



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
Email: carina@bne.catholic.net.au
Website: www.carinacatholicparish.org.au
Facebook: Our Lady of Graces Catholic
 Parish, Carina

MASS TIMES

Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9am & 5.30pm
 10.30am (Italian)

Weekday: 6.30am & 9am
 Monday - 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. 36 No. 49

3rd Sunday of Advent

12 December 2021

The community of Our Lady of Graces acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our parish stands.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

We are at the midpoint of Advent. Today we celebrate *Gaudete* Sunday. The principal theme of the day is joy. According to Paul, joy is one of the fruits of the Spirit (cf. Gal 5:22). Such joy is a religious sentiment, not emotional happiness. Along with gratitude, it is the heart's response to God's goodness. Zion is told to shout for joy because it has been saved by God from its enemies and because God is in the midst of the people. The psalm response proclaims the same message; the reading from Philippians announces that the Lord is near. This is cause for joy.



Advent is a time for joy, not primarily because we are anticipating the anniversary of the birth of Christ, but because God is already in our midst (Immanuel). The readings for this Sunday assure us that God is with us, not as a judge but as a Saviour. We rejoice over the saving acts of God that make us confident of God's care and unafraid of whatever may cross our paths. We rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. Advent joy is like the delight that fills a woman who has just given birth, even if it occurred in the throes of birth pangs. Advent joy springs from the realisation that the presence of God in our midst can so transform our lives that the promises of peace and security will be fulfilled. Advent joy is the way we live in the tension between already and not yet.



Advent, Christmas & 2022 Resources

The following resources are available from the Parish Shop & Parish Office.

- Blessed Reflection Book (\$5)
- New Life in Christ Reflection Book (\$5)
- SVdP Christmas Cards (\$5)
- Christmas Isn't Just One Day Children Activity Book + Advent Calendar (\$2)
- 2022 Columban Calendars (\$10)



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PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday 13 December

- 7.00pm RCIA – Library

Wednesday 15 December

- 9.15am Advent Adventures – Library & Hospitality Area

- 6.30pm Legion of Mary – Library

Saturday 18 December

- 3.00pm Dominican Laity – Library

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick
Fr Anthony Lemon, Sonja Robinson, Marie Atkinson, Lynn Toon, Elliott Jones-Perrin, Pamela O'Reilly, Noah Riley those whose anniversaries occur around this time Bryan Carson, Paula Gregg, Adolf Pieper, William Callow, Gerald & Teresa Simento and the recently deceased Barbara Reich, Ornella Facini, Rita Wilkinson, Graeme Barwick, Len Pashen.

2022 Planned Giving Envelopes

Planned Giving Envelopes for 2022 are available for collection from the front door of the church this weekend. This will be the last weekend that the envelopes will be available from the church. Please collect to save the parish unnecessarily postage costs. Some givers will have a new envelope number due to a reduction of envelope givers. If you cannot find your envelopes, please contact the parish office on 3398 2977 or carina@bne.catholic.net.au

Advent Adventures

*Fun, games, craft
and sausage sizzle*



Age: 5 & above (anyone under age 5 needs to be accompanied by an adult)

Cost per day: \$5 per child & \$10 for two or more siblings

What to Bring: Morning Tea, Hat & Water

Lunch: Sausage Sizzle (gluten free sausages)

Dates & Times:

Wednesday 15 December, 9.15am – 12.30pm

Monday 20 December, 9.15am – 12.30pm

RSVP: sc.carina@bne.catholic.net.au or call the parish office on 3398 2977.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is currently only being celebrated by appointment. Contact the parish office to make an appointment. Please note that there will not be any schedule times for Reconciliation prior to Christmas.



Parish Giving App

No Cash? No Problem! You can now give via the *Parish Giving app*, which is set up specifically for parishioners to connect electronically to their Parish for regular and one-off giving. The giving app QR code is being incorporated into the green dots on the pews, so you can easily scan the code and make your contribution at Mass.



Lost Property

The church lost property box is in need of a clean out. Therefore, the box will be available at the back of the church for the next week. If you think you have lost an item at the church, please take the opportunity to check the box. Items still left in the box at the end of the year will be donated to St Vincent de Paul.

Flat Screen Television

Thank you to parishioners who responded to the notice in Spread the Word a couple of weeks ago regarding a flat screen television for the Aquinas Room. A television has been sourced and will be installed in the Aquinas Room over the next few weeks.

Spread the Word

The last publication of Spread the Word for 2021 will be next Sunday, 19 December. Spread the Word will recommence in 2022 on Sunday 9 January.

Christmas - New Year Period

- Parish Office

The Parish Office closes for the Christmas period at 3.30pm on Thursday 23 December 2021 and reopens 8.30am on Tuesday 3 January 2022.

- Weekday Masses

Please note that weekday Masses between Monday 27 December and Friday 7 January will be at 8.00am only.

Dominic Centre Set-Up & Pack-Up

Assistance is required to help set-up and pack-up the Dominic Centre for our Christmas Masses.

- Set-Up: Thursday 23 December, 7.00pm
- Pack-Up: Monday 27 December, 8.30am

If you can lend a hand to assist, it would be very much appreciated.

