

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

6th Sunday of Easter

Year A

14th May 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Mother's Day - I pray that all the Mums, Grandmothers, Great-grandmothers, God-mothers, Step-mothers, and all who mother in any way, have a great day.

We have hopes for ourselves and others. We hope for good health, for fulfilling work, for settled lives for our children. As valuable as such hope might be, that is not what Peter is referring to in today's second reading. He is talking about religious hope: not hope that, but hope in. Not hope that God will give us what we ask, that God will supply what we cannot accomplish, that God will reward our faithfulness. That is also valid hope, but it is still not religious hope.

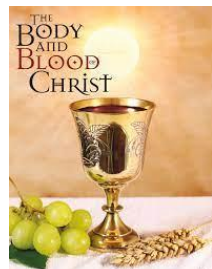
Genuine hope for those who believe in God is hope or trust in God.... Trust in God when we have no idea what the future might bring. Trust in God when all our best plans crumble before us. Trust in God when we face the terrors of illness and death. This is a trust or hope for which we do not provide God plans to follow so our needs get met as we think they should be. It is a hope that enables us to place ourselves into the hands of God.

This kind of hope asks for nothing and expects everything. Why? Because we are convinced that God loves us with a passion we can't possibly imagine and, therefore, wants what is best for us. This might seem like an impossible hope, but the reading goes on to list reasons to hope. God's love is exemplified by Jesus Christ, who "suffered for sins...that he might lead you to God" (1 Peter 3:18). Who could ask for more?

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Remember God loves you Allow that to be your inspiration this week, happy Mother's Day ❤️

Stephen ofm



For our parish: we have decided to begin offering the chalice from PENTECOST 2023.

In order to prepare for this, training for ministers will be offered in the coming weeks. This training aims to empower ministers to prudently wipe the cup, turn the cup and pass it to you to 'take and drink'. We are not allowed by the Bishops of Australia to 'intinct'- (i.e., take the host and dip it into the Chalice). Please think and pray about this re-introduction, and if you are comfortable, come forward to receive the Precious Blood.

PARISH CALENDAR

THIS WEEKEND

Fri 12 6:30pm Primary School Youth, Primary School Hall
6:30pm High School Youth, Parish Office St Francis Room
4:30pm Mass at Immaculate Heart Church, Leichhardt
Sat 13 4:30pm Reconciliation at St. Mary's Church, Woodend
5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's Church, Woodend
6:00pm Mass at Miraculous Medal Church, Eastern Heights
7:30am Mass at St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich
8:00am Mass at St. Brigid's Parish Hall, Rosewood
Sun 14 9:00am Mass at St. Mary's, Woodend (& Children's Liturgy)
10:30am NO Baptisms at St. Mary's Church, Woodend
5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's Church, Woodend

NEXT WEEK

Mon 15 **NO MASS** at St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich
Tues 16 9:00am Mass at Immaculate Heart Church, Leichhardt
3:30pm Primary School Atrium, St. Mary's Primary School
9:00am Infant/Toddler Atrium, Leichhardt Presbytery
8.30am Rosary, St. Mary's Church, Woodend
9:00am Mass, St Mary's Church, Woodend
Wed 17 9.30am Adoration, St Mary's Church, Woodend
NO MASS at St. Brigid's Parish Hall, Rosewood
3.30pm Sacramental Program (Eucharist 1), St Mary's Church
5:00pm Prayer Group at Parish Office
6.00pm Sacramental Program (Eucharist 1), St Mary's Church
Thur 18 9:00am Mass, St Mary's Church, Woodend
5:30pm Pentecost Planning Meeting at Parish Office
Fri 19 9:00am Mass, Miraculous Medal Church, Eastern Heights
NO YOUTH, Ipswich Show -Public Holiday



A special thank you to all the school children who have made Mothers Day gifts for our parishioners. They are always beautiful and greatly appreciated.



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

PASTORAL NEWS



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

Recently Deceased: Nestor Crespo, Keith Leach, Michael O'Keefe, Nathan Stratford, Carolina Janita, Dot Smith, John Gauldi, Edward Zammit

Anniversaries: Patricia Erhardt, Cecily Molloy, William O'Keefe, Deceased members of CWL, and those in our Book of Life.



Can you pledge an hour between 9pm – 7am?

EVENING PRAYER – FRIDAY 9th JUNE

To celebrate the Feast of the Body & Blood of Jesus, join us for 'The Presence', which will be held in St. Mary's Church from 6:30pm Friday 9th June until 8:30am Saturday 10th June.

