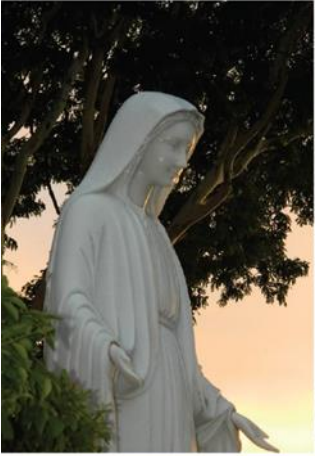


70 Years
1952-2022



Spread the Word

Vol. 38 No. 20

The Ascension of the Lord

21 May 2023

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

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

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

The short gospel passage for today is taken from the final words of the gospel of Matthew. It is known as 'The Great Commission' as Jesus is portrayed commissioning his disciples to go out to the world and spread the good news. They are charged to 'Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations.' This is the basis of much of the missionary work of the Church that has gone on ever since then.



However, the focus of today's feast is much more on the first reading than the gospel. The opening verses of the Book of Acts, from the author of Luke-Acts, describe the final instructions of Jesus to his disciples and then his 'lifting up'. The Luke-Acts writer is the only gospel writer to actually describe the Ascension. The fact that the other gospels don't discuss the Ascension in any detail at all is a good indication that this description should not be taken literally.

However, the message of the Ascension is a powerful one. It reminds us that Jesus, the human incarnation of God on earth, was limited to a specific time and place in history. Despite the physical limitations of his life on earth, Jesus ensured that his message and ministry would continue through those he had taught. Knowing that the disciples would need time to grieve and come to terms with all that had occurred in a relatively short space of time, Jesus promised that the Spirit would come upon them in the days to come. That visiting of the Spirit upon the disciples at Pentecost was the motivation to set about doing what Jesus had charged them to do. Without the Ascension, there is no Pentecost.



San Sisto College

Women of Integrity Shaping the Future

TAKE A TOUR



PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 21 May

- 2.00pm Confirmation Practice (5.00pm) - Church
- 4.00pm Confirmation Practice (7.00pm) - Church
- 5.30pm Kids' Mass – Church

Monday 22 May

- 7.00pm Italian Prayer Group – Church

Tuesday 23 May

- 5.00pm Sacrament of Confirmation – Church
- 7.00pm Sacrament of Confirmation – Church

Wednesday 24 May

- 9.45am Novena: OLPH – Church
- 6.30pm Legion of Mary – Library

Thursday 25 May

- 6.00pm TCS Choir – Church

Saturday 27 May

- 2.30pm Wedding – Church

Sunday 28 May

- 8.00am Baptism Preparation – Church & Library
- 9.00am Children's Liturgy of the Word – Library
- 2.00pm Jesus Youth – Library
- 5.30pm St Martin's School Involvement Mass – Church

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick *Theo Hankey, Jocelyn Bonney, Marie Silvester, Sue & Miles Thorne, Alan Ma, Neville Black, Ciaron Ayres, Caroline Massa, Marie Atkinson, Elliott Jones-Perrin, Pamela O'Reilly, Noah Riley* **those whose anniversaries occur around this time** *Therese Elizabeth Begley, Una Kenny, Sonny Deverala, Sander Halasan, Rosetta Jorgesen, Edith Pieper, Albert Ashkar, Rita Marshall* **and the recently deceased** *Faye O'Toole, Jim Brooks, Lawrie Sutherland.*

Archdiocesan Annual Mass Count: During the Month of May we are counting the number of people that attend the Sunday Masses as part of the Archdiocesan Annual Mass Count. These figures help to understand how many people are being reached out to in the local community, and across the whole Archdiocese.

Parish Shop News

Are you looking for a gift/card for a family member who is celebrating a Sacrament this year?

Look no further than the Parish Shop. There are a number of gift options and cards for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & First Holy Communion that are available for purchase.



San Sisto College
Women of Integrity Shaping the Future

OPEN DAY
SUNDAY 21 MAY
1pm - 4pm

Register online at: www.sansisto.qld.edu.au
97 Mayfield Road, Carina t 07 3900 9800 e scarina@bne.catholic.edu.au

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Australia is observed in the week between The Ascension of the Lord and Pentecost Sunday.

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service is being held TODAY, Sunday 21 May, at 4pm at the St Andrew's Uniting Church (299 Ann Street, Brisbane CBD). All are welcome to attend.

National Volunteer Week (15-21 May)

This past week we have celebrated National Volunteer Week (NVW), Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteering. This year's theme, *We are The Change Makers*, recognises that volunteers are *Change Makers* in communities around our country.

