

REGULAR WEEKEND MASS LOCATIONS

St. Mary's Church, Woodend
1B Elizabeth Street, Woodend 4305.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Leichhardt
22 Old Toowoomba Road, Leichhardt 4305.

St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich
42 Pine Mountain Road, North Ipswich 4305.

St. Brigid's Church Hall, Rosewood
Railway Street, Rosewood 4340.

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, E/Heights
33A Robertson Road, Eastern Heights 4305.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Parish Office Hours
Monday to Friday 8:30am - 3:30pm
1C Elizabeth Street, Woodend 4305 | 07 3281 2133
ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au | ipswichcatholic.com

Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Bliss OFM
Assistant Priest: Fr. Johny Edapulavan CMI
Seminarian: Michael Tran

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

4th September 2022

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Father's Day to all the Dad's - hope this is a special day for you!

As I reflect on the readings for this week, I find myself wondering about the "great crowds" that were traveling with Jesus. Who was gathered? What were they hoping they might learn? And then I ask myself: Would I have been among the crowd? Would I have had the interest, courage, and curiosity to follow, listen, and engage with Jesus?

How do we as individuals and certainly as a Parish measure our courage, our hope, our interest and curiosity. Our faith is not 'an individual thing' – we need others, as it is in community that I find that I am my best self when I am among others - my family, my sisters and brothers, my colleagues, my neighbours, other parishioners - and the list goes on and on.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus gets right to the point when he turns and addresses those gathered about what it means to be a disciple. It takes serious work and intention to be a disciple, a student, a lifelong learner. Jesus is clear and direct. Renounce your family, and your possessions, own your flaws and faults, be discerning, and try and be your best self!

These are no small requests. So, how do we respond? Do we trust the God who has rescued us in every age as the Psalmist reminds us? Or do we reject the invitation to even try, not offering our best selves to each other and the world? Or even more passive – do we just leave it to others?

The world is in desperate need of our "yes" to the invitation of discipleship. The world needs to see you and I living the Gospel (with joy). Can we trust and persist in doing the little bit that's been asked of us, entrusted to us? Can we trust the crowd, the community we are called to share this common call with? In my experience, the blessings of risking, trusting and fully engaging in community by far outweigh the challenges.

Yes, it takes time, deep listening, and an open heart, but I have come to trust the crowd traveling with me, trust my God who calls me and rescues me - and I invite you, also, to trust and persevere in the call of discipleship, the call to community and service in your corner of the world. I need your witness!

Enjoy your week, **Stephen ofm**

PARISH CALENDAR**THIS WEEKEND**

Fri 02	6:30pm High School Youth, Parish Office
	4:30pm Mass at Immaculate Heart Church
Sat 03	4:30pm Reconciliation at St. Mary's Church
	5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's Church
	6:00pm Mass at Miraculous Medal Church
Sun 04	7.30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Church
	8:00am Mass at St. Brigid's Church Hall
	9.00am Mass at St. Mary's Church
	Children's Liturgy of the Word (during Mass)
	10.30am Baptism in St. Mary's Church
	5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's Church

NEXT WEEK

Mon 05	7:00am Mass at St. Joseph's Church
	3:30pm Primary School Atrium at St. Mary's Primary School
Tues 06	9.00am Mass at Immaculate Heart Church
	8.30am Rosary, 9.00am Mass, 9.30am Adoration at St Mary's Church
Wed 07	9.30am Mass at St. Brigid's Church Hall
	3:30pm Primary School Atrium at St. Mary's Primary School
	4.30pm Samoan Choir Practice, Mater Dei, Sadliers Crossing
	5.00pm Prayer Group, Parish Office
Thur 08	9.00am Mass at St Mary's Church
	1.00pm Wedding at St. Mary's Church
	6.00pm Mass at St Boniface Church, Marburg
Fri 09	9:00am Mass at Miraculous Medal Church
	10.00am Funeral for Clare Conway, St. Mary's Church
	6.00pm St Edmund's Mothers Mass, St. Mary's Church
	6:30pm Primary School Youth, St Mary's School Hall



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**PARISH
SITREP**
Situation Report

There are always various projects, activities, and maintenance items underway across the Parish. Many of our buildings are old, and part of them are failing! We have a planned maintenance schedule, but due to the number of properties, it can get a little hectic at times.. If you would like to contribute to the cost of any of these project, please place an envelope on the collection plate marked 'Repairs'. Donations can be made at any time. Alternatively, please contact me at the Parish Office. Thank you to those who have already provided financial assistance! Your help is helping us manage these costs as best we can!

