

**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
Parish Email: carina@bne.catholic.net.au

MASS TIMES:

Weekend:
Saturday: 6pm Vigil
Sunday: 7am, 9am and 5.30pm
Italian Mass: 10.30am

Weekday: 6.30am & 9am
Monday to 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

Spread the Word

Vol. 35 No. 49**3rd Sunday of Advent****13 December 2020****New Testament Commentary: Who are you?**

This Sunday again focuses on John the Baptist and the question continues – who are you? This is the question being asked in the early communities. Who was John? How can we understand his mission and its connection to the mission of Jesus? The questioners put to him the names of key Jewish figures who were expected to come in the final days – the Christ, Elijah and the Prophet. 'The Christ' is a Greek translation of the Hebrew title, 'the Messiah'. This was someone in the line of David who was expected to come at in the end-times to restore the Kingdom of David. Elijah was one of the great prophets who was believed to have been taken up to heaven in a fiery chariot and would return at the end of time. The Prophet refers to a promise made to Moses that God would raise up in the future, a prophet like Moses to lead the people. Some thought John fitted one of these hoped-for figures. But John turns down these roles, and instead speaks of himself as 'the voice' and he is described as a witness.



Later in John's Gospel, John describes himself as 'the friend of the bridegroom' (3:28-30). In those days, the friend of the bridegroom was the one who went to the home of the prospective bride and he was the voice and witness of the bridegroom. It was the friend who extolled the virtues of the bridegroom to the bride's father in the hope that the father would give permission for the marriage. The friend then made all the negotiations about the dowry, the day of the wedding etc. The friend was totally focused on the desire of the bridegroom. This is how John describes his relationship to Jesus – John is the friend, the best man; Jesus is the bridegroom. In this way John reveals one of the earliest images of Jesus in the Gospel of John – Jesus is the long awaited bridegroom of Israel, the manifestation of God's covenant love and desire. Immediately after John's witness, the first public action of Jesus is to participate in a wedding and provide abundant wine, which was in fact the role of the bridegroom. As Christmas approaches, we might spend time to consider the coming of God to us through this image of love, desire and anticipation associated with a wedding. Those who have experienced this, as brides, grooms, other participants, may recall that time and consider that this very human experience of love, betrothal marriage, is a glimpse into God's love and desire that led to the coming of Jesus.

John knows his place in God's scheme. He humbly attests that there is another, even greater, who is coming. This is John's greatness, to know and accept the particular role he is given for the Kingdom. For some this can take years of searching and pondering. We don't know what John was doing before this ministry, and it seems that Jesus only began his mission around the age of thirty. As Christmas draws near, may it be a time of quiet reflection on the particular gifts God has given to me, and what particular way I may further God's kingdom.

© Dr Mary Coloe PBVM

'Tis the Season to Be Jolly Organised ... Book for Christmas Mass NOW!

PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 12 December

- 7.00am Working Bee – Church & Grounds
- 1.00pm Jesus Youth – Church & Hospitality Area

Monday 14 December

- 7.30pm Parish Finance Council – Library

Sunday 20 December

- 10.30am Dominican Laity – Library

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick Pamela O'Reilly and those whose anniversaries occur around this time Bryan Carson, Pantaleone Silipo, Adolf Pieper, Bill Callow, Fr Raoul Collart and the recently deceased Nicola Paolucci, Giovanni Melita.

Planned Giving

Planned Giving Envelopes for 2021 are available for collection from the front door of the church. This will be the last weekend that the envelopes will be available from the church. Please collect to save the parish unnecessarily postage costs. Some givers will have a new number due to a reduction of envelope givers. If you cannot find your envelopes, please contact the parish office on 3398 2977 or carina@bne.catholic.net.au

Nativity Displays at Local Shopping Centres

Westfield Carindale and Kmart Plaza Cannon Hill have Nativity displays in their centres. Parishioners may like to contact Centre Management to thank them for the displays and to encourage them to continue the practice.



With acknowledgement, 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 1

Sacramental Program 2021

Penance (Year 5 / 10 years old)

The session dates handout for Penance, in February and March 2021, is available from the parish office.

Confirmation (Year 3 / 8 years old)

Enrolment forms are available from the parish office. Enrolments close on Thursday 25 February 2021.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation currently is only being celebrated by appointment. Contact the parish office to make an appointment. Please note that there will not be any schedule times for Reconciliation prior to Christmas.

St Vincent de Paul

- Online Donations

St Vincent de Paul Qld is currently undertaking a change to their banking system. If you currently donate or would like to donate funds directly to the Our Lady of Graces Conference of St Vincent de Paul, you can by using the following banking details.

Account Name: **St Vincent de Paul,**

Our Lady of Graces Carina

BSB: **064 786** Account Number: **100007239**

Please contact Barbara Dougherty on 0438 982 140 or email brdougherty@bigpond.com for any queries. Please be assured that all funds donated go directly to helping those in need within the local community.

