



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. 48

2nd Sunday of Advent

4 December 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

Today's readings are like Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. The biblical authors sketch profiles of individuals after whom we can model our lives as we embark on our pilgrimage to eschatological fulfilment. Isaiah depicts the righteous messianic king; Paul provides us with a glimpse of Jesus, the one who ministers to all; and Matthew describes John the Baptist, the prophet who prepared for the Advent of Christ.



The gifts Isaiah attributes to the messianic king are the same gifts that we receive with the anointing of the Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. The image of the messianic king may have been fulfilled in Jesus, but it is also offered to us as a model after which we can pattern our lives.

Paul declares that Christ came for all. Just as the Canterbury tales describe pilgrims of all backgrounds and characters, so our companions on the pilgrimage come from diverse circumstances. Since the invitation was extended to all, we are expected to welcome all. Some of Chaucer's characters were quite unpleasant, but they were part of the group. Many of the people to whom Jesus ministered were quite unpleasant, but this did not deter him. His example is set before us today.



John the Baptist lived a life of radical self-denial, but he did not require this of others. He preached repentance or change of heart, not a rejection of the circumstances of life. He called for a return to righteousness, to relationships rooted in honesty and respect. He condemned presumption and arrogant reliance on one's religious origin, complacency and the shirking of responsibility, disinterest in the welfare of others.

Advent, Christmas & 2023 Resources available from the Parish Shop

Advent & Christmas Daily Reflection Books: \$6

Christmas Children Activity Books: \$2

2023 Columban Calendars: \$10

We have now SOLD OUT of St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards for 2022



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PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 4 December

- 9.00am Baptisms in Mass – Church

Monday 5 December

- 7.00pm Parish Pastoral & Finance Councils
Combined Meeting – Library

Tuesday 6 December

- 7.30pm Social Justice Group – Library

Wednesday 7 December

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

- 6.30pm Legion of Mary – Library

Thursday 8 December

- 10.30am Funeral: Maureen Ryan – Church
- 12noon Hour of Grace – Church

Saturday 10 December

- 7.00am Parish Working Bee – Church & Grounds

Sunday 11 December

- 9.00am Priests' Jubilee Mass – Church

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick

Lisa Farnik, Ciaran Ayres, 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 Adolf Pieper, Gerald & Teresa Simento, Giovanni Melita, Leonard Pashen, Chas Steele, Mark Roff and the recently deceased Dolores Reay, Maureen Ryan, Fr Mike Champlin OP, David Whitby, Glenn Hovey, Zeanaida Espino.

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 next Saturday, 10 December, from 7am onwards. If you are available to assist, please come along and give a hand.

Advent Appeal for Ukraine

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is supporting a special Advent appeal for the people of Ukraine, following a request from Bishop Mykola Bychok CSsR, Eparch of Sts Peter and Paul for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Australia.

A Retiring (leaving) Collection will be held next weekend, 10-11 December, to support Mudra Sprava (Wise Action), a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine. The organisation has three focus areas: Evacuation of people from frontline territories; Food packages for people in need; Shelters for internally displaced persons. Find out more at www.catholic.au



Priests' Jubilee Mass & Celebration

Next 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.

Please come & celebrate these significant Jubilee's. Following Mass there will be morning tea, to which we invite everyone to bring a plate of food to share.

OLOG Diners will meet at Carina Leagues Club on Wednesday 14 December, 6.00pm. All are welcome.

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.

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

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.

We acknowledge, 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 to Friday 6 January

8am Mass only

Parish Office Christmas Closure

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

Message from St Vincent de Paul

Our Carina Conference of St Vincent de Paul extends Christmas wishes to our generous parish community for your support during the year. We have managed to help over 300 families and singles this year to date, particularly with food hampers, education assistance, clothing, white goods and utility payments. Our conference specially recognises those who support us financially, and with food – without your generosity and goodwill we know that many of Christ's poor would endure suffering. We pray that God will bless you all and hope you are comforted by the knowledge that you have provided love and care for the less fortunate in our local area. Happy Christmas to all in this season of giving.

