshipping assembly. Sacristans take responsibility for opening up the church, turning on lights and microphones, putting out the Roman Missal (prayer book) and Lectionary (book of scripture readings) - both marked at the right place of course! - and setting out chalices, plates, cruets, bread and wine, so that Mass can be celebrated.

The fundamental contribution of servers is to facilitate a smooth liturgy by anticipating the needs of the presider and other members of the assembly, leading the way where necessary, yet rarely being noticed themselves. This requires self-discipline and forethought so that unnecessary movement can be avoided. It is important that the servers be neatly attired and move with confidence and grace in order to contribute to the prayerful atmosphere of the liturgy. Sacristans and servers need to understand the order of the liturgy and about the sacred vestments and vessels used in liturgy.

They put themselves at the service of the community and its worship and so help the liturgy become truly an act of worship and thanksgiving for all.

I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank those within our Parish who work tirelessly in the many and varied ministries, giving up their personal time to ensure our liturgies continue to be prayerful, enriching and authentic. Fr Peter



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