

**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](mailto:ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au) | [ipswichcatholic.com](http://ipswichcatholic.com)

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Stephen Bliss OFM  
**Assistant Priests:** Fr. Jose Panampuzha CMI  
**Operations Manager:** Benjamin Leschke  
**Youth Animator:** Jean Sajeeve

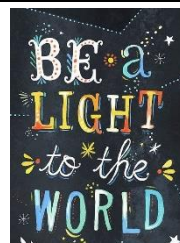
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** **Year A** **22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023**

**Dear Parishioners,**

Oh dear! – school is back this week – holidays are coming to an end – and meetings will begin soon!

Welcome back to all our teachers, students and our fondest thoughts and prayers are extended to you as you begin the academic year – may it be a fruitful one for all!

Jesus comes to us as light that liberates us from all forms of darkness. Do you feel liberated when you come to Mass or in the times when you pray or reflect? We believe that Christ is the light of the world - He enlightens us with the truth, liberates us from the darkness of sin, illness, and death, and enables us to be light to those around us - and indeed to the whole world. Are these just words or do they hold real meaning for you?



Here's what I've been reflecting on ....

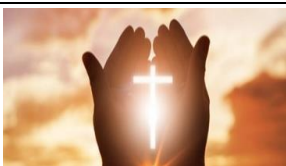
- a) How can we be light to the world?
- b) As a people who have been baptized into Christ and have been initiated into the life of the Trinity, we are dwelling in the light of God. We are called to walk in this light, to live as children of the light.
- c) We are called to strive to bear witness to God in our words and actions so that others may be more open to the light of Christ. We are also called to carry this light to the whole world.
- d) Who are in our families and society that need to see the light? The incarcerated? The unemployed? The disabled? The orphaned and widowed? The unborn?
- e) How can we share the light of Christ with them?

Enjoy your reflection, and don't forget you are welcome to make an appointment to have a chat with me anytime. Let's continue to pray for each other,

**Stephen ofm**

**PARISH CALENDAR**

THIS WEEKEND	NEXT WEEK
<p><b>Sat 21</b></p> <p>4:30pm Mass at Immaculate Heart Church 4:30pm Reconciliation at St. Mary's Church 5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's Church 6:00pm Mass at Miraculous Medal Church</p> <hr/> <p><b>Sun 22</b></p> <p>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 Resumes Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 10.30am Baptisms, St. Mary's Church 5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's Church</p>	<p><b>Mon 23</b> 7.00am Mass at St. Joseph's Church</p> <p><b>Tues 24</b> 9:00am Immaculate Heart Church</p> <hr/> <p><b>Wed 25</b></p> <p>8:30am Rosary, 9am Mass, 9:30am Adoration St Mary's NO MASS, St. Brigid's Church Hall 11am Funeral Prayers – John Duggan - St Brigid's Church Hall 5:00pm Prayer Group, Parish Office</p> <hr/> <p><b>Thur 26</b> 9:00am Australia Day Mass at St Mary's Church</p> <hr/> <p><b>Fri 27</b></p> <p>9:00am Mass at Miraculous Medal Church 10.00am Funeral Prayers - Delia Keller - St Mary's Church 6.30pm Primary &amp; High School Youth (St Mary's Primary Hall)</p>



**PRAYING FOR OTHERS**

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

**Recently Deceased:** John Duggan, Delia Keller, Vincent Heffernan, Paula Green, Cardinal George Pell.  
**Anniversaries:** Anthony John Nugent, Brian Rashleigh, Dave Dodds, Francis Hammant, Neal Crozier, and those in our Book of Life.

**Minute Meditation:** "Amazing grace" is not a way to avoid honest human relationships. Rather, it's a way to redo them—but now, gracefully—for the liberation of both sides. Nothing just goes away in the spiritual world; all must be reconciled and accounted for. All healers are wounded healers, as Henri Nouwen said so well. There is no other kind. In fact, we are often most gifted to heal others precisely where we ourselves were wounded, or wounded others. "We are only the earthenware jars that hold this treasure, to make it clear that such overwhelming [healing] power comes from God and not from us" (2 Corinthians 4:7). Each of us is being prepared to be a healer —from the book *Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps* by Richard Rohr



**SUBSCRIBE FOR REGULAR UPDATES - [ipswich.flocknote.com/digitalnews](http://ipswich.flocknote.com/digitalnews)**

## PARISH UPDATE

### Atrium (Ministry for young children)

During the school holidays a small band of parishioners have been preparing a new environment for our *infant and toddlers*. They have scrubbed, painted walls, and polished floors for our new space in the old Leichhardt Presbytery beside the Immaculate Heart Primary School, Old Toowoomba Road, One Mile. The rooms are being prepared for the very young ones from the ages of 0 – 3 years, as well as those children in the 3 to 5 year age group. The ministry is called the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and is offered each week in the parish. We are hopeful that the completion of the work will be finished in order for the groups to commence on Wednesday morning 15<sup>th</sup> February at 9-00am and finish around 10-30am.