- Italian Community Thank You

The SVdP is extremely blessed to have the wonderful support of the Italian Community at Our Lady of Graces. \$5,510.25 was raised recently from an online fundraiser. Thank you to Graziella Cavallaro and Mrs Coco for organising this fundraiser. This funding helps SVdP at Our Lady of Graces to assist many who struggle with daily living costs.

COVID-19 Outreach Initiative to Parishioners

Earlier this year, in the midst of the COVID-19, a few of our volunteers phoned a number of our parishioners through a telephone outreach initiative.

To build on what was developed earlier this year, a couple of our volunteers have started to ring parish families randomly, on behalf of the parish team, to check-in and see how you are going.

If you know of someone who would like a phone call or is in need of support, please contact the parish office.

Communion at Home Ministry

With the COVID-19 Telephone Outreach Initiative in place, we are having requests from parishioners who are unable to attend Mass, for various reasons, however would like Communion at Home.

The parish is desperately looking for more people who would be interested in being part of the Communion at Home Ministry. The involvement would be once a month for 30 minutes.

For further information or to express your interest in this ministry, contact either Suzanne Schultz on 0425 544 005 or the parish office.

Home Transport Ministry – Sunday 9am Mass

The parish has had a request from a parishioner who lives in Meadowlands Road, Carina, for transport to and from the Sunday 9am Mass each week.

If you are able to assist, even once a fortnight or month, please contact the parish office for further information including safeguarding requirements.

Sunday Mass Bookings

Due to the upcoming Christmas-New Year period, Sunday Mass Bookings will open this Monday (14 December) for the following Sundays listed below.

1. Sunday 20 December (Bookings close Friday 18 December, 12 noon)
2. Sunday 27 December (Bookings close Wednesday 23 December, 12 noon)
3. Sunday 3 January (Bookings close Friday 1 January, 12 noon)

To make your bookings, go to www.carinacatholicparish.org.au and clicking on the "Mass Bookings" image. Alternately, call the parish during office hours on 3398 2977 prior to Christmas.



**Secure
your room
at the
inn**
Book Christmas Mass
with your parish now

Christmas Mass Timetable 2020

Given the current restrictions we have to abide by under the COVID Industry Safe Plan for Places of Worship, the Christmas Mass Timetable for 2020 will be different from previous years. This is so we can easily include additional Masses to the timetable, if there is a sudden change in restrictions. Some Masses will also need to be held in the Dominic Centre, which can accommodate more people than in Our Lady of Graces Church. Below is the Christmas Mass timetable as it currently stands.

Christmas Eve

- 6pm Our Lady of Graces Church (**Full**)
- 6pm Dominic Centre (**Spaces Available**)
- 8pm Our Lady of Graces Church (**Full**)

Christmas Day

- 7am Dominic Centre (**Spaces Available**)
- 9am Dominic Centre (**Spaces Available**)
- 10.30am [Italian] Our Lady of Graces Church

Note: NO Evening Mass on Christmas Day

The booking system for the Christmas Masses is now open. Please go to the parish website www.carinacatholicparish.org.au, click on the "Christmas Mass" icon and select the Christmas Mass time and venue you wish to attend. For the Christmas Eve 6pm Masses, note there is no venue swapping allowed on the evening.

If you cannot access a computer, please phone the parish office to make your booking.

To book for the 10.30am Italian Mass, please contact Vito Di Stasi (3398 5738).

Thank you to those who have come forward to assist at a Christmas Mass this year as either a marshal, usher, or one of the Mass ministries.

Assistance is required to help set-up the Dominic Centre on Wednesday 23 December, 7pm-8pm, and pack-up on Monday 28 December, 9am.



Christmas - New Year Period

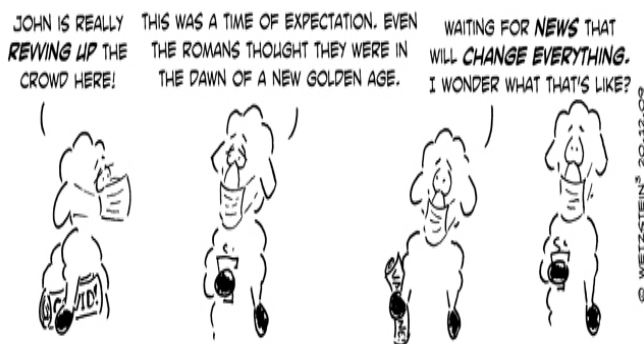
- Parish Office

The Parish Office closes for the Christmas period at 3.30pm on Wednesday 23 December 2020 and reopens 8.30am on Monday 4 January 2021.

- Weekday Masses

Please note that weekday Masses for the week of Monday 28 December to Friday 1 January will be at 8am only.

Agnus Day – The Lectionary Comic Strip



www.agnusday.org
Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org

Vocation View

There was a man sent by God, who came as witness to testify to the Light, so that through this person all people might believe. Is your name in the Gospel today?