Millions of volunteers across Australia are giving their time and energy to make change in our communities. The *We are the Change Makers* campaign celebrates the powerful impact volunteers make supporting individuals, communities and the nation.

The Archdiocese has one of the largest number of volunteer groups throughout the state - around 10,000 people. This from both volunteers in parishes and by virtue of the work with Centacare.

We acknowledge and thank all of our volunteers who give so much of their time to serve this community. We are most appreciative and grateful for your contribution to parish life.

Lamps Ablaze: Apostolic Priorities for the Archdiocese of Brisbane from 2023: In recent weeks, Archbishop Mark Coleridge has published a document entitled "**Lamps Ablaze: Apostolic Priorities for the Archdiocese of Brisbane from 2023**" which outlines seven priorities for the Archdiocese. This week we read about Priority Six.

Lamps Ablaze: Apostolic Priorities for the Archdiocese of Brisbane

Priority Six: Implementing Integral Ecology

Natural and human ecology interact in mysterious and unmistakable ways.

To interfere with one is to interfere with the other; to promote the good of one is to promote the good of the other.

Fratelli Tutti (a recent Papal Encyclical) focuses more upon human ecology in speaking of the radical interconnectedness of all human beings at a moment when alienation and polarisation are making disconnectedness seem the norm.

The Church is called in such a moment to be a sign of contradiction, speaking in a way that rises above politics and economics so that a genuinely biblical and Christian voice can be heard.

WITH
LAMPS
ABLAZE

Download the whole document at tinyurl.com/lampsablaze

St Vincent de Paul Carina Conference

EFT Donation: *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 donations in the baskets at the church door.

May is the month of Mary in the Church:

Wednesday 24 May is the Solemnity of Our Lady Help of Christians, our National Patronal Feast. The first Australian provincial synod held in Sydney in 1844 placed the Church of Australia under Mary's patronage invoked by the title Help of Christians. The solemn feast is an occasion to seek Mary's help and protection for our Church and nation.

Prayer for Australia

Lord, you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary, Help of Christians. Through her prayers grant wisdom to our leaders, and integrity to our citizens. Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, peace and justice.

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit God for ever and ever. Amen.



Welcome Back to Fr Alex: We welcome back Fr Alex this coming Tuesday, returning from his time away in New Zealand visiting family and friends.

Sacrament of Confirmation

This coming Tuesday Evening, 23 May, the children who have been preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be confirmed and anointed with the Holy Sacred Chrism by Bishop Tim Norton SVD. Please keep the children in your prayers this week, especially on Tuesday Evening.

From the Parish Social Justice Committee:

National Sorry Day

Every year on 26 May, National Sorry Day remembers and acknowledges the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who were forcibly removed from their families and communities, which we now know as 'The Stolen Generations'.

National Sorry Day is a day to acknowledge the strength of Stolen Generations Survivors and reflect on how we can all play a part in the healing process for our people and nation. While this date carries great significance for the Stolen Generations and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, it is also commemorated by Australians right around the country.

Source: <https://www.reconciliation.org.au/national-sorry-day-2020/>

Prayer for the Journey of Healing

Almighty and loving God, you who created ALL people in your image, lead us to seek your compassion as we listen to the stories of our past.

You gave your only Son, Jesus, who died and rose again so that sins will be forgiven. We place before you the pain and anguish of dispossession of land, language, lore, culture and family kinship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have experienced. We live in faith that all people will rise from the depths of despair and hopelessness.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families have endured the pain and loss of loved ones, through the separation of children from their families. We are sorry and ask God's forgiveness.

Toughen the hearts of the broken, homeless and afflicted and heal their spirits. In your mercy and compassion walk with us as we continue our journey of healing to create a future that is just and equitable. Lord, you are our hope. Amen.

Domestic Violence Month

As part of Domestic Violence Month, there is currently a display near the front door of the Church with flyers and books from Queensland Churches Together. It is asked if you take a copy of a book, that you contribute \$5 towards the cost.

There is also a video which was produced as part of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement for 2022-2023 on the topic of Domestic Violence. To view the video, refer to the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ueP-yj4BAk>

Marriage of Jhon Cuitiva & Johanna Carvajal



Congratulations and best wishes to parishioners Jhon Cuitiva and Johanna Carvajal who will celebrate their marriage here at Our Lady of Graces next Saturday, 27 May. May God bless you both always.

Message from Archbishop Mark Coleridge – "The Lord's Day": Additional copies of the Letter from Archbishop Mark Coleridge regarding the pandemic dispensation being withdrawn and the Sunday obligation being restored from Pentecost Sunday are available from the table near the front door of the Church.