Benjamin, Operations Manager

**PLEASE READ:
IMPORTANT
MESSAGE**

The Parish Finance Council for the Ipswich Catholic community is comprised of committed parishioners from all the faith centres of the parish. Individually all members have many skills but collectively there is a wealth of knowledge at our meetings. Our meetings are opened and closed with prayers, we have open and robust discussions and all decisions are done over many meetings. The Archdiocese oversees all our decisions.

The focus of the Finance Council has been sustainability of our community. The combination of many faith centres into the Ipswich Catholic Community has our property bank full and this means we have substantial outgoings. Recently a decision has been made to sell Mater Dei, Sadliers Crossing, and St.Peter's Church and land at Grandchester. Proceeds from these sales will be placed in an endowment fund with the Archdiocese and the interest will be used for the day to day expenses of the parish.

Fr Stephen and the Finance Council have already developed several ideas to maintain the existing ministries operating out of Mater Dei, however these will require further planning. There is a commitment that these ministries continue regardless of the timing of the sale. Both these properties have a great legacy, and many of us have a personal history with them. It is at this time we should remember our rich and diverse history, and if you have any fond memories you would like to share, please send a few words to the Parish Office so we can include them in the newsletter.

Mary Smith (Chairperson, Parish Finance Council) & Fr Stephen (Parish Priest)

On Behalf Of The Members Of The Parish Finance Council – Kevin Bianchi, Matthew Costello, Erroll Elliott, Pat Lenihan, Tom Hutton, Greg Brennan, Trevor Reynolds, Benjamin Leschke

PASTORAL & OPERATIONAL UPDATE

MASS READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading	<u>Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14</u>
Psalm	<u>Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19</u>
2nd Reading	<u>1 Timothy 1:12-17</u>
Gospel	<u>Luke 15:1-32</u>

PRAYING FOR OTHERS



Please pray for those in our parish who are unwell or in need. We also pray for the following...

Recently Deceased: Clare Conway, Daniel Ward, Maureen Hegarty (Ireland), Sadie Townsend (Ireland), Pam Lythgo

Anniversaries: Maureen Ainslie, Desley Briggs, Delma Winks, Joan Hearn, Charles Bopf, Des & Paul McManus, Hudson Bassham, Lionel Elmore, Michael Green, and those in our Book of Life.



Our parish is planning a trip to **MARIAN VALLEY, SHRINE OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS** in October, the month of Rosary. Marian Valley is a sacred place, which has been established as a place to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of our Lord. The Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians is an Archdiocesan Shrine of Brisbane and it is dedicated to Our Lady Help of Christians, a title under which Mary is particularly honoured in Australia as its Patroness. It is open to pilgrims all year around. There is some information about the trip below (more info in the coming weeks)

Where: Marian Valley, Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians, 2541 Beechmont Road, Witheren via Cunungra

When: Saturday, 8th October 2022, from 7.00am – 4.00pm, **How:** Travel by bus, leaving from St. Mary's Church

For more information, please visit <http://marianvalley.org.au/> **We need 20 people for this trip to proceed, and so far only 7 people have registered. If you're interested in joining us, please contact the Parish Office asap 3281 2133**

Have you let Fr Stephen know your thoughts?? If not, please do so now.

LAST CHANCE: Last year in October we had the blessing of animals at 12noon one Sunday. It's a bit hot for the animals yet there were many in attendance at St Mary's; it was a fun afternoon and animals were well behaved! So I'm looking for some suggestions - **my understanding will be that if I get no responses then we won't have this event** - do we want this to continue? Should we have it earlier in the day, say 10.30am? Do we have it and have an outdoor Mass? Would another venue be more suitable? Thoughts, suggestions, creative ideas are most welcome. Email me or phone or see me after Mass with your comments. Thanks, **Fr Stephen**





Congratulations to St Brigid's Primary School what a wonderful School Musical we experienced on the life of St Brigid during the week. All children in the School were involved, and teachers, support staff, admin staff and chaplain did a mighty job in showcasing the children and the wonderful school St Brigid's has been for one hundred years. We will have the chance to celebrate their Centenary next term -

- On Friday 14th October at 9.00am, there will be a School Mass following by a special morning tea, AND
- On Sunday 16th October, the Parish will celebrate with Mass and morning tea, followed by lunch at the Royal George Pub. Please contact the Parish Office (32812133) to book your seat for lunch.

Congratulations to St Brigid's School on their Centenary!

The Annual Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will be celebrated with Archbishop Mark Coleridge on Saturday 24th September @ 11:30am at the Cathedral of St Stephen, Brisbane. Those celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary, or more, are invited to attend, together with your family and friends. RSVP: by Wednesday 21st September; email cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au; telephone 3324 3030. The Cathedral car park will be available.

St Edmund's College Mothers/Ladies Mass and Dinner - Friday 9th September.

Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's Church at 6pm, followed by dinner at Brothers Leagues Club. Tickets \$40.00 and can be purchased by phoning Kath Creedy 0403 269 955. The evening celebrates the wonderful ladies in our Eddies Community.

St Edmund's College Blue Ribbon Car Art Union- Win a Mitsubishi ASX ES 4x2 Automatic from \$28,740 driveaway. Drawn Saturday 10 September. Tickets still only \$50.00 which includes a ticket in the draw and dinner for two on the night. If you are unable to attend on the night, you still go in the draw for the car plus in the draw for a \$1500 voucher from Harvey Norman Booval. Thank you for your support- please phone Kath Creedy 0403 269 955 for your lucky tickets.

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 4 - 10 September 2022



In 2022, National Child Protection Week will continue to embrace the overarching message that 'Every child, in every community, needs a fair go'. *In particular, this year we will be shining a light on children growing up safe and supported.* Children and young people thrive when they grow up safe, connected and supported in their family, community and culture. They have the right to grow up in environments that support them according to their needs, now and into the future. This year let's talk about how we create a supportive environment for every child.

National Child Protection Week will be looking at what works to keep children safe and supported... what children are telling us... what families are telling us... what the evidence is telling us... and how to translate this knowledge into action. We know that too many children are not growing up safe and supported and that Child Protection systems are overloaded. There are many opportunities to change the trajectory for these children. We can stop child abuse and neglect – and reduce its impact – by working together to make sure every child in every community has a fair go.



Archdiocesan Safeguarding Sunday 2022 (Sept 11)

The Parish of The Ipswich Catholic Community and the Archdiocese of Brisbane are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. Mindful of the theme for National Child Protection Week may we work together to ensure all people feel safe and supported. You can find out more about the work in this area at www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday



RCIA – Our Program has begun but we still need sponsors to accompany those candidates who will journey towards full communion with the Catholic Church.

Please consider if God is calling you to this ministry, and let Fr Stephen or the Parish Office know. Fr. Stephen will then consider the compatibility for each sponsor/ candidate, before final appointments are made.

Our next Mass

Thursday 5th September at 6:00pm

Our smaller church communities celebrate Mass once or twice per month. Everyone is welcome to come along!

St. Boniface Church

Owens Street,
Marburg, Qld 4306



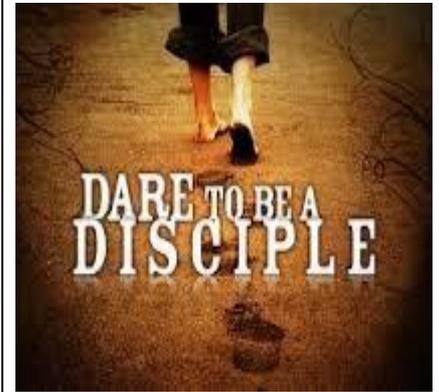
RCIT

a journey in faith

Rite of Christian Initiation of Teenagers (RCIT) is a program where high school student prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, and Reconciliation. Students are invited to enrol in the program, which will commence Wednesday, October 5th and run each Wednesday for 7 weeks.

- Catholic teens who have not celebrated all of their sacraments are invited to enrol.
- Any other teen who is interested in exploring the Catholic faith more, and would like to consider becoming Catholic is invited to enrol too.

Enrol now - <https://bit.ly/rcit2022>



SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation runs from the World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation - September 1 - to the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi - October 4. It is a time set aside each year to focus on God's gift of creation and our responsibility to care for it, our common home. The theme for the Season of Creation in 2022 is 'Listen to the Voice of Creation.'

The sweet song of creation invites us to practise an "ecological spirituality" (Laudato Si', 216), attentive to God's presence in the natural world. It is a summons to base our spirituality on the "loving awareness that we are not disconnected from the rest of creatures, but joined in a splendid universal communion" (ibid., 220).

Please check out these short videos

- **Our Islands, Our Home Video**
 - Scientists predict that many Torres Strait Islanders will be forced to leave their island homes within 50 to 100 years unless significant action is taken to both limit climate change impacts and to implement adaptation measures. Our Islands, Our Home is a campaign led by Torres Strait Islanders seeking a UN decision on their call for climate justice: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hXb5b9pdx20>
- **Clean Up Australia Day Video**
 - Clean Up Australia Day happens on the first Sunday in March each year. Our surrounds are spoiled by increasing amounts of waste. This video, featuring schoolchildren, encourages us to get involved in cleaning up waste and also reducing it: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W8B3ErkVT1k>
- **Endangered Koalas Video**
 - The Federal Government upgraded the koala's protection status to endangered earlier this year. Learn why in this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6P4XYtRo-x0>



*The Ipswich Catholic Community acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to the land, sea, and community.
Our community pays our respects to them and their cultures; and to their Elders, past, present and future.*