

# St Peter's Catholic Parish

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#### PARISH PRIEST

Fr Baiyi (By-yee) Gong

Email: pp.stpetroch a bne.catholic.net.au

Phone: 3341 4421 (Parish Office)

For after-hours emergency

call the Parish Mobile: 0481 975 660

#### DEACON

Rev. Mike Jones

Mobile: 0400 559 177

#### PARISH OFFICE

955 Rochedale Road, Rochedale

Email: stpetroch a bne.catholic.net.au

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Secretary: Julie Hondroudakis

Office: 3341 4421

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Open: Mon-Fri 8 15am-1,15pm

#### ST PETERS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Phone: 3341 4800

Email: prochedale a bne.catholic edu.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELP CENTRE

Phone 5561 4712

#### MISSION STATEMENT

"Saint Peter's Parish is a community who lives in faith of Jesus Christ and, moved by the Spirit, continues to grow in our love for God and all people."



# Fifth Sunday of Lent—Year A 2nd April 2017

Pastor's Note: "Take the stone away"

We can imagine that those around Him couldn't believe their ears when hearing Jesus say, "Take the stone away", among whom few took it seriously. Although Martha didn't see what Jesus really meant by saying this, she took it seriously but worried about the smell and condition of Lazarus' body four days after his death. Nobody could foresee how amazing later events would be, however, the miracle just happened after the stone had been taken away.

In fact, there was a stone in the heart of everyone on the scene but Jesus. Though the physical stone was big, some strong men could put it away easily. The fact that the Gospel doesn't describe the process of the stone's removal means it was not very difficult. The stone that wasn't easily taken away existed in their hearts. Once the one in their hearts was taken away, the physical one would be very easily put aside.

For the Pharisees, the stone in their hearts was that they didn't believe Jesus was the Messiah at all. To them, Moses and his Law were the most important things. If they observed the Law outwardly but strictly, then they would fulfil all of their religious responsibilities well. Nothing else was really important. The Messiah whom they had been awaiting was one who would be a perfect political player and a skilled military commander like King David. Jesus was far from that. To them, Jesus' words were just a joke and meant nothing. They wouldn't really listen to him.

For the disciples, the stone in their hearts was their uncertainties about Jesus' identity. Some thought he was a prophet. Peter knew he was the Messiah but couldn't suffer. And some were following him for their own personal interests. Judas Iscariot was totally a speculator. At this stage, they couldn't understand Jesus fully and wouldn't follow his words without doubt and completely.

For Martha and Mary, although they believed that Jesus was "Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world", in their hearts, there was a stone, too. It was that they never ever expected Jesus could and would change their situation right there at the moment, let alone resurrect their brother on the site right before their eyes and restore the happy trio again. Fortunately, they had such great love for Jesus that made them follow what He told them without comprehending it. They knew Jesus loved them so much that whatever he would do would be good for them. So, it was their love for Jesus that removed the stone in their hearts, followed by the easy removal of the physical stone.

Dear friends, actually, we have such stones in our hearts also, big or small. We might be stubborn as a mule about some particular traditions or customs, or hide some secular pursuits in the recesses of our hearts, or have some doubts and uncertainties about Jesus' identity, ability and love. It is only love that can remove all of these stones. Therefore, let us learn from Mary and Martha, strive to love unconditionally, till it hurts. Through love, the stones in our hearts will be gone and the disappearance of the ones in life will follow. Then, Jesus will definitely perform miracles on us, making our lives shine brightly.

Fr Baiyi

Readings Fifth Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14 I shall put my spirit in you and you will live.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

Gospel: John 11:1-45 I am the resurrection and the life.

