

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 9:00am - 1:00pm
1C Elizabeth Street, Woodend 4305 | 07 3281 2133
ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au | ipswichcatholic.com
Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Bliss OFM
Assistant Priest: Fr. Jose Panampuzha CMI
Operations Manager: Benjamin Leschke
Youth Animator: Jean Sajeev

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

19th February 2023

Dear Parishioners,

As we approach Lent, we are reminded, through the words of Matthew, not to parade around our good deeds.

Your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be careful not to parade your good deeds before men to attract their notice; by doing this you will lose all reward from your Father in heaven. So, when you give alms, do not have it trumpeted before you; this is what the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win men's admiration. I tell you solemnly, they have had their reward. But when you give alms, your left hand must not know what your right is doing; your almsgiving must be secret, and your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you. **Matthew 6:1-4**

It is really difficult to follow this advice, as all of us love being recognised for the work we have done, especially when we value the work as successful or beneficial to others. Perhaps this is why we celebrate Lent every year! We need help to not parade around! We live in a world where everyone needs recognition, and validation, yet we are called to live differently. We give everyone a reward or certificate or mention people for everything, so how do we find that balance? Perhaps this Lent we can reflect on this. Would you be willing to say, "thanks for the offer, but I don't need recognition for what I have done."



Benjamin

PARISH CALENDAR

THIS WEEKEND

Fri 17	9.00am NO MASS at Miraculous Medal Church 10.00am Mass, Apostolic Nuncio at St Mary's 6.30pm Primary & High School Youth
Sat 18	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
Sun 19	7.30am Mass & Baptism at St. Joseph's, Church 8:00am Mass & Baptism at St. Brigid's Church Hall 9.00am Mass at St. Mary's Church (incl Children's Liturgy) 10.30am Baptisms, St. Mary's Church 5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's Church

NEXT WEEK

Mon 20	7.00am Mass at St. Joseph's Church
Tues 21	9:00am Immaculate Heart Church
ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES	
	7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, North Ipswich
Wed 22	9.00am Mass, St Mary's, Woodend 9.30am Mass, St. Brigid's Church Hall, Rosewood 5:30pm Mass, St. Mary's, Woodend
Thur 23	9:00am Mass at St Mary's Church
Fri 24	9:00am Mass at Miraculous Medal Church 6.30pm Primary & High School Youth

PRAYING FOR OTHERS



Please pray for those in our parish who are unwell. We pray for ...

Recently deceased: Peter Mullins, Veronica Forsythe, Robert Skele, Kevin O'Neill.

Anniversaries: Pat and Norma Hogan, Lyn Wark, Peter Byrne, Mavis Craik, Joanne Tau Rice, Kevin Crane, and those in our Book of Life.

A huge thank you to parishioners & schools/colleges for ensuring the Apostolic Nuncio's (Archbishop Charles) visit to our Parish was a wonderful experience and a great blessing for all. We also thank Bishop Ken Howell (Auxiliary Bishop of Brisbane) and Fr. Stephen Bliss OFM and Fr. Jose Panampuzha CRI for celebrating Mass with Archbishop Charles.



SUBSCRIBE FOR REGULAR UPDATES - ipswich.flocknote.com/digitalnews

PARISH UPDATE

HOW CAN I ENGAGE MORE NOW?

Did you know our Parish has invested in online formation tools for families of the parish (including all of our schools)

Formed - A revolutionary online platform providing access to the best Catholic audio talks, movies, eBooks, and video-based studies. Parish membership has an unlimited number of seats to suit any parish size. Content list - <https://formed.org/content-list>

If you haven't already, go sign up! Use the link below and search for 'Ipswich Catholic Community', then follow the prompts!

<https://formed.org/signup>

**WE CURRENTLY HAVE 85 PEOPLE REGISTERED
GOAL IS 250 USERS – REGISTER TODAY!**



PARISH INTERCHANGE: Fr Jose has been asked to assist in the Sunnybank and Acacia Ridge Parishes for a short period and in his absence Fr Valentine Ejikeme Ntamaka will be assisting here. This is a sign of the times where the Assistant Priests help out in other Parishes from time to time. We welcome Fr Ejikeme whilst he is here.

