



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. 37 No. 3 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 23 January 2022

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

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

In both the reading from Nehemiah and the Gospel passage, we see the dynamic power of the word of God. Paul's teaching originated as oral proclamation, and like the texts read by Ezra the priest and the one interpreted by Jesus himself, it was first proclaimed aloud. Only later were these proclamations written and handed down from one community to another, from one generation to the next.

The word of God elicits various responses. In the first reading, the people cried out in response: 'Amen, amen! So be it! We hear and we will obey!'

From the verses contained in today's gospel, we do not know how those who heard Jesus' interpretation reacted to it. We do know that both audiences listened intently to the sacred words of Scripture. Can we do less? Are we eager to obey? Do we view the law as a treasure, as life-giving? Have we learned to live with each other as members of one body, each member being important and contributing to the total health of the entire body?

Both Ezra and Jesus proclaimed the word of God within the context of a liturgical celebration, a setting similar to the ones wherein most people today hear God's word proclaimed. According to the teaching of Vatican II, the liturgy is described as the source and summit of our lives, and the liturgy of the word is an essential part of that celebration. With the people of Ezra, we are invited to respond: 'Amen, amen! Thanks be to God!'



COVID-19 Reminders

- Check in with the Qld Check In App
- Masks are to be worn in all indoor settings
- Maintain good hand hygiene by using the hand sanitiser
- Stay home when you are sick
- Maintain social distancing by keeping 1.5 metres between you and others when entering the church, seated, processing to receive Communion and leaving the church.

*Friendly
Reminder*



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PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 23 January

- 10.00am Baptism Preparation – Library

Monday 24 January

- 10.30am Funeral – Church

- 7.00pm RCIA – Library

Tuesday 25 January

- 10.30am Funeral: Adrian Power – Church

- 7.00pm St Vincent de Paul – Aquinas Room

Wednesday 26 January

- 8.45am Novena: Our Lady of Perpetual Help – Church

- 6.30pm Legion of Mary – Library

Sunday 30 January

- 12noon Baptisms – Church

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick Eileen McErlain, Sonja Robinson, Marie Atkinson, Lynn Toon, Elliott Jones-Perrin, Pamela O'Reilly, Noah Riley **those whose anniversaries occur around this time** Sean Duffy, James Graham, Mary Marrinan, Merle Perera **and the recently deceased** Adrian Power, Beatrice Cece, John Thomas Ward, Therasa Marianayagam, Fr Ellis Clifford.

Australia Day Mass

Mass on Australia Day, this Wednesday 26 January, will be celebrated at 8am only.



Farewell Message from Br Dominic

Dear Our Lady of Graces community, I will be leaving Brisbane on Saturday 29 January to continue formation within the Dominican Order in Melbourne. Thank you for your warm welcome over the past year. It has been lovely to spend some time in this vibrant parish, and I will miss you.

With prayer and affection, *Br Dominic Snell OP*



Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is currently only being celebrated by appointment. Contact the parish office to make an appointment.

Sacramental Program 2022

Penance (Year 5 / 10 years old)

Penance Session 1

- Thursday 10 February, 4pm-6pm (Option 1)
- Sunday 13 February, 2pm-4pm (Option 2)

Confirmation (Year 3 / 8 years old)

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

Key Dates for the Sacramental Program: 2022

- Thur. 10 Feb - Penance Preparation begins
- Tue. 22 Feb - Confirmation Parent Meeting
- Tue. 1 Mar - Confirmation Enrolments close
- Tue. 31 May - Sacrament of Confirmation
- Tue. 21 Jun - 1st Communion Parent Meeting
- Sat. 10 & Sun. 11 Sept } First Holy
- Sat. 17 & Sun. 18 Sept } Communion Masses

St Dominic's Orange Trees

Parishioners may remember that in August 2020 we were selling homemade orange marmalade which came from the orange tree in the grounds of San Sisto College. The orange tree at San Sisto College comes from a cutting of an orange tree that was planted by St Dominic in the Convent of St Sabina in Rome.

Last Monday, unknown to the parish, Julio Salazar walked into the Parish Office with two St Dominic's Orange Trees for the Parish. Ana and Julio Salazar were involved in the process of making the homemade orange marmalade in 2020, and Julio took some of the orange seeds and planted them. The picture shows the result of eighteen months of growing. The next step will be to find an appropriate place in the parish grounds for the trees to be planted.



From the Social Justice Committee

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Human trafficking is **modern day slavery**.

People are trafficked all around the world and into Australia either, legally or illegally. They are lead by false



promises of work or prospective marriages. Once they arrive, the victims are coerced into a position of dependence by their traffickers through debt bondage, violence, and/or drugs, to work in the hospitality, beauty, sex industry or to work in homes as domestic cleaners, nannies or on farms working up to or over 14 hour days picking fruit.