Readings for next weekend: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Isaiah 50:4-7 Philippians 2:6-11 Matthew 26:11-54

IN OUR PARISH THIS COMING WEEK:					
MON 3rd April	8.00am Mass 7.00pm Parish Pastoral Council meeting				
TUE 4th April	8.00am Mass 4.30pm St Vincent de Paul meeting 7.30pm Communal 2nd Rite of Reconciliation				
WED 5th April	6.30am Mass 7.30pm Lenten Discussion Group				
THU 6th April	9.00am Easter Capers 7.30pm Lenten Discussion Group (Parish Office)				
FRI 7th April	8.30am Rosary 9.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.30am Healing Mass 7.30pm Stations of the Cross				
SAT 8th April	8.30am making Palm Crosses 9.00am Decorating the Church for Palm Sunday 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday				
SUN 9th April	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord 9.00am Mass—beginning with Palm Procession 6.00pm Mass				

Children's Liturgy will take a break for the school holidays. Recommencing on 23rd April Project Compassion boxes & envelopes still available from the back of the church. Help Caritas help those in need this Lent. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving have always been a part of the Lenten journey. No Parking: Please don't park down the driveway between the

Memorial Wall and the grass area.

Social Justice Group News: Easter is just around the corner. Please purchase fair trade chocolate Easter eggs. Erika Parish Office Hours will vary this week (Monday to Wednesday) due to staff holidays. Messages may be left on the answering machine or in the postbox beside the door. And will be attended to asap.

Communal 2nd Rite of Reconciliation for Lent this Tuesday 4th April at 7.30pm.

Easter Volunteers: Readers, Eucharistic Ministers. collectors and altar servers needed for the Easter services. Please write your name on the coloured lists. We also need 8 volunteers for the Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday night.

Lenten Program: Last meetings this week! Wednesday evening at Mary Naughton's house and the Tuesday group will meet on Thursday instead in the Parish Office meeting room due to the Reconciliation on Tuesday. You are welcome to join in either group.

Stations of the Cross Final one for this Lent will be this Friday 7th April at 7.30pm.

Easter Capers Thursday 6th April 9am till 3 pm in the Parish Centre. All primary school age children are invited to an exciting program of fun activities!!! Craft, Bible stories, songs, prayer, drama, play and games. Day will include morning tea and lunch. Cost for the day \$5 per child or \$10 per family. Contact Jo Cullen 0419733878 or the Parish Office for more information. Numbers are limited so get in early!

Chrism Mass: Archbishop Mark Coleridge invites you to the Annual Chrism Mass to be held in the Cathedral of St Stephen on Thursday 6th April 2017 commencing at 7.00pm. This is a celebration for the entire Archdiocese and all are welcome.

Date Claimer - Installation Mass: All parishioners are invited to the Official Installation of Fr Baiyi as our Parish Priest at Mass on Friday 12th May commencing at 6.30pm.

Enrolments for 2018 for St Peter's Catholic Primary School are being taken now. Please contact the School Office on 3341 4800 for an enrolment pack. Invitation from St Edward's, Daisy Hill to all St Peter's parishioners to attend a Reflection and Reconciliation with Fr Ray Sanchez CP on Monday 10th April commencing at 6.30pm.

Readers for Palm Sunday. As usual we will read the Passion for the Gospel on Palm Sunday. Booklets with readings are available in the Sacristy this weekend for those rostered for next Sunday so you can practice during the week. You will read these parts as well as your other reading duties. Please bring these reading booklets back to Palm Sunday Mass and then leave them to be re-used in future vears.

**Crosses for Palm Sunday** 

Please come along to help fold palm crosses this Saturday 8th April from 8.30am to 10am, on the verandah of the church. The crosses are easy to fold, so come along, lend a hand and have fun. Many hands make light work.

**Decorating the Church for Palm** Sunday: We will be decorating the church for Palm Sunday at 9am this Saturday 8th April. If you can help please come along.

Palm Sunday Procession:

As usual we will begin our 9am Palm Sunday Mass with the Procession with palms. The 6pm Masses will have a Liturgy of Commemoration of Jesus Solemn Entry into Jerusalem also.

