



#### OFFICE HOURS:

**Monday:** 8.30am - 12.30pm  
**Tuesday - Thursday:** 8.30am - 3.30pm  
**Friday:** 8.30am - 12.30pm

**Address:** 100 Mayfield Road  
Carina Qld 4152  
**Postal:** PO Box 305,  
Carina Qld 4152  
**Phone:** (07) 3398 2977  
**Parish Email:** carina@bne.catholic.net.au

#### MASS TIMES:

**Weekend:**  
**Saturday:** 6pm Vigil  
**Sunday:** 7am, 9am and 5.30pm  
**Italian Mass:** 10.30am

**Weekday:** 6.30am & 9am  
Monday to Friday  
8am Saturday  
& Public Holidays

#### Reconciliation:

**Saturday:** 8.30am - 9.00am  
5.30pm - 6.00pm  
or by appointment

#### PARISH TEAM:

**Parish Priest:** Fr Alex Vickers O.P.  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr Maurice Keating O.P.  
**Pastoral Associate:** Shelly Stone  
**Email:** sc.carina@bne.catholic.net.au  
**Parish Secretary:** Chris Larter  
**Email:** carina@bne.catholic.net.au  
**Finance Officer:** Chris Larter  
**Email:** fo.carina@bne.catholic.net.au  
**Italian Chaplain:** Fr Angelo Cagna CS  
**Phone:** 04236 48736

# Spread the Word

**Vol. 35 No. 12**

**5th Sunday of Lent**

**29 March 2020**

As we enter into this time of trial and seeming darkness, it could be easy to simply throw our hands in the air and say it is all over. If humanity did this every time, it was challenged, we would have ceased to exist centuries ago. We know, however, that humankind is resilient and strong. In a secular society, it could be said that humanity has done it by itself, but as Christians we know that there is more.

*"If God is for us, who can be against us" (Romans 8:31).* St Paul, faced with all the difficulties and challenges, relied completely on God. While not faced with the human enemy, we have faced with the greatest challenge of our time. Society and community as we know it is being changed by the challenge imposed by the Coronavirus. We need to see behind the present to a future that is led by God.

We do not live simply as individuals but a part of a community and society. The challenge that faces us is to keep these growing, changing and developing to answer the needs that are placed before us. In the early church, the believers would gather together for prayer and the breaking of bread. This would be followed by a time of sharing and a meal. While these things are not available to us in this time of social distancing, communication is essential to wellbeing. We might not be able to gather physically, but we can pick up the phone, Skype, Zoom, Facetime, or any other form of communication to be able to talk and support each other.

Our reliance on God, calls us to love him and to love one another. In our daily prayer we need to be interceding both for those we love and the wider society. Our prayer needs then to be transformed into action. As we speak both to those we love and our own neighbours, drawing on the strength we have gained in prayer, we in turn pass on that strength to others.

Fr Alex Vickers O.P.  
Parish Priest

## Ecumenical Prayer to mark the National Day of Prayer in this time of crisis on Sunday 29 March

*Gracious God, We give thanks anew for your providence and presence. We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and overseas. We pray for those in need of healing. We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or grieving. We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain all those who are serving in response. We pray for your Holy Spirit's discernment amidst the many choices and decisions facing our national, community and medical leaders. We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do to help those who are vulnerable. This prayer for our nation in the family of nations, with all that is on our hearts, we gather now and pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## PARISH HAPPENINGS

**Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick Betty Bendel, Pamela O'Reilly, Patrick Coyne and those whose anniversaries occur around this time Carmelo Giuseppe Petrocitti and the recently deceased Desley Connolly, Maria Dall'alba, Archbishop John Bathersby, Margaret Norah Horgan, Kevin Versace, Alice Jarvis.**

### Parish Office is OPEN

At present, the parish office is still open with the usual hours listed on the front page of Spread the Word.

### Giving – Dominican Fathers & Parish

One frequent question that has been asked from parishioners, particularly by those who give via envelopes & loose on the collection at Mass, is how can we continue to give money to the Dominican Fathers and Parish? Here are a couple of ways ...

- Give via Direct Debit. The form for direct debit giving is available at the parish office and on our website [www.carinacatholicparish.org.au](http://www.carinacatholicparish.org.au) under -> Our Parish -> Planned Giving. The signed form can be returned via email or hard copy to the parish office.
- Collect your weekly giving and provide it in a lump sum once everything returns to normal.

Please know that we want you to take care of yourselves. We will be here when this is all over.

### Means of Communication to Parishioners

#### - Telephone

We have had some parishioners, who regularly volunteer in the parish, to offer to assist with phoning parishioners who may be isolated due to the practicing of social distancing. The parish office is organising lists for these volunteer parishioners to make a pastoral phone call, on behalf of the parish, to touch base and offer good wishes and prayers. If you receive a phone, please take this with the good intention. If you know of someone who you think would like a phone call, contact the parish office.