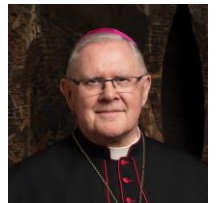
- 6:30pm – 7:15pm Evening Prayer with Fr. Stephen
- 7:15pm – 8:00pm Sausage Sizzle outside the church
- 8:00pm – 8:00am Exposition, Adoration, and private prayer.
- 8:00am – 8:30am The Rosary & Benediction

Signup Link - bit.ly/adore23

AN UPDATE FROM ARCHBISHOP MARK

When the COVID pandemic struck, I joined other bishops in deciding for a dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. In the Archdiocese of Brisbane from Pentecost Sunday of this year (28 May) the pandemic dispensation will be withdrawn, and the Sunday obligation will be restored, so that all of us, responding to the Risen Lord's call, may say with one heart and voice, "This is the day which the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad" (Psalm 118:24).

✠ Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane



NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

ROSEWOOD SHOW - Each year volunteers help out at the gates for the Rosewood Show, giving us an opportunity to raise some funds for the parish. The Rosewood Show is on Friday 30th June & Saturday 1st July. Volunteers are needed to assist with entrance and check-in. This year four-hour shifts will be rostered at each of the three gates. This will allow some time for a break and so you can go for a bit of a wander yourself! Funds raised will go to St Brigid's Restoration Fund. If you can assist, please put your name down using the online form – bit.ly/rosewoodshow or by calling the Parish Office.

This is a great fundraiser for the parish!

ATRIUM: Sessions this week were a-buzz with many activities. The 6-9 group were presented with the Mustard Seed scripture and our older children (9-12) began a bible study on Abraham. Some of the feedback from the children when asked wonder questions about the Kingdom of God were astonishing— one young man said "the kingdom of God continues to grow in us when we do good deeds.



The Infant/Toddler group welcomed two more little people along with our regulars. The 3 and 4 year olds enjoyed hearing about the Good Shepherd and others enjoyed finding out about what goes on with the Preparation of the Chalice at Mass. Our very young toddlers had fun with a variety of activities from painting, pouring, handwashing, washing up dishes, puzzles, matching cards. Prayer time always continues to be a popular activity with everyone having a turn to snuff the candles.

FEAST OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

On the 24th May we celebrate this important feast. Join us for the rosary from 8:30am, and Mass from 9am in St. Mary's Church. Please come along and join us for this special day.

Prayer to Our Lady Help of Christians:

Grant, O Mary, Help of Christians, the graces of which we stand in need. (Mention your intentions.) May we serve Jesus with fidelity and love until death. Help us and our loved ones to attain the boundless joy of being forever with our Father in heaven. Amen.

ALTAR SERVERS: Any young person of all ages wishing to become an altar server is asked to please make contact with the Parish Office (ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au or (07) 3281 2133). More information in relation to a training session for current and new altar servers will be available in the next few weeks.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Friday 19th May - Ipswich Show Holiday

There will be 9:00am Mass at Miraculous Medal Church

MASS READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Ascension of the Lord – Yr A

1st Reading	Acts 1:1-11
Psalm	46:2-3. 6-9. v.6
2nd Reading	Eph 1:17-23
Gospel	Mt 28:16-20

PENTECOST SUNDAY

MULTICULTURAL MASS

We look forward to celebrating our cultural diversity once again on

Sunday 28th May at 10.00am - St. Mary's Church

ALL ARE WELCOME - PLEASE COME & JOIN US

Please note – there will be NO 7.30am Mass at St Joseph's, and NO 9.00am Mass at St. Mary's on that day.



You Can Help!

Long term Foster Care – would you be interested in caring for a young boy in the Ipswich area and offering a loving, stable home? No qualifications needed apart from a Blue Card. Some training around foster care will be provided through OzChild as well as opportunities for 1:1 assistance and support. If this is of interest to you or you would like further information to help in your consideration, please contact Darlene from OzChild on 0499299253. Thanks for considering!

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, “In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop” commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. For further information and an itinerary and application form, please email national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au



CONNECT YOUTH



PRIMARY SCHOOL

The primary school youth had an exciting night during which they engaged in traditional games like Red Rover, a bit of back and forth and some indoor kids version of football. To top it off, they ramped it up with more exciting games such as tic-tac-toe with a twist. The youth are all in high-energy mode and can't wait for more!

Jean Sajeeve (Youth Animator)

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Last Friday Night we had an excellent night! We kicked the night off with a few games to warm up the night. Following dinner, we had 'small group' chats, where the young people answered questions that were around the theme of 'Possibility'. We then ended the night with a massive game of dodgeball. Everyone had so much fun, and I am supes keen for our next youth night!

