



70 Years
1952-2022



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. 47

1st Sunday of Advent

27 November 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

We may be accustomed to think of Advent as the time when we prepare for the coming of God, but the readings also train our attention on our own journey to God. We see this most clearly in this first Sunday with readings that tell us the identity of the pilgrims, the destination toward which they travel, and the way of life that is required of them on their journey. As the Vatican Council has proclaimed: We are a pilgrim people.



Both the reading from Isaiah and the psalm response speak of the pilgrimage to the mountain of the Lord, the place where God can be found. Although the psalm speaks about Jerusalem and refers to the temple there, the broader theological significance of the mountain, the city and the temple is one and the same. They represent the presence of God in our midst, and this presence is the goal of our striving. There are clear directions about how we are to live while we are on this pilgrimage to God. In Isaiah we learn that we must put away our instruments of violence and hatred, our swords and our spears. Lest we pick them up again, we are told to convert them into life-producing implements, into ploughs and pruning hooks. Paul exhorts us to put away our deeds of darkness and self-indulgence and to clothe ourselves instead in the deeds of Jesus Christ. Matthew points out the need for alertness, attentiveness, a disposition that is open to a change of heart.



Advent, Christmas & 2023 Resources

The following Advent & 2023 Resources are available from the Parish Shop.

Advent & Christmas Daily Reflection Books: \$6

Christmas Children Activity Books: \$2

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards: \$5 for a packet of 5

2023 Columban Calendars: \$10



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PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 27 November

- 8.00am Baptism Preparation – Church & Library
- 9.00am Children's Liturgy of the Word – Library
- 12noon Baptisms – Church
- 5.30pm Alpha-Youth Celebratory Mass – Church
- 7.00pm Praise & Worship Night – Church

Monday 28 November

- 7.00pm Italian Prayer Group – Church

Tuesday 29 November

- 6.00pm St Martin's Year 6 Graduation Mass – Church

Wednesday 30 November

- 9.45am Novena: Our Lady of Perpetual Help – Church

- 6.30pm Legion of Mary – Library

Thursday 1 December

- 9.30am Playgroup – Hospitality Area
- 6.45pm TCS Choir Open Rehearsal – Church

Saturday 3 December

- 9.00am Italian Prayer Group – Church/Library/Hospitality Area

Sunday 4 December

- 9.00am Baptisms in Mass – Church

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick Vincent Joseph Anthony Petralia, Therese Nieddu, Frank King, Caroline Massa, Marie Atkinson, Elliott Jones-Perrin, Pamela O'Reilly, Noah Riley **those whose anniversaries occur around this time** Giovanni Melita, Leonard Pashen, Chas Steele, Mark Roff, Celestina Moschella, Carmelo Papale, Bill Cummins **and the recently deceased** David Whitby, Glenn Hovey, Zeanaida Espino, Michael Underhill, Scott Hughes, Gabriele Di Felice.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

TODAY, Sunday 27 November at 9am Mass, is the last Children's Liturgy of the Word for 2022. Children's Liturgy will recommence in February 2023.

Alpha-Youth Celebratory Mass/Praise & Worship

This weekend at the Sunday 5.30pm Mass, the Alpha-Youth Group is having their Celebratory Mass. This will involve a blessing during Mass for those who were part of the weekly sessions during 2022.

Following Mass there will be Refreshments and a Praise & Worship evening, in which everyone is invited to attend and participate.



2023 Planned Giving Envelopes are available from near the main door of the Church. Please collect to save the parish the cost of posting out the envelopes. 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.

We also encourage parishioners to consider giving via Direct Debit or Credit Card. This enables the parish to have a steady source of income from which we can pay our bills and plan on how we can best service our community. The form for Direct Debit or Credit Card can be downloaded from our website www.carinacatholicparish.org.au/planned-giving.html

Invitation to an Open Rehearsal: Adventus

The Thomas Cantley Singers invites parishioners to enjoy a sneak peek of their end-of-year concert on Thursday 1 December, 6.45pm, in the Church.

Please come & listen to some wonderful choral singing.



Hour of Grace will be held on Thursday 8 December, 12noon-1pm, in the Church for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Parish Working Bee, in preparation for Christmas, will be held on Saturday 10 December from 7am onwards. Please mark the date & time in your diary.