#### - Emails

The parish office is setting up an email distribution list to keep parishioners up to date with information and send out Spread the Word, which we will still try and produce each week. If you would like to be included on the distribution list, please send an email to [carina@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:carina@bne.catholic.net.au).

#### - Website

Parishioners can also regularly visit our parish website [www.carinacatholicparish.org.au](http://www.carinacatholicparish.org.au) to keep up-to-date with the latest information. We will regularly be updating it with information as it comes to hand.

*It is important for parishioners to know that the 'Mass for the People' continues to be said here at Our Lady of Graces Parish.*

*The Dominican Fathers gather every day for Mass and offer prayers for parishioners, people in general, and for an end to the Coronavirus.*

### Contacting a Priest

If you require a priest in an emergency, contact the parish office number 3398 2977 and select option 2.

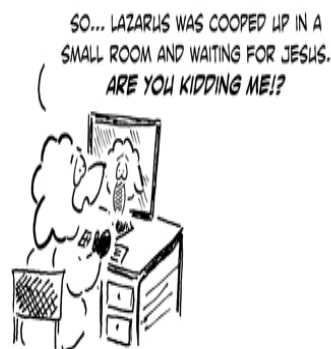
## Website Resources

Here are some helpful links to keep in touch with our parish and your faith:

<http://www.carinacatholicparish.org.au/>  
<http://www.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html>  
<http://www.catholic.org.au/>  
<http://www.catholic.org/prayers/>  
<http://brisbanecatholic.org.au/>  
<http://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/onlineresources/prayer-index/catholic-prayers>  
<http://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/>  
[http://www.taize.fr/en\\_rubrique12.html](http://www.taize.fr/en_rubrique12.html)  
<http://us.magnificat.net/free>  
<http://giveusthisday.org/Digital>

### The Catholic Leader

Due to the suspension of Masses until further notice, The Catholic Leader will not be available at parishes for collection. Therefore, the Catholic Leader are making the digital newspaper available for free. Visit [www.catholicleader.com.au](http://www.catholicleader.com.au)



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

JOHN 11:1-45

Agnus Day appears with the permission of [www.agnusday.org](http://www.agnusday.org)

## PROJECT COMPASSION

Tawonga is a 10-year-old girl, living with a disability. She lives in a village in northern Malawi in a region plagued by food insecurity and poverty. For most of her life, her parents have struggled to put meals on the table. Tawonga often had to miss school because she was too sick from hunger. The family also faced discrimination in their community due to her disability. Since participating in a Caritas Australia supported program, Tawonga's life has transformed. Her family now grows enough food to provide three meals a day, ending the struggle of malnutrition, and helping her thrive at school.



**Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to so this transformational program can continue to empower vulnerable women, men and children, and strengthen the communities around them.**

**Let's Go Further, Together.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

## SUNDAY READINGS

### First Reading - Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

### Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 130 (129). R. v.7

(R.) With the Lord there is mercy  
and fullness of redemption.

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,  
Lord, hear my voice!  
O let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleading. (R.)
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,  
Lord, who would survive?  
But with you is found forgiveness:  
for this we revere you. (R.)
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,  
I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord  
more than watchman for daybreak.  
(Let the watchman count on daybreak  
and Israel on the Lord.) (R.)
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy  
and fullness of redemption,  
Israel indeed he will redeem  
from all its iniquity. (R.)

### Second Reading - Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

### Gospel - John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45 (Shorter Form)

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus,

'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

*'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'*

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

*'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'*

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

### Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

As a metaphor, death can stand for many things. The prophet Ezekiel witnessed the death of the nation. The gospel reports the death of Lazarus. Although Paul refers to the mortal character of our physical bodies, he is more concerned with spiritual life and death. Death attacks each one of us in all three of these ways. We are all mortal and subject to physical death; we are all sinners and must deal with the implications of spiritual death; we are all subject to the consequences of social sins such as terrorism, violence, group hatred, greed and ecological exploitation. The question before us is whether or not we are going to allow death to reign in our lives and in our communities.

All three readings for this Sunday, as well as the psalm response, point out our inability to raise ourselves out of the deaths that afflict us. In the passage from Ezekiel, it is God who promises to open the graves of the people; the people are helpless to do anything. The psalmist cries to God from out of the depths of pain and helplessness. Acknowledging human propensity to sin, Paul credits the Spirit of God with transforming death into life. Finally, it is Jesus who calls Lazarus out of the grave and returns him to his life. We can see that God does not leave us to languish in our various deaths. Instead, God offers us new life out of the tombs. All of this is accomplished through the mercy and compassion of God.



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