St Vincent de Paul Carina Conference

St Vincent de Paul Our Lady of Graces Carina

BSB: 064 786 Account Number: 100026584

Baskets at door for donations of non-perishable food

IMPORTANT ALERT: Email Scam Activity

We are aware that emails pretending to be from Fr Alex are making their rounds again. This is a phishing scam which is targeting church-goers at a number of Parishes in the Archdiocese, including Our Lady of Graces.

Unfortunately, we are unable to stop these messages at the source. This is a timely reminder to please ignore and delete such SMS text / WhatsApp messages and/or emails, if you received them.

Rosters for Christmas & 2023

The roster for the Christmas Masses is currently being prepared. If you wish to volunteer in a ministry at a Christmas Mass, please contact the office.

The rosters listed below are also currently in the process of being prepared for 2023.

- Ministers of the Word (Readers)
- Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Mass Co-ordinator
- 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 2022.

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, depending on the ministry. 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.

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. Penance preparation sessions begins on Tuesday 21 February 2023.

Confirmation (Year 3 / 8 years old)

Enrolment forms are available from the parish office. Enrolments close on Tuesday 14 February 2023. The Confirmation Parent Meeting will be held on Tuesday 7 February 2023, 7.00pm, in the Church.

From the Parish Social Justice Committee

This is Part 2 of article that was published last week in Spread the Word regarding "Domestic Violence increases over the Christmas Period"

Early warning signs to look out for

Being aware of early signs of domestic violence as we approach the Christmas season can help minimise risks. Noticing what triggers a person or the signs that they might be about to explode can give people the chance to talk them down or remove themselves from the situation. Some of the most common displays of domestic abuse around Christmas include:

- Hypersensitivity
- Verbal abuse
- Jealousy
- Controlling behaviour
- Unrealistic expectations
- Isolation
- Threats of violence
- Use of force or physical violence

What can you do to help a friend at risk?

Don't ignore the signs, if you suspect someone you know is experiencing domestic violence reach out to them. You can help them by:

- assuring the person that you're there for them
- listening without judgement
- staying in contact
- including them even if they decline or cancel your plans
- informing them about the resources available

Sometimes the most important thing is letting them know you're there for them and that they're always welcome at your place, no matter what time of day they want to come round.

Information sourced from: <https://blog.eastcoastlaw.com.au/living-blog/the-worrying-trend-of-domestic-violence-over-christmas>

Domestic violence contacts & resources

If you or someone you know needs help escaping a domestic violence situation:

- If someone is in immediate danger, dial 000.
- Call 1800 RESPECT. This service provides domestic violence counselling, referrals and advice.
- Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement 2022-23 Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse. Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse points out that the roots of domestic and family violence "lie in the abuse of power to control and dominate others" and that "this stands in contrast to the relationships to which God calls us". www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

Advent Retreat @ Regina Caeli Parish

You are invited to an Advent Retreat in the beautiful grounds of Regina Caeli (81 Waverley Rd, Camp Hill) on Saturday 10 December, 3pm-6pm. There will be two 20 minute presentations, time for personal space, journaling and meditation. Finish the retreat with Mass at 6pm for the 3rd Sunday of Advent. Please RSVP to Brian Moffett on 0402 588 296. Cost is \$5, which covers the Advent Reflection Book "The Heart of the Disciple".

Cathedral of St Stephen Advent Concert Series

Sundays 4, 11 & 18 December, commencing at 5pm. Tickets available www.trybooking.com/CDVWH or at the door: \$35 (adults), \$30 (concession), \$15 (child).

The Queensland Choir presents Brisbane Sings Messiah on Sunday 18 December, 2.45pm, Brisbane City Hall. Tickets available from www.4mbs.com.au or call 3847 1717 (9am-5pm, 7 days per week)

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