Priests' Jubilee Celebration

On Sunday 11 December at the 9.00am Mass we will celebrate and acknowledge Fr Maurice's Diamond Jubilee (60 years), Fr Joseph's Silver Jubilee (25 years), and Fr David's Golden Jubilee (50 years) from last year. Following Mass there will be morning tea, to which we invite everyone to bring a plate of food to share.

Advent Adventures 2022 Faith, fun & friends!

For children 5 years and over. Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult.

Three great mornings:

- Thursday 15 December
- Tuesday 20 December
- Thursday 22 December.



Registration at 8.45am. Finish at 12noon (12.30pm on 22 December). BYO morning tea, water bottle & hat. Gluten-free sausage sizzle & Zooper Dooper provided to children when being collected.

\$5 per child - \$10 cap for siblings. Spaces are limited.

Bookings close Monday 5 December.

Contact Shelly Stone (sc.carina@bne.catholic.net.au / 3398 2977) for further information and to book.

St Vincent de Paul Carina Conference

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 church door. Thank you for your support.

Nativity Displays at Local Shopping Centres

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

Christmas Season Timetable 2022

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve
6pm and 8pm

Christmas Day
7am, 9am and 10.30am [Italian]

No Evening Mass on Christmas Day

Weekday Masses

Monday 26 December 2022
to
Friday 6 January 2023
8am Mass only

Parish Office Christmas Closure

Closes 12.30pm Friday 23 December 2022 and
reopens 8.30am Monday 9 January 2023

Sacramental Program 2023

Penance (Year 5 / 10 years old)

The session dates handout for Penance, in February and March 2023, are available from the parish office.

Confirmation (Year 3 / 8 years old)

Enrolment forms are available from the parish office.
Enrolments close on Tuesday 14 February 2023.

Key Dates for the Sacramental Program: 2023

Penance (Year 5 / 10 years old)

- Tue. 21 Feb - Penance Preparation begins
- Confirmation (Year 3 / 8 years old)
- Tue. 7 Feb - Confirmation Parent Meeting
- Tue. 14 Feb - Confirmation Enrolments close
- Tue. 23 May - Sacrament of Confirmation
- First Holy Communion (Year 4 / 9 years old)
- Tue. 20 Jun - 1st Communion Parent Meeting
- Sat. 9 & Sun. 10 Sept } First Holy
- Sat. 16 & Sun. 17 Sept } Communion Masses

2023 Parish Diary

We need to book your group for next year's diary.

If your group regularly uses either the Church, Parish Library, Aquinas Room or Hospitality Area (even if you have done so for many years), please let the Parish Office know to confirm your bookings/restart date for 2023. This is to ensure the space is available and booked into next year's diary.

Also, if you have any important events/celebrations that we need to be made aware of, also let the Parish Office know.

Thank you to those group leaders who have been proactive and already contacted the parish office.

From the Parish Social Justice Committee

Did you know that Domestic Violence increases over the Christmas Period?

Christmas is traditionally a time of joy and togetherness for families, but for victims of domestic abuse it can be a time of increased trauma. Statistics show significant increases in domestic violence incidents during the Christmas holiday period when compared to the rest of the year.

The Western Australian police released figures relating to the 2018-19 Christmas-New Year period showing:

- A 26.1% increase in police tasks related to family violence
- An 18.6% increase in the number of incidents involving children being exposed to domestic violence
- A 20% increase in family violence related investigations
- A 26.2% increase in the average daily number of victim protection orders issued

And that only covers those who were courageous enough to report an incident.

What causes this trend?

There are several factors associated with the rise in domestic violence statistics during the Christmas period including:

- **Increased alcohol consumption** – the combination of parties and extended time off work means the Christmas period sees an increase in alcohol consumption, which is a contributing factor in many cases of domestic violence.
- **Increased pressure on parents** – with the stress of having to organise Christmas events, purchase presents for the kids, organise extra activities and especially the financial worries often associated with Christmas, parents are often drained during this time of year.
- **Spending more time with families** – time spent with extended families at Christmas can lead to tension and arguments, causing emotions to boil over.

Part 2 of Article will be published next week, which will look at the "Early warning signs to look out for", "What can you do to help a friend at risk?" and "Domestic violence resources".

ADVENT has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. GNL YC 39

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