#### **Times for Easter Services:**

Communal 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm Stations of the Cross (final 2 for Lent 2017) Friday 31st March & 7th April 7.30pm

Holy Thursday 13th April 7.30pm

Good Friday 14th April

10am Way of the Cross at Daisy Hill 3pm Passion at St Peter's

Easter Vigil 15th April 7pm (NOTE later time!!) Easter Sunday 16th April 9am only



Vinnies News: Vinnies are having an Easter raffle. Please don't forget to buy your tickets before or after Mass during the next two weeks. The prize includes some wines and an Easter basket filled with goodies. Tickets are \$1.00 each and funds raised will assist us to help the needy families in our area. The raffle will be drawn after 9am Mass on Palm Sunday.

Donations of sewing materials especially thread and lace required for the St Vinnies Sewing Classes at Woodridge. Some other ideas; pins, needles, fabric.... Donations to the Parish Office

Are you new to our Parish like Fr Baivi? If you've recently joined the Parish, WELCOME!! Please make yourself known to us. We'd like to formally greet you, so please complete a 'New Parishioners Card' at the back of the Church and place it on the collection plate or hand it to Fr Baiyi or to one of the Parish Councillors.



Share the Dignity provides nationally to homeless and at risk women, sanitary products to allow them a sense of dignity at a time when they need it most. No woman should suffer the indignity of choosing between eating and buying sanitary items. The Archdiocese has asked all parishes to support this charity by donating sanitary items during April and again in August. A collection box will be at the back of the church until the end of April. Please contribute to this worthy cause.

Entertainment Books are now available for purchase. Full of discount vouchers to restaurants, hotels, and leisure activities to 1st June 2018. Still only \$65. Remember that now, as well as the traditional book you can choose a Digital Membership that will always be available on your smartphone. You can purchase online at www.entbook.com.au/2224e97 or buy today or during the week from Julie in the Parish Office.

40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil for the Unborn: Our annual 40 day, 24 hour prayer vigil at Bowen Hills goes all through Lent and we need prayer volunteers like you! If you can spare a few hours over Lent to pray for the lives of unborn children, please email us at 40daysbrisbane@gmail.com or visit us at 40dfl.net on how to be involved! Centenary of Mary Immaculate School at Annerley 29th & 30th April. See noticeboard for more info. Inaugural Marian Lecture—"Underground Cathedrals". Tuesday 23rd May. You are invited to enter this conversation in search of "underground cathedrals" with the wisdom of noted educator and spiritual guide Mark Patrick Hederman OSB of Glenstal Abbey, Ireland. Whether we are educators or simply 'seekers' trying to discover the way forward—our mission is to allow the energy of divine love to stretch us. 5.30pm until 7.00pm at the Australian Catholic University Leadership Centre at Level 3, 229 Elizabeth Street in the city. No Cost. Please RSVP to mark.oconnor@marists.org.au for catering purposes. Further inquiries can also be directed there.

#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those who have died: Peter Howard, Nancy Nunan

Book of Life & Mass Requests: Agnes Chin, Fatima Chin, Vashti McNamara, Valentine McNamara, Pauline Earle, Hector Hewavitharana. Matthew Cogliati, Nicholas Chin, Cyril O'Brien, Dudley Maloney. Margot Vizmanos-Tovera, Jessie White, Elaine Fitzgibbons, Philomena Herrmann, George White, Ellen (Nell) Elliot, Kenneth Morris, Kevin Thorley, Kerry Routledge, Lyn Murray

Please pray for those who are sick, especially Maddie Smith, Pat Mildren, Ann Mendoza, Elmore Kotzur, Flex Dance, Michael Ah Koy, Monica Ah Koy, Kevin Kelly, Annette Sparks, Hamish Stuhmeke, Joe Wegener, Roger Byrne, Ingeborg McIntosh, Don Bechly, Brian Button, