

Spread the Word

Vol. 39 No. 8 2nd Sunday of Lent 25 February 2024

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

Reflection written by Michael McGirr

When Jesus took his closest friends to the top of a high mountain, they experienced something quite extraordinary. The transfiguration gave them a glimpse of what it meant for Jesus to be the son of God. It is hardly surprising that Peter said, 'it is wonderful for us to be here.' The Gospel also tells us that Jesus' friends were frightened, and this is also easy to understand. They were overwhelmed. Nevertheless, it's not long before Jesus reminds them that he is destined to die. His friends must come down from the mountain and walk with Jesus through all the ordinary and arduous days and weeks that lie ahead.

We can all say 'it is wonderful for us to be here' no matter where that happens to be. Life is full of wonder. That doesn't mean it is always easy. We live in the arms of a very deep mystery. God's love enfolds us.

Throughout Lent, we are called to support Project Compassion, an initiative of Caritas Australia. This year, Project Compassion celebrates 60 years of partnership with some of the most marginal communities in the world. With your help, we have walked alongside literally millions of people in dozens of countries.

This week we encounter the story of Ronita who lives in Quezon City, part of metro Manila in the Philippines. Becoming a mother at a young age meant that her schooling was cut short. Her husband, Lean, leaves for work at 3am and returns at 9pm, earning less than \$US10 per day in a demanding job in waste disposal. On such a small income, Ronita and Lean, along with two young children, are able to rent a room of about 10 square metres.

With your help through Project Compassion, Caritas Australia has been able to support the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) to run the Alternative Learning System program. This program has meant that Ronita has been able to continue her education. The FCJ sisters provide a safe space for many young people such as Ronita to finish school and find better jobs. Ronita has had the opportunity to change her life.

Caritas Australia believes that the world can be transfigured to become more like the kingdom of God of which Jesus spoke. We can encounter people whom others choose to ignore. When we do so, we discover that here too are children of God. We are asked to listen to them.



Ronita (22) smiles as she holds her sons, Egzy Grey (3) and Clark (5), in their small home in Quezon City, Philippines. Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia

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

PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 25 February

- 8.00am Baptism Preparation – Church & Library
- 9.00am Children's Liturgy of the Word – Library
- 10.30am Feast of St Gabriel Mass – Church
- 2.00pm Confirmation Session 1 – Church

Monday 26 February

- 7.00pm Italian Prayer Group – Church
- 7.00pm Evening Prayer of the Church – Library

Tuesday 27 February

- 9.30am Japanese Language Playgroup
– Hospitality Area
- 3.30pm Confirmation Session 1 – Church
- 3.30pm RCIA – Library
- 7.00pm St Vincent de Paul – Aquinas Room

Wednesday 28 February

- 9.45am Novena: OLPH – Library
- 6.30pm Legion of Mary – Library
- 7.00pm Evening Prayer of the Church – Church

Thursday 29 February

- 4.00pm Penance Session 2 – Church
- 6.00pm TCS Choir – Church
- 6.00pm Alpha Young Adults – Library

Friday 1 March

- 7.00pm Stations of the Cross – Church
- 7.00pm 500 Card Group – Aquinas Room

Saturday 2 March

- 10.00am World Day of Prayer Service – Church

Sunday 3 March

- 9.00am Baptisms in Mass – Church
- 2.00pm Penance Session 2 – Church

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick Liam O'Brien, Ancilla Richards, Jocelyn Bonney, Riley Dwyer, Elliott Jones-Perrin, Caroline Massa, Pamela O'Reilly, Hein van der Heide **those whose anniversaries occur around this time** Geoffery Frugniet, Maureen Ferguson, Maria Ky Le, Pelin Mayo, Neil Costello **and the recently deceased** Joan Collins.

Children's Liturgy of the Word is being held TODAY, Sunday 25 February, during 9am Mass and then on Sunday 10 March. All primary school aged children are welcome to attend.

Festa of San Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother

Welcome to those joining the Italian Community TODAY, Sunday 25 February, at the 10.30am Mass for the Festa of San Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother.

Sacramental Program 2024

Confirmation (Year 3 / 8 years old)

Confirmation Family Activity Session 1

- TODAY, Sunday 26 February, 2pm-3.30pm
(Option 2)
- Tuesday 28 February, 3.30pm-5pm (Option 1)

Penance (Year 5 / 10 years old):

Penance Session 1

- Thursday 29 February, 4pm-6pm (Option 1)
- Sunday 3 March, 2pm-4pm (Option 2)

Evening Prayer of the Church

Throughout the Season of Lent, Evening Prayer of the Church will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm.

LENT

Stations of the Cross

Friday evenings, 7.00pm, in the Church.

Lenten Books

Pieta (Diocese of Wollongong): \$10

A Resurrected Life (Archdiocese of Brisbane): \$7
Available from the Parish Shop & Parish Office.

Project Compassion Boxes and Envelopes

Available in the Church.

IMPORTANT: Car Park - Friday 1 & 8 March 7.00pm Stations of the Cross

Parishioners are advised that parking may be limited for 7.00pm Stations of the Cross on Friday 1 & 8 March due to San Sisto Collee holding a Trivia Night on 1 March and St Martin's School holding their disco in the Dominic Centre on 8 March. We will block off some parking for those attending Stations of the Cross.

