

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

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Stephen Bliss OFM  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr. Jose Panampuzhu CMI  
**Operations Manager:** Benjamin Leschke

**Easter Sunday****Year A****9th April 2023****Dear Parishioners,**

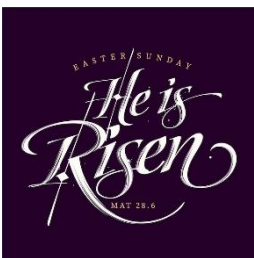
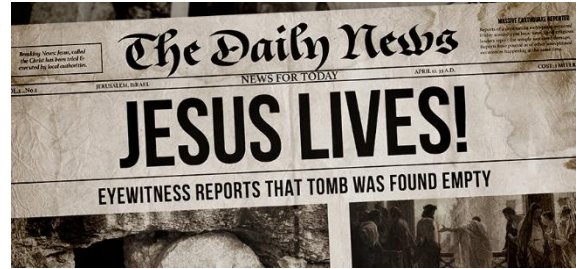
Thanks so much to everyone who has helped over the Easter Weekend – so much work goes into our liturgies and I am very grateful to everyone who helped in so many ways. We are a very blessed parish because of the generosity of so many – thank-you.

We normally speak of “eyes wide open,” an experience of seeing and understanding. However, Easter is a time of total astonishment, of standing before mystery with our mouths wide open and not understanding. Even the closest followers of Jesus were dumbfounded. Mary Magdalene didn't expect to find an empty tomb. Upon seeing it, she presumed that the body had been stolen. The Gospel says that “they did not yet understand” (John 20:9). How could they? The magnitude of the mystery was overwhelming.

When did they finally understand? Actually, it's more a question of believing than understanding. The older I get, the more I realise I am called to believe, rather than understand! The Gospel tells us they came to believe. They came to believe in him—not that he would conquer death by not dying, but that he would conquer it by dying and then being transformed into a new kind of life, a kind of living that isn't subject to death. They came to believe this through an experience of him.

We might envy the early followers who had Easter experiences of Jesus. But if we look carefully, we will see that they experienced him in their everyday lives—in community gatherings, in the breaking of the bread. These are the very places where we can experience him in our own lives. The good news of Jesus' resurrection isn't just that we shall die and go home with him, but that he is risen and comes home with us.

I wish you and your family, the peace and joy of the Risen Lord.

**Stephen ofm****Gospel Reflection for Kids**

In the Gospel for Easter, we hear the story of the Resurrection of Jesus. Each of the Gospel writers tells the story a little differently. We hear the story of St. Matthew during the Saturday night Easter Vigil. We hear the story from St. John on Easter Sunday in the morning. There were guards watching Jesus' tomb to make sure that no one would steal His body. And there was a big stone that was covering the tomb that was very hard to move.

But an Angel came and frightened the guards away and rolled away the stone. Jesus' disciples came looking for Him. They went into the tomb, but didn't find Him. All they could see left of Jesus was the cloth that He was buried in. He had risen from the dead! And, Jesus is risen from the dead. After rising from the dead on Easter all those years ago, Jesus continues to live forever. Jesus defeated death. He shows us that if we follow Him, we can live forever with Him in heaven.

**PARISH CALENDAR****THIS WEEKEND**

**Sat 08** 9:00am Morning Prayer, St. Mary's Church, Woodend  
5:30pm Easter Vigil Mass at St. Mary's Church, Woodend

**Sun 09** 7:30am Mass at St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich  
8:00am Mass at St. Brigid's Church Hall, Rosewood  
9:00am Mass at St. Mary's Church (No Children's Liturgy)  
5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's Church, Woodend

**NEXT WEEK**

**Mon 10** 7:00am NO MASS at St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich

**Tues 11** 9:00am Mass at Immaculate Heart Church, Leichhardt

**Wed 12** 9:00am Mass, St. Mary's, Woodend  
9:30am Adoration, St. Mary's Church, Woodend  
10.30am Funeral – Lorraine Mahon – St Joseph's  
9:30am NO MASS at St. Brigid's Hall, Rosewood