To talk to someone about your vocation, contact the Vocation Brisbane office on 1300 133 544, vocation@bne.catholic.net.au or visit their website www.vocationbrisbane.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Spend Time with God Every Morning

Sign up to receive the Daily Gospel Reflection. These reflections are mailed to your inbox at 6am each day (Monday to Friday) and are just a three minute read that could be done over breakfast, intended to invite you into prayer. Written by Catholic lay people (men and women from Evangelisation Brisbane), for Catholic lay people about the gospel of the day to help you start your day with God. Subscribe via the QR code or evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/daily-reflections



Songs of Advent Joy

Thursday 17 December, 7:30pm,
Cathedral of St Stephen

Following the success of 'Songs of Easter Hope' series earlier this year, the Cathedral of St Stephen will again be filled with sound to celebrate the Season of Advent.

Come and explore hymns, prayers and motets rejoicing in the coming of Christ at Christmas, all led by the Cathedral Schola.

Entry is by donation 'notes for notes' (with all money raised supporting the Cathedral Music program).

Registration for the evening is via the Cathedral website www.cathedralofststephen.org.au/christmas

Songs of Advent Joy will be live-streamed for those who are unable to attend in person. These will be via brisbanecatholic.org.au/multimedia/web-cast/



The Christmas Novena begins on 17 December. At this point, the Advent focus shifts to the Christmas story and the Virgin Mary. These days serve to prepare more directly for the Lord's birth

GNLYC 42

COSMO ELECTRICS

"Proudly supporting your church"

For All Installations & Repairs

Over 40yrs experience | 10% OFF *when you mention this ad.

3274 3600 www.cosmoelectrics.com.au LIC: 4719

Hearing Tests, FM Systems & Auditory Processing

Auditory Processing from 6 Years.
Free Tests & Hearing Aids for Pensioners & Veterans.
 (under the Australian Government Hearing Program)

Phone 3398 8862

John Percy Audiology
 The Link to Better Hearing

Carina Plaza, 876 Old Cleveland Road
 (Cnr Sankey St) Carina Q 4152

WE LOOK AFTER PEOPLE
 Valuing and Respecting Human Life

- Residential Care
- Retirement Living
- Community Care

1800 899 300

southern cross care

SCCQLD.COM.AU

An initiative of the Knights of the Southern Cross

St Luke's Green
 WOOLLOONGABBA

Independent Retirement Living and Aged Care

Open House each Thursday
 10am till 12 noon
 Or by appointment

P 07 3129 9075
 www.stlukesgreen.com.au

43-46 Taylor St,
 Woolloongabba QLD 4102

Greengate
 Boutique Living and Caring.

Nicole Smith – Travel Specialist
 0408 703 570
 nsmith@mtatravel.com.au
 mtatravel.com.au/nsmith

If you can dream I can send you

MTA MOBILE TRAVEL AGENTS
 Based in Carina

BLUE LINE DRY CLEANERS

"A family owned business Est.1957"

- Same Day Service
- Mending, Alterations
- Wedding Gowns
- Leather & Suede
- Lambswool & Furs
- Bedding & Curtains

3 PLAIN GARMENTS \$29.50
 *Mention this ad.

3398 2976
 6 Mayfield, Carina

Skintec Leather Care
 Specialist Leather Cleaner

Pre-plan, so you and your loved ones needn't worry.

Pre-planning your funeral means you have it your way. It also means your loved ones don't have to stress or worry. All they'll need to do is honour your life with wonderful memories. A simple phone call and we can arrange everything. Our family has been helping Queenslanders for over 130 years.

K.M. SMITH
 FUNERAL DIRECTORS since 1883
 We think of everything

Phone 3252 2031 or visit kmsmith.com.au and download our helpful, free "Life Memories" booklet.

ADVERTISEMENT

Cr Lisa Atwood
 Councillor for Doboy Ward

(07) 3407 8800
 Doboy.Ward@bcc.qld.gov.au

AUTHORISED BY CR LISA ATWOOD, 5/1181 WYNNUM RD CANNON HILL 4170

Christmas Mass Bookings

All your marketing needs, in one place.

1800 245 077
 design@austnews.com.au
 design.austnews.com.au

austnews ADVERTISING

Take your business to the next level...

Advertise on this parish newsletter to be seen by local families.

1800 245 077
 info@austnews.net.au
 advertising.austnews.net.au

PORTOFINO HAMILTON

BRISBANE'S ONLY
 Luxury Aged Care Apartments

Vacanti

Exceptional personalised care options, including supported senior living, residential aged care, secure dementia care and respite care.

Family is at our heart. Discover the Vacanti difference.
 Call us on 3422 9300
 Learn more at vacanti.com.au

Moreton Bay
 Obstetrics & Gynaecology
 PT LTD

• Exceptional care
 • Friendly & professional
 • Guidance & support

Dr Micheal Mastry & Dr Gill van Iddekinge

CALL NOW to make an appointment

Mater Specialist Suites, Suite 11-12, Weippin St Cleveland | Ph 3163 7362