Stewart England (Youth Animator)

SACRAMENTS | FORMATION | LITURGY

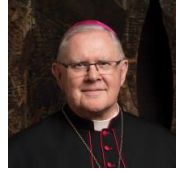
SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - Eucharist (First Communion) - Formation sessions commence this coming Wednesday 17th May at 3:30pm or 6:00pm. Children/families who enrolled in the Sacramental Program last year (and celebrated Confirmation in 2022) are now automatically enrolled in the First Communion Program. To check key dates for this program please visit <https://www.ipswichcatholic.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Key-Dates-for-First-Communion-2023.pdf>



FRANCISCAN MEDITATION: Mary's Story. That is the great gift the Scriptures give us in the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke. And it is those stories and a few other short vignettes in the Gospels of Mark and John that form the basis of what we call mariology, the study of the theology that derives from the story of Mary and her son Jesus. And her son Jesus was and is the reason, the root, and the complementarity that makes her story complete... That is why we lift up our hearts and pray, as Christians have prayed for centuries, “Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.” – from the book *Nourishing Love: A Franciscan Celebration of Mary* by Murray Bodo, OFM

LAMPS ABLAZE – APOSTOLIC PRIORITIES FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

Summit 2023 is a 3 day event for our Archdiocese; parishioners, educators, parents, support staff, catechists, lay leaders, religious and clergy, this event is for everyone. The Summit is intended to empower, inspire and equip delegates to engage in the mission of the Church. We will converge in the city's inner-west as I share my vision and priorities for the Archdiocese. *(Please contact our Parish Office if you are interested in attending)*



Lamps Ablaze: Apostolic Priorities for the Archdiocese of Brisbane

Priority Six: Implementing Integral Ecology

Natural and human ecology interact in mysterious and unmistakable ways. To interfere with one is to interfere with the other; to promote the good of one is to promote the good of the other. Fratelli Tutti (a recent Papal Encyclical) focuses more upon human ecology in speaking of the radical interconnectedness of all human beings at a moment when alienation and polarisation are making disconnectedness seem the norm. The Church is called in such a moment to be a sign of contradiction, speaking in a way that rises above politics and economics so that a genuinely biblical and Christian voice can be heard.

WITH
LAMPS
ABLAZE

Download the whole document at tinyurl.com/lampsablaze

Archbishop Mark writes:

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Today our Lord calls each of us to go on mission but let us first consider our own journey as a disciple of Jesus. Have we personally encountered Jesus, and have we allowed Jesus the freedom to move in our hearts and transform our lives? Are we walking in the grace of our baptism and the empowerment of the Spirit received in confirmation? Let us first ask Jesus to again lead us, guide us, and help us on our journey as his disciple.

In light of implementing integral ecology, let us pray that as we help others encounter Jesus, that the Spirit would enlighten hearts to see the interconnectedness of all of creation in order that a conversion to Christ leads also to an ecological conversion that transforms hearts and minds toward a greater love of God, each other and creation.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Chris & Sheila Ireland who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Friday. Their special day was celebrated here in St. Mary's Church. This is a great milestone, and testament to the love you share. We wish you many more years of happiness together!

Ageing Wisely Seminar –

Free seminar on estate planning and retirement planning.

When: Tuesday 30th May, 9:30am – 1:30pm

Where: St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich

Morning tea/Lunch provided free of charge.

This event is organised by the Archdiocese in partnership with Holy Cross Funerals, as a free service to parishioners. RSVP to Parish Office by 19th May please.

Oh Brigid, may your protection never fail. Spread your mantle over our parish, and cover us with God's joy and peace, let our faith and hope never cease.

Shine your light where there is darkness, strengthen our community and heal all within us that may need healing. Protect our project to restore our church, home to those who have gone before us, and those who established a vibrant catholic community. St. Brigid, pray for us.



The Catholic Charity **Aid to the Church in Need** has launched their "Nigeria: Young. Faithful. Crucified" global campaign. Did you know that in 2022 a total of 5,014 Christians were killed for their faith in Nigeria? These were not Nigerians who happened to be Christian, but rather, their allegiance to the Lord saw them face a brutal death. This is a Church being crucified with Christ. To watch testimonies and to make an offering visit www.aidtochurch.org/nigeria/global or scan the QR code.



Thank you!

Thank you most sincerely for the amazingly generous giving towards our parish appeals for the HOLY LAND and PROJECT COMPASSION during Lent and Easter.

You contributed

\$ 2,544.95 to GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND APPEAL
\$10,459.60 to CARITAS PROJECT COMPASSION