



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. 49

2nd Sunday of Advent

10 December 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 week's gospel captures beautifully the spirit of preparation and waiting that characterises the liturgical season of Advent. John the Baptist is portrayed as fulfilling the prophecies of Isaiah and others as the one who comes before the Lord preparing the way. He is a messenger, sent by God to 'do the groundwork' preparing the people for the coming of the Christ. Although this passage is used during Advent as preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, we know that John was a contemporary (indeed cousin) of Jesus and the time of preparation was immediately prior to Jesus' public ministry.



John appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism for forgiveness of sins. It may seem odd to think of going to the wilderness to try to influence people. Today we might think that the city centre or street corner might be the better venue to preach something. What is it about the wilderness? Reference is made to the wilderness several times in scripture. It is used as a place of preparation and encounter with God. The wilderness referred to was a vast expanse of emptiness on the eastern side of the Jordan River. It was not uncommon for wandering preachers like John and Jesus to go out into the wilderness as a way of making a break from their previous life and getting themselves ready in body and spirit to begin their ministry. The wilderness to the east of the Jordan was also the place in which many of the rebels based themselves. There was a sense that challenge and unrest came out of the wilderness. In many ways that is what Jesus – heralded by John – brought out of the wilderness as well.

Parish Shop

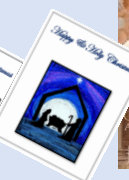
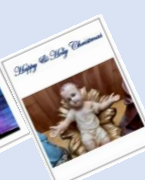
The following are available for purchase from the Parish Shop.

Advent & Christmas Daily Reflection Books: \$6

Parish Christmas Cards: \$5 for a pack of 5

Children's Activity Book: \$2

2024 Columban Calendars: \$10



PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday 13 December

- 9.30am Advent Adventures – Hospitality Area & Library
- 6.00pm OLOG Diners – Camp Hill Hotel
- 6.30pm Legion of Mary – Front Parlour

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick

Fr Antonio Rossemberg, Thomas Antony, Olivia Campbell, Liam O'Brien, Ancilla Richards, Peter Cartwright, Michael Dalton, Jocelyn Bonney, Ciaran Ayres, Caroline Massa, Marie Atkinson, Elliott Jones-Perrin, Pamela O'Reilly, Noah Riley **those whose anniversaries occur around this time** Jose Luis Arnaiz, Bert & Ena Worthington, Francisca Zamora, Lawrie McNamara, Vivian Tomkinson, Melissa Rosato, Barbara Reich, Gerald & Teresa Simento, Renata Byrne **and the recently deceased** Bryan Kassulke, Judith De Groot, Br Brian Grenier, Rex Smith, Enrico Velasques, Loma McLennan, Peter Daley, Paul McKean, Fr David Halstead OP, Lynette Choe.

Sixteen Days of Activism for Prevention of Violence against Women and Children

Today, Human Rights Day, ends this campaign for 2023, but hopefully it does not end our commitment to addressing domestic and family abuse in our community. Please continue to pray for those who suffer this horror and for those who perpetrate abuse.

What are the statistics on domestic violence in Australia?

In the year 2021/22, **5606 women (average of 15 women/day) were hospitalised due to family and domestic violence**. 1 in 4 women (27%) has experienced violence, emotional abuse, or economic abuse by a cohabitating partner since the age of 15. 1 in 3 women (31%) has experienced physical violence since the age of 15.

We, as followers of Jesus Christ, can be proactive in making space for this subject to be discussed, to provide a safe space for people to disclose abuse, and to speak out against violence of any kind, since we believe that our Saviour, Jesus Christ, is the Messiah of Peace! We can also love the offender whilst condemning the abuse. There are programs such as *Circuit Breaker* for those people who genuinely want to change their abusive behaviour.

Resources are available online on the Queensland Churches Together (QCT) website <https://www.qct.org.au/resources-links/domestic-family-violence-resources>

Nativity Displays at Local Shopping Centres

Westfield Carindale and Kmart Plaza Cannon Hill have Nativity displays in their centres - under the southern stairs near Santa 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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Work on the Church Skylights

The installation of the Polycarbonate Sheeting in the Church Skylights will continue this week. At this stage, it is expected that this work will be completed by the end of the week.

The painting of the yellow panels in the atrium of the skylights, however, has been delayed until early next year.

