



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 Luis Antonio Diaz
Lamus CS
Phone: 0403 948 967

Spread The Word

Vol. 38 No. 37 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time 17 September 2023

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

Reflection by Greg Sunter

This gospel passage follows directly from last week's passage. It concludes the whole of Matthew Chapter 18 that deals with sin, forgiveness and reconciliation. Peter's question to Jesus and suggested answer is a reflection of the view that there is a limit to the number of times we should forgive someone. Seven is a significant number in scripture and implies a 'perfect' amount. Even though by his use of seven, Peter is suggesting that he should forgive someone many, many times, Jesus quickly corrects Peter and says not seven, but seventy-seven times (or seventy times seven). Jesus plays on the use of the number seven and multiplies it to indicate that one should forgive as many times as is required – without keeping count; without keeping score.



The story of the unforgiving servant is a familiar one of forgiveness and mercy being shown but not passed on. The sting in the tail of this parable is Jesus' final warning that, 'So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives his brother from his heart.' This is an unsettling statement, as we believe God's forgiveness to be without measure and without end. Jesus warns that unless we seek to imitate God's forgiveness and forgive others 'from our heart' (with compassion) then we are not going to recognise the forgiveness of God and will cut ourselves off from it.

The whole idea of forgiving from the heart is a powerful contradiction of a popular concept: 'I can forgive, but not forget.' Is it really possible to forgive but refuse to forget? Surely holding on to a memory of hurt is holding on to the hurt itself and does not display that any forgiveness has occurred at all. To forgive but not forget is to keep count. How many times should I forgive the one who has hurt me? As many times as it takes!

Congratulations to the Children Receiving their First Holy Communion

We warmly welcome the children, with their families, in celebrating their First Holy Communion this weekend.

We pray for all the children as they celebrate this important occasion in their lives.

In receiving their Holy Communion for the first time, the children complete their Christian Initiation which began with the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. Early next year the children will continue their formation in preparing to celebrate the First Rite of Reconciliation.



PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 16 September

- 6.00pm First Holy Communion Mass – Church
- 6.00pm Festa Madonna Delle Grazie Dinner
– Brisbane Abruzzo Club

Sunday 17 September

- 9.00am First Holy Communion Mass – Church
- 10.30am Festa Madonna Delle Grazie Mass
– Church
- 5.30pm First Holy Communion Mass – Church

Monday 18 September

- 7.00pm Italian Prayer Group – Church

Tuesday 19 September

- 7.00pm St Vincent de Paul – Aquinas Room

Wednesday 20 September

- 9.45am Novena: OLPH – Church
- 11.00am Funeral: Ernesto Rosa – Church
- 6.30pm Legion of Mary – Library

Thursday 21 September

- 9.45am Two Hearts Prayer Group – Church

Friday 22 September

- 1.00pm Funeral: Veronica Carmody – Church

Sunday 24 September

- 8.00am Baptism Preparation – Church & Library

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick Michael Dalton, Tracey Forrest, Jocelyn Bonney, Robert Balmer, Claron Ayres, Caroline Massa, Marie Atkinson, Elliott Jones-Perrin, Pamela O'Reilly, Noah Riley **those whose anniversaries occur around this time** Frank & Grace Levy, Robert & Rose Kahl, Queen Elizabeth II, Fr Paul Purcell, Fr David Lewis OP, Bahia Lazarus, Kenneth McIntyre, Malcolm Gomez **and the recently deceased** Veronica Ruth Carmody, Ernesto Rosa, Maria Tien, Mary Louise McLaws, Patricia Burrows, Breannon Schuback, Gregory Medwedew.

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to listen and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect our common home. The Season "Celebration" began on 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. This year we unite around the theme, "Let Peace and Justice Flow."



Thank You to the Legion of Mary who have provided the memento bags for the First Holy Communion children. The thoughtfulness and generosity of the Legion of Mary is greatly appreciated.



Shelly Stone, Pastoral Associate

Children's Liturgy of the Word & Kids' Mass is taking a break in September, due to First Holy Communion and School Holidays, and will return in October.

Update on the Church Skylights

As most parishioners will be aware, we had an incident on Sunday 13 August during the 10.30am Italian Mass where a piece of the Perspex in the Northern Skylight broke away and fell. This has resulted in the area below the Northern Skylight to be cordoned-off since this incident.

We are now required to complete some urgent repairs to all four Skylights, as they are all starting to show signs of cracking.

To allow for this work to be completed, the Church itself will have to be closed. **We do not have a start date yet, but it will be sometime in either late September / early October at this stage.**

When this work is being done, the 6.30am & 9am Weekday Masses, as well as Prayer/Devotional Groups will be held in the Parish Library. Some groups that meet in the Parish Library may have to be relocated to the Aquinas Room.

Weekend Masses will still be able to be held in the Church at this stage.

We also won't be able to accommodate any Funerals while the Church is closed.

Thank you for your understanding at this time.

Festa of the Madonna Delle Grazie

Welcome to those joining the Italian Community today, Sunday 17 September, at the 10.30am Mass for the Festa of the Madonna delle Grazie.

The Parish Shop has the following available:

- Cards & Gifts for First Holy Communion
- The Catholic Leader *September Edition*: \$4.00

A Pastoral Statement on the Referendum from Archbishop Mark Coleridge is available from the table near the main door of the Church for those who would like a copy.