St Vincent de Paul

The next meeting of St Vincent de Paul will be held this Tuesday, 27 February, 7.00pm in the Aquinas Room (room underneath the Church). New members are more than welcome to attend.

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.

Alpha Young Adult Group

The Alpha Young Adult group, for 18-25 year olds, continues on Thursday evenings, 6.00pm-8.30pm, in the Parish Library with free food, fellowship, discussions and question-asking.

For further information, contact the Parish Office on 3398 2977 or carina@bne.catholic.net.au

Food Donations for Alpha Young Adult Group

The Alpha Young Adult Group would welcome food donations to assist with their weekly meal on Thursday evenings. This could be as simple as preparing a sauce to go on top of pasta or rice. To assist, please contact the Parish Office on 3398 2977 or carina@bne.catholic.net.au



Parish 500 Card Group will meet this Friday, 1 March, 7.00pm in the Aquinas Room (room underneath the Church). All are welcome.

World Day of Prayer

This year our Parish is hosting World Day of Prayer for our local area. The Ecumenical Service for this year has been prepared by the Christian women of Palestine.

The World Day of Prayer service will be held this coming **Saturday, 2 March, 10.00am in Our Lady of Graces Church.**

All are welcome to attend!



IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Works on Replacing the Church Roof

Work on the Church Roof commenced this last week. This work will be done in 3 Stages and take approximately 6 months to complete. Stage 1 will involve work on the Church Spire, Stage 2 will involve the roof on the School side of the Church, and Stage 3 will involve the roof on the Mayfield Road side of the Church.

Important Information

Throughout the Roof Project, there may be sections of the Church blocked-off at times as an exclusion zone, as the contractors will be working on the section of roof above the exclusion zone.

Asbestos Removal

One part of the Roof Project is to remove Asbestos sheeting from the roof of the church. This removal is being done by an Asbestos Removal company, and will be tightly managed under Queensland Government Asbestos removal regulations. The Asbestos to be removed is Bonded Asbestos. On the specific days when the Asbestos is being removed there will be signage, a 10 metre exclusion zone and independent air monitoring will be in place.

For anyone who requires further information regarding the Asbestos Removal, including a Fact Sheet about Bonded Asbestos and the Asbestos Removal Controls that will be in place, please contact the Parish Office.

*Thank you for your patience and understanding while this work takes place.
Each week there will be updates as we work our way through the Church Roof Project.*

St Martin's School News

We welcomed 642 students to begin the new school year.

St Martin's is introducing a Synthetic Phonics Program for the teaching of reading, writing and spelling in the early years. This Science of Reading approach will strengthen our work in the teaching of literacy. 2024 will also see a different approach to the way we teach children to problem solve in Maths. With a focus on stretching student thinking, we look forward to some exciting teaching in maths this year.

Peter Pashen, School Principal



St Martin's School

San Sisto College News

San Sisto and Villanova Colleges Combined Social Justice Initiative

San Sisto College Year 12 Student Leaders met earlier this week with Villanova College Leaders to begin planning a social justice initiative to raise awareness and funds for homelessness and Emmanuel City Mission. The students are planning to walk a pilgrimage in solidarity with Roby Curtis of Emmanuel City Mission and Bishop Tim Norton.

If you are interested in supporting this worthy cause, you can donate <https://ecmpilgrimage.com.au/john-holroyd> or support homelessness and our students by purchasing a ticket to the San Sisto Trivia Night on Friday 1 March.

Trivia Night

On Friday 1 March, San Sisto College will be hosting a Community Trivia Night! This is a great opportunity to make connections and have a fun-filled night of entertainment. Doors will open at 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start. This is an adult-only event and open to all members of the community. All funds raised will go to Project Compassion and Emmanuel City Mission.

Tickets are \$20 each and available to purchase at <https://events.humanitix.com/sansisto> until Monday 26 February, 12 noon.

*Eleni Greenaway
Assistant Principal, Community Engagement & Mission*



COMMUNITY NEWS

Queensland Churches Together will be holding an Online Zoom Workshop Series entitled "Responding to Domestic Violence". Workshops will be held on Wednesdays 21 & 28 February and 6 March, 7pm-8.30pm. Register www.trybooking.com/COJMX

Liturgy in Focus Lecture and Discussion Series Fr Richard Leonard SJ

"Living Liturgy:

Being Sent Out on Mission to the World"

Nourished by word and sacrament at our weekly Eucharist, the gathered community is sent out to live and proclaim our faith, hope and love in Christ. What does the world look like to which we are sent? What liturgy might enable us to reclaim a missionary energy that is hospitable, bold, inclusive and Catholic?

Wednesday 13 March, 7.00pm - 8.45pm

Hanly Room, beside the Cathedral of St Stephen
(parking available via Charlotte Street)
60 minute presentation, 20 minute tea/coffee/chat,
20 minute Q&A

\$10 per individual or

\$8 per ticket for bookings of 5 or more

<https://liturgybrisbaneworkshops.weebly.com/richard-leonard.html>

LENT IDEAS for KIDS

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