**Thur 13** 9:00am Mass, St. Mary's Church, Woodend  
6:00pm Mass, St. Boniface, Marburg

**Fri 14** 9:00am Mass, Miraculous Medal, Eastern Heights  
10.30am Funeral – Barbara Cash – St Joseph's

**PRAYING FOR OTHERS:** Please pray for those in our parish who are unwell. We pray for ...

**Recently Deceased:** Margaret Martin, Karen Molloy, Romualdo Velsaquez, Barbara Cash, Lorraine Mahon, Clare Taylor, & Estelle Hooper

**Anniversaries:** Dcn Peter Olsen, Kenneth McGrath, Vince Elmore, Margaret Heffernan, Mavis Green & all in our Book of Life.



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## PARISH NEWS

### ST BRIGID'S CHURCH

I'm hoping to share news about St Brigid's Rosewood in the next fortnight. I ask you pray and ask St Brigid to intercede for our Parish for this special intention. St Brigid, - pray for us; St Francis and St Clare , pray for us! ~ Stephen ofm

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**NO MASS:** EASTER MONDAY.

**GOOD FRIDAY ENVELOPES:** Please return these if you still have them.

**PROJECT COMPASSION:** Please return your donation envelopes as soon as possible.

**RAFFLE:** Winner is Quentin Underwood.

**POTS NEEDED:** If you have any pots (for planting) that you don't need, please drop them to your church or at the parish office.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** to Tarana Cruice, Frank Rackley and Jim Roberts who were the first RCIA candidates in Ipswich to be received into the Church at Easter 1983 – 40 years ago.

**50 YEAR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:** Congrats to John & Lyn Fields on their GOLDEN wedding anniversary. A great testimony to our Parish. Well done John and Lyn, we hope you celebrated well!

### Recycling Roundup (15/16 April)

This will be the very last Recycling Roundup. Firstly, seeking used postage stamps and used Christmas cards – please do not send any other card types. Secondly, collecting items that can be sold at Vinnies stores in Ipswich – knitting needles/crochet hooks/wool/reels of cotton. Also, unused cards of any type (must have matching envelopes.) Lastly, my grateful thanks to all the parishioners, past and present, who have supported this initiative over the past 19 years. God bless you all. Linda Allen

### Prayer Group

Lecto Divina (Sacred Reading) is a way of reading the Scriptures as a form of prayer. A very small group of us attempt to do this weekly on Wednesdays, 5pm-6pm in the Parish Office. We do this using 'Break Open The Word' which analyses the readings for the coming weekend and allows us to gain greater meaning when listening to the readings. It is helpful for Readers too.

It is an informal group, and we invite any interested persons to join us.



### MASS READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

#### Divine Mercy Sunday – Yr A

<b>1st Reading</b>	Acts 2:42-47
<b>Psalm</b>	118:2-4,13-15,22-24
<b>2nd Reading</b>	1 Peter 1:3-9
<b>Gospel</b>	John 20:19-31



*The resurrection does not solve our problems about dying and death. It is not the happy ending to our life's struggle, nor is it the big surprise that God has kept in store for us. No, the resurrection is the expression of God's faithfulness to Jesus and to all God's children. Through the resurrection, God has said to Jesus, "You are indeed my beloved Son, and my love is everlasting," and to us God has said, "You indeed are my beloved children, and my love is everlasting." The resurrection is God's way of revealing to us that nothing that belongs to God will ever go to waste.*

**Henri Nouwen**

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**Youth Ministry Update:** I'm sure this last week has been a rollercoaster of events both in our personal lives also in the life of the Church - everybody has certainly been busy! I hope your family is ready for this exciting time!

Youth ministry has remained quite busy! We now have a team of 8 young youth leaders (animators), who are all working hard to ensure our great youth program in the parish kicks off Term 2 in a meaningful way.

I'm proud to say that the young people in our parish are moving forward in the right direction! And so I'd like to reach out to the young people of our community and say, "Let's get excited for youth in Term 2!" - **Jean**

**FRIDAY  
NIGHT  
YOUTH  
RESUMES ON  
FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup>  
APRIL**

### 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.