The victims become "exploited" goods and are deprived of their personal rights, freedom of speech, independence, and self-respect. Some victims are trafficked for organ removal and selling. Traffickers are able to trick and/or lure their victims into slavery by taking advantage of poverty in the country, the individuals' lack of prospects and/or their hope for a better future.

Sex trafficking, in particular, is a multi-billion dollar industry, where the world is its market. Human beings who are trafficked get treated as disposable, humans become comparable to raw material that can be bought and/or sold.

According to a new report from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the vast majority of all human trafficking victims – some 71 per cent – are women and girls and one third are children.

Next week: Signs of human trafficking and how we can make a positive difference

Information sourced from

ACRATH - which stands for the Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans

<https://acrath.org.au/resources/human-trafficking/forms/>

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2016/12/report-majority-of-trafficking-victims-are-women-and-girls-one-third-children/>

Safeguarding

We are in the process of going through our Volunteer Database to ensure each person is up to date in the area of Safeguarding Compliance, depending on the role(s) each person is involved in and the compliance which is required. Some volunteers have been contacted this week and others will be contacted over the next couple of weeks. If you receive communication from your ministry/group leader, Carmen Kee (Local Safeguarding Representative) or the Parish Office staff, it would be appreciated if you can complete the necessary requirements as soon as possible. If you don't hear from one of the above, it means you are all up-to-date. Also, if you need any assistance, contact Carmen or the Parish Office.

The National Response Protocol is now available on the parish website on our Safeguarding page <http://www.carinacatholicparish.org.au/safeguarding-children--vulnerable-adults.html> for parishioners who wish to read this document. Also a reminder that in July 2021, new criminal offences came into effect in Queensland. It is now a crime to:

- Fail to take action to protect children from the risk of sexual abuse by other adults in an institution
- Fail to report the suspected sexual abuse of children by other adults to the police.

These offenses apply to all adults in Queensland.

Finally, please note that the Local Safeguarding Representative email address has changed this week to lsr.carina@bne.catholic.net.au. The mobile number 0414 142 253 currently remains the same.

Apostolic Nuncio to Australia

Pope Francis this past week has appointed Archbishop Charles Balvo, currently the Vatican's ambassador to the Czech Republic, the next Apostolic Nuncio to Australia. Archbishop Balvo, an American, has served in the Holy See's diplomatic service for more than 30 years, including eight years as Nuncio to New Zealand and the Pacific.

Archbishop Balvo succeeds Archbishop Adolfo Yllana, whom Pope Francis last year appointed Apostolic Nuncio to Israel and Cyprus, and Apostolic Delegate to Jerusalem and Palestine.



St Vincent de Paul Carina Conference

Donations to our local conference are much appreciated. To donate money via bank transfer, please use the following account details:

St Vincent de Paul Our Lady of Graces Carina
BSB: 064 786 Account Number: 100026584

To donate non-perishable food, you are welcome to leave your donations in the baskets at the front door of the church. Thank you for your support.

Vocation View: *The word of God becomes the flesh of God when YOU live it in your life. Believe what you read; live what you believe. Be another Christ.*

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.

Media Release from Caritas Australia: Tonga blanketed in ash after volcanic eruption

Tonga is coated in a thick blanket of ash after the eruption of undersea volcano Hunga-Tonga-Hunga-Ha'apai on January 15, which triggered tsunamis across the region, destroyed telecommunications and contaminated water supplies in the small Pacific Island nation.

Coastal communities in Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu have been impacted by tsunami waves, along with communities as far afield as Australia, Japan and the Americas.

The Tongan government has said that "immediate assistance" is needed to deal with the fallout of the massive volcanic eruption.

Despite early videos of islanders rushing to higher ground as the first tsunami waves hit, telecommunications are now down as the undersea internet cables were damaged by the eruption.

"This volcanic eruption was up there with the likes of Krakatoa in terms of scale, so we are extremely concerned about the impacts of the eruption and tsunami in Tonga," said Damaris Pfendt, Caritas Australia's Pacific Humanitarian Coordinator.

"Volcanic ash and saltwater inundation from the tsunami waves have contaminated water supplies, so many communities will be left without clean water. Tonga already struggles with clean water supplies because it relies on groundwater and rainwater, so this will put communities in a really difficult position."

"From the few updates that have come through, we know that the devastation is significant, especially for the outer lying islands. There is an urgent need for fresh water and shelter, especially for the communities on the coastline whose homes were damaged by the tsunami waves. Roads and bridges have also been damaged."

"Thankfully Caritas Tonga already has emergency supplies pre-positioned in the capital and Ha'apai, so they will be able to respond quickly to immediate needs with these supplies. However, it's crucial that we step up and support our neighbours in Tonga, as they recover from this devastating volcanic eruption."



Caritas Australia is currently working to restore communications with our local partner, Caritas Tonga, to assess the situation on the ground and determine the most urgent needs.

Caritas Australia is currently raising funds to support communities impacted by the eruption and tsunami in Tonga.

Visit <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/pacific> or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support by donating to our Pacific Emergency Appeal. Published 18 January 2022



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