Pentecost Sunday

Next Sunday 28 May is Pentecost Sunday, known as the Birthday of the Church, and is the last day of the Season of Easter. To get into the spirit of our celebration, you may want to consider wearing an item of red clothing to Mass next weekend. If so, try and find some time this week to decide what that piece of red clothing might be.



Children's Liturgy of the Word will be held next Sunday, 28 May, during 9am Mass. All primary school aged children are welcome to attend.

Transport from Sunday 9am Mass: We have a person attending Sunday 9.00am Mass each week who is looking for transport home after Mass to Junction Road, Morningside. If you are able to assist with this request, please contact the Parish Office for further details and requirements.

St Martin's School Involvement Mass

We will welcome the school students, families and staff of St Martin's next Sunday evening, 28 May, at the 5.30pm Mass as the school community helps lead our ministries for the celebration of Pentecost.

Brisbane East Deanery Scripture Group



Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

The Brisbane East Deanery will begin the **Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible** study in the week starting Monday 29 May with daytime and evening sessions, and will run for 8 weeks. Participants will meet every week at one of the local parishes in the deanery to view a video presentation by Jeff Cavins followed by a group discussion. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible helps you to get the "big picture" of the Bible by showing how fourteen narrative books of the Bible tell the complete story from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church. **Our Lady of Graces will be hosting the Wednesday 10.30am group in the Parish Library, beginning on Wednesday 31 May.**

For more information or to register your interest, please contact Louise Simento on 0456 700 040.

500 Card Group will meet on Friday 2 June, 7.30pm, in the Aquinas Room (room underneath the Church). New members are more than welcome.

The Corpus Christi Procession will be held at the Cathedral of Stephen and the surrounding streets in the Brisbane CBD from 2.00pm on Sunday 11 June. There will be a bus departing from Our Lady of Graces to the Corpus Christi Procession at 1.00pm. The bus will depart the Cathedral at 4.15pm. Cost for the bus are \$5 return per person, \$10 return per family (up to 3 children) & \$20 return per family (4 children and over).

To book for the bus, there is a folder on the table near the main door of the Church. Alternatively, you can contact Caroline on 0411 863 850 to book or for further information.

Corpus Christi Petitions Book

The Corpus Christi Committee and Evangelisation Brisbane have organised, as part of the Corpus Christi Procession, a Petitions Book. This book is for prayer intentions, which will be presented during the Corpus Christi Procession on Sunday 11 June. The book is currently available on the table near the main door of the Church for parishioners to record their prayer intentions.

Sign of Peace: People may choose to shake hands or embrace if they wish to do so.

Holy Communion from the Chalice: Parishes are allowed to reintroduce the reception of communion from the Chalice. **It is emphasised, however, if you are unwell that you refrain from receiving from the chalice or receiving communion on the tongue.**



Pentecost is coming up very soon! It marks the birth of the Church, that day 2000 years ago when the Holy Spirit fell upon the disciples empowering and equipping them with the gifts that they were going to need to take the Gospel far and wide, and the Church was born!

We know that the Holy Spirit came for everyone so the Children and Families team at Evangelisation Brisbane wanted to share a few resources to engage your children in the celebration of Pentecost as well!

These ideas, including a video, can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/pentecost4kids>

We pray that you, and the children in your parish or community, experience the presence of the Holy Spirit in a new and amazing way this Pentecost!

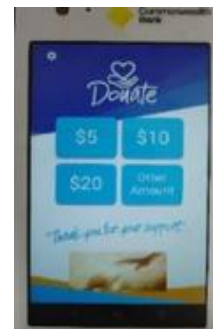
Smart Terminal - Credit & Debit Card Donations

We are now a society that is reducing its reliance on 'cash', with more people using credit & debit cards.

We acknowledge this and we all have to accept the accompanying changes it brings.

Therefore as part of this change in society, in the coming weeks we will have a tap & pay Smart Terminal facility installed near the front door of the Church. This is to provide an alternative way for parishioners and visitors to conveniently contribute to the financial well-being of both the Dominican Community and Our Lady of Graces Parish via credit or debit card.

Please note, we will still continue to have the collections boxes passed around during Mass for those who prefer to give with cash.



Invitation to be a Minister of Communion

With the reintroduction of Holy Communion from the Chalice, this has meant an increase in the number of Ministers of Communion across our Masses.

For example, at our Sunday Masses we now require 6 Ministers of Communion including the priest/s.

So as to not overburden those currently on the roster, this is an invitation for anyone to become a Minister of Communion at Sunday Mass.

If you feel interested in being part of this ministry as a Minister of Communion at Mass and are currently not on the roster, please call or email the parish office on Monday with your expression of interest and contact details.

A training session has been arranged for this coming Saturday morning, 27 May, for all new Ministers of Communion.