For our Primary School age children (6–12 years), the sessions will continue to be offered in our current space which is underneath the St Mary's Primary School early years building. One session will be offered this year, and this will be held on Tuesday day afternoons from 3-30 – to 5-00pm. For more information regarding this ministry please contact the Parish Office on 3281 2133 or email [ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au)

### Giving Tree:

Thank you for your very generous giving to our 'Giving Tree' during Advent. Your monetary gifts will benefit the Ipswich Hospice (\$1513.35), the 3 local St Vincent de Paul Conferences (\$1122.90 each), the Australian Catholic Bishop's Ukraine Appeal (\$945.90), and Parish Formation within the Ipswich Catholic Community (\$2643.20). At a time when so many financial demands are made on each of us, we acknowledge and sincerely thank you for your generosity, as we're sure the recipients of your donations are too.

**Liturgy Preparation Meeting:** for those interested in assisting to plan and share ideas for Lent 2023, you are invited to meet on 2nd February at the old CWL House, 35 Waghorn Street.

**We'd appreciate your help:** Any Parishioner who would like to give feedback/comments on the 2022 Christmas Masses, please email Fr Stephen with your reflections - [sbliss@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sbliss@bne.catholic.net.au)

## YOUTH UPDATE

### KID'S & YOUTH MINISTRY

**Friday Night Youth kicks off on Friday,  
27<sup>th</sup> January, with an Australia Day theme.**

Primary School & High School students are invited to come and celebrate our diverse Australian culture.

**When: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January**

**Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm (dinner provided)**

**Where: St. Mary's Primary School Hall**

Both Primary and High School Programs will run each Friday during school term and run from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Mark your calendar!

### SAVE THESE DATES

**FRIDAY NIGHT YOUTH – 6:30pm – 8:30pm**

**January 27<sup>th</sup>**

**February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>**

**March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>**

Our Parish continues to respond to youth in many ways. Please encourage your children, teens, grandchildren, and young adults to engage with us. We would love to meet them!

These are the programs we have on offer...

- The Atrium – Infants, toddlers, primary school aged children
- Friday Night Youth – Primary school and high school aged youth
- Sacramental Program – Primary school aged children
- Rite of Christian Initiation of Teenagers – High school aged youth
- Children's Liturgy of the Word – Primary school aged children
- Many ministries youth can participate in

If you have any questions, please reach out!

**Jean Sajeeve, Youth Animator**

Ipswich Catholic Community

FREE FOOD AUSTRALIA DAY THEME

Friday Night Youth!

PRIMARY & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

St Mary's Primary School Hall

Friday, 27th January 6:30 - 8:30pm

WELCOME BACK!

**SOME KEY DATES**

**Sacraments for Children & Youth - Info Evening**

Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> February 6:30pm – 7:30pm  
St. Mary's Church

**Ash Wednesday – 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

**Palm Sunday – 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

**Easter Sunday – 9<sup>th</sup> April**

**Pentecost – 28<sup>th</sup> May**

**MASS READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**



**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ord Time – Yr A**

<b>1st Reading</b>	Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
<b>2nd Reading</b>	1 Corinthians 1:26-31
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 5:1-12a

**PRIMARY SCHOOL & SECONDARY SCHOOL – CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS IN 2023**

With school resuming next week, all parents/guardians across our primary schools and colleges will receive a letter from Fr. Stephen inviting students who have not yet celebrated their sacraments, to participate in this year's programs. Students of state schools (primary and secondary), as well as parisioners with children in schools outside of our parish are also invited to participate. The letter will be availble on the parish website in the first week of school, and can be shared by parishioners and families. Summary of details below.

**SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH – INFORMATION SESSION**

**When – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 | 6:30pm to 7:30pm | St. Mary's Church. Woodend**

Parents and guardians with children/teenagers interested in celebrating their Sacraments this year (and who are not already enrolled in a program) are invited to this information session. Key focus areas are

- Prep – Grade 12 students not yet Baptised.
- Grade 3 children starting their sacramental journey with the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2023.
- Grade 3 – Grade 6 students who haven't completed their Sacraments and are not currently enrolled in a program.
- Grade 7 – Grade 12 students who haven't completed their Sacraments.
- Grade 7 – Grade 12 students who are interested in becoming Catholic.

**ONLINE ENROLMENT FORMS – SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH**

Our online enrolment forms will be available for parents and guardians from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January, from our parish website. Please bookmark this link

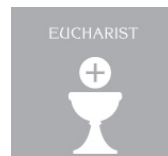
<https://www.ipswichcatholic.com/children/>



**The Sacrament of Baptism** for primary school aged children will be available in March/April, and July/August this year. Preparation Evenings are scheduled for Wed 1<sup>st</sup> March and Wed 19<sup>th</sup> July.