Nativity Displays at Local Shopping Centres

Westfield Carindale and Kmart Plaza Cannon Hill have Nativity displays in their centres - near Santa in the centre court at Westfield Carindale and near Coles at Kmart Plaza Cannon Hill.



Parishioners may like to contact Centre Management to thank them for the displays and to encourage them to continue the practice. With acknowledgement, they may continue in future years but, if no one seems to care, they may discard the displays one day.

Westfield Carindale 3120 5400, option 5
 Kmart Plaza Cannon Hill 3399 3600, option 3

Sacramental Program 2022

Penance (Year 5 / 10 years old)

The School Interviews Portal for Penance Preparation sessions is now open. Please refer to the handout for the links and booking codes.

Confirmation (Year 3 / 8 years old)

Enrolment forms are available from the parish office. Enrolments close on Tuesday 1 March 2022.

The Christmas Novena begins on 17 December. At this point, the Advent focus shifts to the Christmas story and the Virgin Mary. These days serve to prepare more directly for the Lord's birth

Christmas 2021

Once again it is time to start planning your Christmas celebrations and to book for Christmas Mass.

Christmas Eve

- 6pm Our Lady of Graces Church
- 6pm Dominic Centre
- 8pm Our Lady of Graces Church

Christmas Day

- 7am Dominic Centre
- 9am Dominic Centre
- 10.30am [Italian] Our Lady of Graces Church

Note: NO Evening Mass on Christmas Day



The booking system for the Christmas Masses is now open. Please go to the parish website www.carinacatholicparish.org.au, click on the "Christmas Mass" icon and select the Christmas Mass time and venue you wish to attend. For the Christmas Eve 6pm Masses, note there is no venue swapping allowed on the evening.

If you cannot access a computer, please phone the parish office (3398 2977) to make your booking.

No bookings are required for the 10.30am Italian Mass on Christmas Day.

For all of these Masses to proceed as planned, **we will need lots of helpers!**

We will need many marshals and ushers at each Mass, as well as the usual Mass ministries. Also, assistance will be required a few days before and after Christmas to help set-up and pack-up the Dominic Centre. Please contact the Parish Office if you are able to assist.

Rosters for 2022

The rosters listed below are currently in the process of being prepared for 2022.

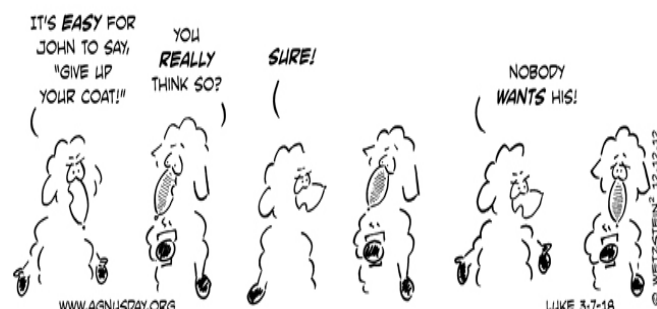
- Ministers of the Word (Readers)
- Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Data Projector Operators
- Altar Servers
- Music Ministry
- Washing of Purifiers
- Children's Liturgy of the Word
- Cuppa and Chat (Hospitality After Mass)

If you are involved in any of the above ministries and wish to change your commitment in any way, please contact the parish office (3398 2977 or carina@bne.catholic.net.au). Otherwise, we will assume that you are happy to continue in your ministry with the same commitment as in 2021.

We also welcome anyone who would like to be part of any of the above ministries. Anyone interested would need to complete any necessary safeguarding requirements. If you are interested or for further information, please contact the parish office.

The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for employees and volunteers to maintain a safe and healthy environment. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults.

Agnus Day – The Lectionary Comic Strip



Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org

COVID-19 – Places of Worship Update

Do people need to be vaccinated to attend Mass?

No. Everyone is welcome to attend a Mass or liturgy regardless of their vaccination status. Places of Worship are not subject to vaccination restrictions. This remains the same once the borders open.

Are we required to check the vaccination status of parishioners and visitors at Churches?

No. At this time, you are not required to check vaccination status of those attending places of worship. The Queensland government continues to require people to use the Check In Qld App when entering places of worship.

What are the occupancy requirements for Masses, Baptisms and Funerals?

At this time, the occupancy for Masses remains the same as current occupancy restrictions for places of worship. This also includes baptisms & funerals. For Our Lady of Graces Church, this is the 1 person per 2 square metres rule. We can have a maximum of 250 people.

What is the occupancy for Weddings?

From 17 December, weddings will have no capacity limit if only fully vaccinated people attend. If anyone attending a wedding is unvaccinated, it is restricted to a maximum of 20 people.

Do we still need to follow the cleaning protocols?

Yes. Covid-19 cleaning protocols remain in place as per usual.

Vocation View

Have you ever asked: "What ought I do?" Simply, tell the good news to people. Nothing else matters.



To talk to someone about your vocation, contact the Vocation Brisbane office on 1300 133 544, vocation@bne.catholic.net.au or visit their website www.vocationbrisbane.com.

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