St Vincent de Paul Meeting will be held this Tuesday, 19 September, 7.00pm in the Aquinas Room (room underneath the Church). New members are more than welcome to attend.

Brisbane East Deanery Scripture Group will be looking at *St Paul's Letter to the Romans* with an 8 week study *starting in the week of 25 September*, with daytime and evening sessions.

Our Lady of Graces will be hosting the Wednesday 10.30am group, beginning on 27 September.

Please contact Louise 0456 700 040 ASAP to register or for further details.

The Wall of Remembrance was established behind the church as a way for parishioners to have a permanent memorial for their loved ones.

For further information, including the reserving of a space and/or ordering of a plaque, please contact the parish office.

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 in the baskets at the church door.

If you make a donation to SVdP Carina Conference with cash or via EFT and would like a receipt, please contact the Parish Office.



Our Lady of Graces Multicultural Celebration *Celebrating OUR Community*

Saturday 21 October - 6.00pm Mass
followed by festivities

Bring a plate of your favourite food that celebrates your nationality

Tea, Coffee & Cordial provided

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Multicultural Celebration: Saturday 21 October

We are inviting the different nationalities which make up OUR Community of Our Lady of Graces to be part of the Multicultural Mass & festivities after Mass on Saturday 21 October. It would be wonderful to have as many different nationalities as possible involved.

We are looking for the following people for the Mass:

- Flag bearers for the Entrance Procession
- A nationality group to carry in the Book of the Gospels
- To read a Prayer of the Faithful in their own language
- A nationality group to bring up the Offertory gifts
- Those who want to lead a song in their own language during the Mass

If you are interested in being involved in the Mass, please contact the Parish Office.

After the Mass, we welcome any group who would like to perform a dance or sing a song while we enjoy the food from the different nationalities of our community.

We also invite everyone attending the Multicultural Celebration to come in national dress/costume.

Orders for 2024 Annuals

We are taking orders for the following annuals:

- Daily Mass Books \$28
- Break Open the Word \$28
- Ordos \$18

To order, please either contact the Parish Office or place your order and payment in an envelope and drop the envelope into the collection at Mass or to the Parish Office.

Orders are required by 12.30pm on Friday 30 October at the latest.

This allows for the books to be available before the start of the new liturgical year on Sunday 3 December.

Donation Terminal & Parish Giving App

No Cash? No Problem!

A tap & pay Donation Terminal is available near the main door of the Church. This is to provide an alternative way for parishioners and visitors to contribute conveniently to the financial well-being of both the Dominican Community and Our Lady of Graces Parish via credit or debit card.

You can also give via the *Parish Giving app*, by scanning the QR code for regular and one-off giving.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Going Deeper is a ten-session online series about the heart of the Catholic faith. It explores different aspects of what it means to live a Catholic life. Together we dive beneath the teachings and practices and instead ponder, 'what is this all for?' You can register any time in September and work through the course at your own pace. Whatever your faith background or experience, "Going Deeper" is for you. To find out more and to register: www.goingdeeper.org.au

Uluru Statement from the Heart Free Online Discussion Series: Prayer, Scripture reading and discussion on the Uluru Statement from the Heart in the lead up to the Voice to Parliament Referendum on Tuesdays 19 & 26 September and 3 & 10 October, 11am-12.15pm on Microsoft Teams. Facilitated by Joni McCourt & Emma Beach. Register via email to beache@bne.catholic.net.au

Combined Festival of Male Voice Praise: A program of Sacred Music, presented by men from festival Male Voice Choirs in Brisbane, Bundaberg, Toowoomba and Sydney, to be held at 2.30pm on Saturday 23 September at Living Church, 1541 Creek Rd, Carina.

Archdiocesan Multicultural Mass

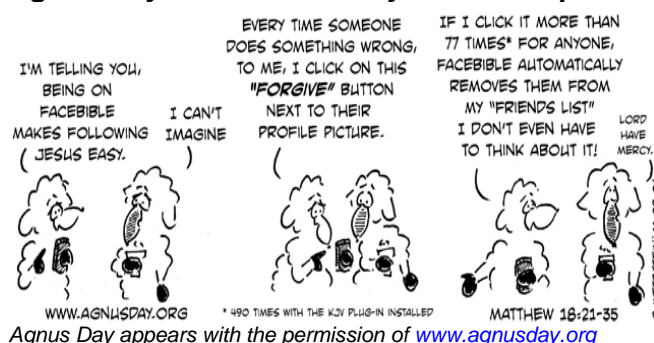
Sunday 24 September, 2.30pm, at the Cathedral of St Stephen followed by refreshments on the Cathedral grounds. RSVP: <https://app.tickets.org.au/eb/MCM23>

Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

Saturday 30 September, 11.30am, at the Cathedral of St Stephen followed by refreshments. To register to attend the Mass and for catering purposes, please RSVP to cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au or 3324 3030.

Pilgrimage of Prayer: Join in the annual pilgrimage to the Mother Teresa Shrine at Marian Valley. Saturday 7 October, 11am Mass followed by Procession to the Shrine. Bus leaving 8.15am from Star of the Sea, Cleveland, return 3pm. Bus Bookings: 3821 4902.

Agnus Day – The Lectionary Comic Strip



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