**The Sacrament of Confirmation** for baptised children in Year 3 and above will be celebrated in **May**. The program commences Wed 19<sup>th</sup> April. This will be the first time the parents of these children are enrolling in the program. Parents of children in Year 4 and above who haven't celebrated Confirmation are also invited.



**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** for baptised children in Year 4 and above will be celebrated **June**. The program commences Wed 17<sup>th</sup> May. Parents of children already enrolled and who celebrated Confirmation in 2022 will be contacted in March and invited to book their sessions. Parents of children in Year 4 and above who have not celebrated Holy Communion are also invited.



**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** for baptised children in Year 5 and above will be celebrated in **August**. The Program begins Wed 16<sup>th</sup> August. Parents of children already enrolled and who celebrated Confirmation in 2021, and Holy Communion in 2022 will be contacted in June and invited to book their sessions. Parents of children in Year 5 and above who haven't celebrated Reconciliation are also invited.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF TEENAGERS**

**RCIT** is a program where high school students prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, and Reconciliation.

This program is specifically designed for Catholic teens who have not celebrated all of their sacraments, and non-Catholic teens interested in exploring the Catholic faith more, and who would like to consider becoming Catholic.

More information will be available about this program in the coming weeks.





**Volunteering & Safeguarding** – We are currently preparing for our annual safeguarding audit which will occur on Friday 3rd March. Maree is assisting me and will start to make email and phone contact with volunteers next week to ensure all volunteers have their records up to date. Where possible we will use electronic forms again to assist with updating any missing information. Thanks for your support!  
Benjamin

**St Edmunds Old Boys Association Annual General Meeting**

will be held at 6.30pm on Wednesday, 8 February 2022 at the Pender House, St Edmunds College, Arthur Street Woodend.

All enquiries to be made to Andrew McGrath on 3389 6858 or 0438 164 452.



**St Edmunds Old Boys Twilight Bowls Night**

On Saturday, 11 February – at Ipswich Bowls Club - Merle Finimore Avenue, Queens Park Ipswich. Arrive 4.00pm for a 5.00pm Start. \$20 per bowler, includes 1 beer and a Barbeque Dinner after (7.00pm)

4 Person Teams, but single bowlers welcome.

Contact Andrew McGrath at [amcgrath59@hotmail.com](mailto:amcgrath59@hotmail.com) or call 0438 164 452.

**AUSTRALIA DAY MASS**

Everyone is invited to come together on Thursday, 26 January 2023 for our 9.00am Mass in St. Mary's Church, where we will celebrate the blessings bestowed upon our beautiful country and its wonderful people, to pray for this to continue, and indeed pray that other countries and people should enjoy the same freedom and peace that we do.



**CAST/ CREW CALL**

Can you join the Moogerah Passion Play Association as they celebrate their 30th Anniversary 1993-2023?

FIRST REHEARSALS/AUDITIONS ON JANUARY 28TH

- Roles suitable for all ages and abilities
- No prior experience needed
- Form life long friendships

COME BE A PART OF THIS GREAT COMMUNITY EVENT!

Like Theatre, Moogerah Dam

CALL NOW For Information 04 932 777 63  
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The Moogerah Passion Play is now heading into their 30th Anniversary show and we are eagerly looking for new cast and crew to help us continue our long standing tradition.

Since being established in 1993 a dedicated team have continued to bring this play to life but we are now on the hunt for individuals, friends and families to come, be involved, and help us tell

our story to the thousands of people that come each year. No experience is needed at all, just a love to share the gospel, be on the stage, volunteer or gain experience in sound, lighting or technology. There's so many reasons to come be involved 😊

You are invited to attend a Farewell from the Archdiocese of Brisbane for **Sr Kari Hatherell OSU**

**Cathedral of St Stephen**

Tuesday 14 February 2023  
6:00pm Evening Prayer  
followed by refreshments in the Holy Room.

RSVP: Wednesday, 8 February 2023  
E: [rsvpcathedral@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:rsvpcathedral@bne.catholic.net.au) P: 3324 3030  
Cathedral car park will be available.

**ENGAGE 2023**

Forming leaders and engaging others across our parish

"Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible."  
— St. Francis Of Assisi

MORE INFORMATION  
[ipswichcatholic.com/engage](http://ipswichcatholic.com/engage)

**Word of God Sunday Bulletin Notice:**

The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 5 in 2023 (Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A). Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to “the celebration, study and dissemination” of the Word of God.

Visit [www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday) to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.



**7:30pm Saturday 4 February 2023**

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Hall, West End

Inspired by the Catholic parish dances held around Brisbane during the 1950s-1970s (ask your parents and grandparents about them!), the St Francis Social will be a good ol' fashion dance/social mixer for young adults in their 20s and 30s, with a bit of fundraising for local charities thrown in for good measure.

GOOD TUNES + GOOD DANCING + GOOD CROWD + FOR A GOOD CAUSE = A GOOD NIGHT OUT

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SCAN FOR MORE INFO & TO PURCHASE YOUR \$20 (+BF) TICKETS