SAFEGUARDING UPATE – Maree has started to make contact with those volunteers needing to have information updated on our volunteer register. We are on track for our Safeguarding Audit in March.

Please Remember – Volunteers new to ministry, or existing volunteers changing ministries, must speak with the Parish Office first, before taking on a ministry. This ensure we are following the necessary procedures, set out by the Archdiocese of Brisbane. The Parish Office will then advise volunteers when they can commence in their ministry. There are no exceptions to this process, and this ensures we are navigating safeguarding easily and keeping our records up to date! If you have any questions around this, please speak with Benjamin. We all do need to remain vigilant to maintain safe places, safe processes, and safe people.

“PEBBLES” During Mass next weekend the priests will bless some ‘pebbles’, and then invite parishioners to collect one as they leave the church, and keep them for the duration of the Lent season. These pebbles will symbolise obstacles that stop us from fully embracing a relationship with God. During Lent we want to recognise the weight of the stones - the thing/s that impede our relationship with God - and we want to throw them off and set out on a new journey of discovery of our relationship in union with our loving God.



ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, PINE MOUNTAIN – OUR MONTHLY MASS WILL BE HELD NEXT SATURDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 8.00AM – ALL ARE WELCOME, AND WE'D LOVE TO SEE SOME NEW FACES

YOUTH UPDATE



SAVE THESE DATES

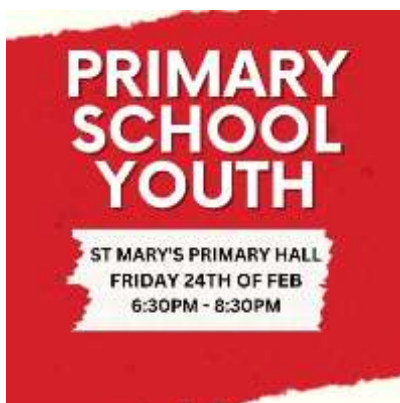
February 24th; March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

Friday Night Youth - Everyone is Invited

FRIDAY NIGHTS 6:30PM – 8:30PM (WITH DINNER)

Primary Youth - St. Mary's Primary School Hall

High School Youth – St Edmund's College / St Mary's College



Youth Recap: New year, new journey! As we grow and move forward as a parish we also grow upon our youth. This year our high school youth has been redeveloped and named 'Connect Ipswich'. With this reformation we have seen great success with our high school youth. So far this term we have had the Connect Ipswich Launch and a Challenge Night filled with fun games. There has been an averaging of over 30 teenagers attending youth which is fantastic progression for our parish. As we journey further into 2023, we have so much more on offer for youth. A special thanks must go to all youth leaders who have jumped on board the team and help contribute to the greatness of youth within



our parish. High School and Primary School youth meet weekly on a Friday night, Primary School youth in St Mary's Primary School Hall and High School youth at either St Edmund's or St Mary's College.



THE LITURGICAL SEASON OF LENT

Lent is a season of reflection, repentance, conversion, penance and renewal - so that we might prepare ourselves to better celebrate the Resurrection of Christ at Easter.



ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES

- 7.00am Mass, St Joseph's, North Ipswich
- 9.00am Mass, St Mary's, Woodend
- 9.30am Mass, St. Brigid's, Rosewood
- 5:30pm Mass, St. Mary's, Woodend

MASS READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY



First Sunday of Lent – Yr A

1st Reading	Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Psalm	Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3
2nd Reading	Romans 5:12-19
Gospel	Matthew 4:1-11

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT



Tuesdays, after 9.00am
 Mass at Leichhardt
Wednesdays - after 9.00am
 Mass at St. Mary's
Fridays - 5.30pm at
 St. Mary's



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - Throughout the world, people of every country will gather for this special time of prayer which has been prepared by the people of Taiwan – and you are invited to be part of this universal ecumenical prayer.