Monday-Friday (11-15 December)

6.30am & 9am Masses, as well as Prayer / Devotional Groups, will be held in the Parish Library. The only exception is NO Rosary or Novena after 9.00am Mass on Wednesday 13 December due to Advent Adventures.

- **Funerals:** We are not be able to accommodate any Funerals while this work is taking place.

Car Park Spaces Near the Parish Office

Some of the car park spaces near the parish office are currently blocked off for the builders to store their equipment to complete this work.

Thank you for your patience and understanding while this work takes place.

Bryan Kassulke, long time parishioner of Our Lady of Graces, passed away last Sunday evening, 3 December. Our prayers are with Morna and family at this time. The Funeral for Bryan will be held this coming Friday, 15 December, 11.00am at St James Church, Coorparoo.

Transport – Sunday 9.00am Mass

We have a long time parishioner, living in Fursden Road Carina, who is looking for transport to and from Sunday 9.00am Mass each week. If you are able to assist or for further information, please contact the Parish Office.

Advent Evening Prayer of the Church

During the Season of Advent, Evening Prayer of the Church will be prayed at 7.00pm each evening in the Parish Library/Church. All are welcome!

Liturgy of the Hours is the official daily prayer of the church that reflects the rhythm of the day (morning, noon, evening, night) and the week. Also called the Divine Office or Prayer of the Church, it consists of psalms, canticles, prayers of intercession, hymns, and readings from scripture and church writings.

Morning and Evening Prayer constitute the two 'hinges' of the Liturgy of the Hours. There is also a brief Daytime Prayer and Night Prayer, and an Office of Readings that may be prayed at any time of day. © *Liturgy Lines, Liturgy Brisbane* (22 July, 2012)

Advent Adventures: We have reached capacity for Advent Adventures on both Wednesday 13 December and Monday 18 December. Therefore, we cannot take anymore bookings.

OLOG Diners will meet at 6.00pm on Wednesday, 13 December, at the Camp Hill Hotel Bistro (724 Old Cleveland Road, Camp Hill). There is parking at the front and rear of the hotel. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

St Vincent de Paul

The 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 350 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 Our Lady of Graces Carina BSB: 064 786 Account Number: 100026584



Christmas Giving Tree

Near the main door of the Church there is a Christmas Giving Tree. You are invited to take a tag from the tree, purchase the item listed on the tag and place it into the tubs near the main door of the Church.



St Martin's Primary School & San Sisto College supporting the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

4th Sunday of Advent Mass Times (23-24 December 2023)

Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 7.00am, 9.00am & 10.30am [Italian]

No Sunday 5.30pm Mass on 24 December

Christmas Mass Times (24-25 December 2023)

Christmas Eve

6.00pm & 8.00pm

Christmas Day

7.00am, 9.00am & 10.30am [Italian]

No Evening Mass on Christmas Day

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 26 December 2023

to

Friday 12 January 2024

8.00am Mass only

Rosters for 2024

The rosters and contact lists for the below ministries will be prepared in the next couple of weeks for 2024.

- Ministers of the Word (Readers)
- Ministers of Holy Communion
- Mass Co-ordinators
- Data Projector Operators
- Altar Servers
- Music Ministry
- Washing of Purifiers & Altar Linen
- 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 2023.

We also welcome anyone who would like to be part of any of the above ministries. Anyone interested may need to complete any necessary safeguarding requirements, depending on the ministry. If you are interested, 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 adults at risk.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Journey to Bethlehem is a movie version of the Christmas story and comes to life on the big screen. This live-action Christmas musical celebration is for the whole family. Emmanuel Community is hosting a private screening at Cineplex, South Bank on Sunday 10 December at 1pm. Buy your tickets at www.ec.org.au

The Queensland Choir presents Sounds of the Season. Saturday 16 December, 7:30pm, Concert Hall at the Old Museum Building, Bowen Hills. Tickets available from www.oldmuseumevent or call 3257 4089.

4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Obligation

With the 4th Sunday of Advent falling on 24 December this year, there will be two obligations for attending Mass within 24 hours or so. Firstly there is your Sunday Mass Obligation for the 4th Sunday of Advent and then there is your Christmas Mass Obligation, since Christmas is a Holy Day of Obligation. **Please note that attending Mass on Christmas Eve does not count for both your Sunday Obligation and Christmas Obligation.**



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. GNLYC 39

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