



70 Years
1952-2022



Spread the Word

Vol. 37 No. 51 The Nativity of the Lord 25 December 2022

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

Reflection by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

For people surrounded by department store decorations, commercials, Christmas carols, special foods, and the like, believing that today's Christmas celebration actually evolved from the humble story of a young woman giving birth in the straw is a stretch. It might help to focus on the characters involved.

What do you think went through Joseph's mind as he witnessed Mary giving birth to a baby? What do you think went through Mary's mind as she struggled with the birth experience?



The Christmas story is full of symbols. Jesus, who becomes our bread and wine – our nourishment – is laid in a manger, the feeding trough for the animals. Jesus, who is the champion of poor people, is born into a homeless family. Poor shepherds were the first to welcome the Messiah that the Jewish people had been awaiting for generations. The symbol of angels singing, praising God, and flying madly all over the sky was a good clue that something out of the ordinary was happening.

Modern Christmas stories use different symbols to make the same points: Rudolph, the 'poorest' reindeer, becomes the champion; and Frosty, a snowman, transforms children's lives.

What story from your own personal Christmas experiences has special meaning or symbolism?

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

Christmas Blessings

Fr Dominic, Fr Joseph, Fr Alex, Fr Maurice, Fr Pan,
Fr David, Br Peter, Shelly and Chris wish you all a
Holy Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thank you for celebrating with us. We look forward
to seeing you all throughout the New Year.

Our weekend Mass times are
Saturday 6pm & Sunday 7am, 9am,
10.30am [Italian] & 5.30pm



Open the Doors to Christ



San Sisto College

Women of Integrity Shaping the Future

TAKE A TOUR



PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday 28 December & 4 January

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

- 6.30pm Legion of Mary – Library

Sunday 8 January

- 9.00am Baptisms in Mass – Church

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick Neville Black, Lisa Farnik, Ciaron 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** Cath Gielling, Bill Cummins, Nunzia Zappala, Lawrie McNamara, Betty Bendel, Robyn Mallon, Bryan Carson, Jorge Asido, Adolf Pieper, Gerald & Teresa Simento **and the recently deceased** Francisca Elia Zamora, Rachel McCrow, Matthew Arnold, Alan Dare, Gemma Hockey, Ronald Kirkman, Marlito Natividad, Melissa Rosato, Dolores Reay, Maureen Ryan.

Parish Office News

The Parish Office is now closed for the Christmas period and will reopen 8.30am on Monday 9 January.

If you require a priest in an emergency during the Christmas period, please call the parish office number and select option 2 to speak to a priest.

Any messages left on the Parish Office answering machine will not be attended to until Monday 9 January.

Christmas Season Timetable

Weekday Masses

Monday 26 December to Friday 6 January
8am Mass only

Mass Times for New Year Eve & Day

Usual Saturday Evening & Sunday Mass Times

Support Your Parish Through the Giving App

No Cash? No Problem!
You can now give via the Parish Giving app, for regular and one-off giving.

Either scan the QR code or go to <http://parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au>



Parish Shop

On the look out for religious items including cards & gifts. Look no further than our Parish Shop, which is open before & after most Masses each weekend.

St Vincent de Paul Carina Conference

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.

Baptisms are usually celebrated in our parish at:

- 9am Mass on the 1st Sunday of the Month
- 12noon Liturgy on the 5th Sunday of the Month

Parents are asked to call into parish office during office hours to collect paperwork. Parents must attend a Baptismal Preparation Session, which is held on the 4th Sunday of the Month at 8am.

Sacramental Program 2023

Confirmation

In the year children turn eight, baptised children can be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation. 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, 7pm, in the Church.

First Holy Communion

In the year when children turn nine, they are welcomed to the Lord's Table and receive Holy Communion for the first time. A First Holy Communion Parent Information Night (for parents of Confirmed children) will be held on Tuesday 20 June 2023, 7pm, in the Church.

Any further enquiries can be made to Shelly Stone, Pastoral Associate, at the parish office, 3398 2977 or at sc.carina@bne.catholic.net.au

Children's Liturgy of the Word is held on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the Month at the 9am Mass during School Term. Children aged from Prep to year 6 gather to break open God's Word together, in an appropriate way for their age. All children welcome.

Kids' Mass is held on the 3rd Sunday of the Month during School Term at the 5.30pm Mass. At this Mass, children take a very active role by reading, taking up the collection and bringing up the offertory.

500 Card Group usually meets on the 1st Friday of the Month, 7.30pm, in the Aquinas Room (room underneath the Church). New members are more than welcome. The group, however, will next meet on Friday 13 January 2023

OLOG Diners currently meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the Month, 6pm, Carina Leagues Club. New faces are more than welcome to come together with parishioners for a meal. For further information, contact the Parish Office.



Stay Connected with Our Lady of Graces Parish

To keep in touch with us, send us an email with your name, email address, and phone number. We will add you to our parish database, and keep in touch with you through emailing Spread the Word each week and other parish communication.