You can join us on **Friday, 3rd March 2023**, with services commencing at **10.00am** at
 St Thomas's Anglican Church, 15 Lawrence Street, North Ipswich, and
 The Seventh Day Adventist Church, Cnr Walloon & Langdon Road, Thagoona
 Everyone's welcome, and your support will be much appreciated.



ONLINE ENROLMENT FORMS – SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Our online enrolment forms are now available for parents and guardians on our parish website. Please bookmark this link 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 1st March and Wed 19th July.



The Sacrament of Confirmation for baptised children in Year 3 and above will be celebrated in **May**. The program commences Wed 19th 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 in **June**. The program commences Wed 17th 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 16th 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 their sacraments, and non-Catholic teens interested in exploring the Catholic faith more, and who would like to consider becoming Catholic.

Enquire now – ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au



HELP SYRIA

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) has launched an emergency appeal for the people in northern Syria desperate for help following the devastating earthquakes. ACN is begging for funds to support their long-time local project partners on the ground in Syria. To read more about what ACN is doing and to make an offering please visit www.aidtochurch.org/syriaearthquake or scan the QR code.



Aboriginal Catholic Mass: Do you remember, or if you don't, did you know of the historic celebration of a special Aboriginal Mass at the Eucharistic Congress in Melbourne in 1973? Friday, 24th February 2023, marks the 50th anniversary of this remarkable event which was attended by some 30,000 people. Aboriginal singers and dancers from north and west of Australia took an active part in the original liturgy which broke new ground in the Church's liturgical renewal. To commemorate this occasion, Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral of St Stephen on **Thursday, 23rd February, 2023 commencing at 12.30pm**. The Archbishop has granted special approval to use the revised liturgical texts from that original celebration. Please join us for this occasion.

Buried in a recent homily from Pope Francis a few weeks ago, I read *"A real sense of welcome would come from a feeling that there is true community in the parish - where all are welcome, all care for one another, all sorts of people are accepted, and all are striving to be Christ's loving presence in the world."*
Homily 27 Jan 2022 Fr Stephen

A Word from Pope Francis Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. This is the Christian innovation. It is the Christian difference. Pray and love: this is what we must do; and not only with regard to those who love us, not only with regard to our friends or our own people. The love of Jesus knows no boundaries or barriers. HOMILY, BARI, FEBRUARY 23, 2020

Lent with St. Clare of Assisi:



Be inspired each day of Lent! Experience daily Lenten messages sent right to your inbox! Each morning, you will receive -

...a timely reflection on the season inspired by the life and legacy of St. Clare of Assisi,
...a prayer to inspire you each day,
...and videos to enrich your Lenten experience!

To register, <https://bit.ly/2023clare>



Catholic Theology in Context: At the heart of the new Archdiocesan Centre for Catholic Formation's offerings are the four core modules entitled Catholic Foundations.

Catholic Foundations is designed to draw Catholics into the fullness of the Catholic life and provide formation for those considering ministry roles. The experience will engage both the head and the heart, so participants grow in knowledge and the lived experiences of the Catholic faith. Each module includes 10 sessions supported with individual reflection and a certificate awarded for completion. The modules will be spread across four semesters in 2023 and 2024.

The first module, Catholic Theology in Context, led by Shane Dwyer (Evangelisation Brisbane Associate Director, Adult Formation) will commence on Monday night 20 February 2023 at Xavier Hall, Holy Spirit Seminary. This module introduces some key principles of the Catholic faith as we seek to understand more deeply who God is and who we are called to be in response to God. It will cover themes including: **The person of Jesus Christ Understanding our baptism, A Catholic response to Scripture, Our life in the Trinity, Living our faith today, The Eucharist Prayer.** Please consider developing your faith through these short courses. If you would like to talk it over, please see Fr Stephen. To find out more, head to catholicformation.au



OUR SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT



Our parish supports and is committed to the Safeguarding Policies as set out by the Archdiocese of Brisbane. The Archdiocese has zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries, and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.