Sesquicentenary of the Cathedral of St Stephen

Wednesday 17 May 2024, will mark the Sesquicentenary of the Cathedral of St Stephen. To acknowledge this important milestone, a year of celebration will be launched on Pentecost Sunday this year (28 May 2023) and concludes on Pentecost Sunday next year (19 May 2024).

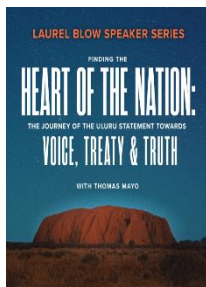


The first event, to launch the year of celebrations, will be an Organ Recital by Colin Andrews on Sunday 28 May 2023, 3pm. Tickets: www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1052956

Iona College Open Day: Monday 29 May, 1:30pm - 4:00pm. It is always lovely to see families visiting us and experiencing the culture of care and community we share. For more details: www.iona.qld.edu.au

Laurel Blow Speaker Series

Guest Speaker: Thomas Mayo
Finding the Heart of the Nation: The journey of the Uluru Statement towards Voice, Treaty, and Truth. Are you aware of the conversations happening around the Voice to Parliament but not really sure what it's all about?



This session of the Laurel Blow Speaker Series will help you understand what's really being asked and navigate the noise that is surrounding the issue.

Since the Uluru Statement from the Heart was formed in 2017, guest speaker Thomas Mayo has travelled around the country to promote its vision of a better future for Indigenous Australians. Through the story of his own journey and hearing the stories of others, Thomas taps into a deep sense of our shared humanity and makes clear what the Uluru Statement is and why it is so important.

- When: Thursday 1 June, 10am- 12:30pm
- Where: Guadete Centre, Australian Catholic University, 1100 Nudgee Rd, Banyo
- RSVP: Monday 29 May

You're invited to engage in this important conversation and listen with an open heart by registering at: app.tickets.org.au/eb/LaurelBlow

A Morning's Prayer

The second "A Morning's Prayer" for 2023 will take place on Saturday 3 June, 9am-12noon at the breathtaking Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston. The topic for the event will be "Knowing and Loving Our God." We will delve into understanding who God is for us and the mystery of the Trinity, through input, personal prayer, meditation and fellowship in a space designed to facilitate an encounter with God.

- Where: Saturday 3 June, 9am-12noon
- When: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre (267 Wellington Street, Ormiston)
- Cost: \$20

Both groups and individuals are welcome to attend. Register now at app.tickets.org.au/eb/amp23_2

St Francis Social Winter 2023 Dance for young adults (18-39). 7pm Saturday 10 June at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Hall, West End. For more details call Veronica on 0418 482 882. All very welcome to come along and enjoy a great evening.

Catholic Engaged Encounter will have a live-out weekend on 15 & 16 July 2023 for couples at Mother of Mercy Parish, Hendra.

Engaged Encounter is a marriage preparation weekend that facilitates honest and constructive dialogue for engaged couples.

For more info: www.engagedencounter.org.au, cee.brisbane@gmail.com or 0481 307 821.



Register now for the National Conference on Liturgy and Liturgical Music to be held in Brisbane from 28-30 September. It is rare to have expert liturgists, liturgical musicians, and educators together in one place for three days of focussed input. In addition to 6 keynote presentations and over 50 workshops, there will be opportunities to engage in facilitated discussions, and to participate in the Conference Mass as well as Morning and Evening Prayer.

Visit <https://mysteryandmission.com.au/> to register. Early bird closes 31 May 2023.

Perpetual Adoration: St James Parish Coorparoo

St James Parish Coorparoo has joined with eight other parishes in Brisbane and the Gold Coast to offer Eucharistic Adoration all day, every day. Each individual parish is responsible for covering one full 24 hour period every week.

St James Parish Coorparoo is responsible every Tuesday from 8.30am (after 8:00am Mass) to Wednesday at 8.00am.

In order for Adoration to be perpetual we need adorers to dedicate at least one hour a week to being quietly present with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. If you would like to be a dedicated adorer, email brisbane.adoration@gmail.com or text 0433 583 763.

Opportunity for engaging in Mission

Stella Maris is a worldwide Catholic ministry to the seafaring community, supported by Centacare in Brisbane. With borders reopening after Covid 19 restrictions there is a growing need to build a team of volunteers to assist with transporting seafarers from ship to shore at the Port of Brisbane and Northside berths. All you need is a C class drivers' licence to drive the Stella Maris vehicle, a welcoming heart and a few hours spare on one or two days a week. Volunteering in the Archdiocese requires a Blue Card and Criminal History Check and meeting safeguarding requirements. For more information, please contact Judy Norris p: 3324 3193 or e: judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au

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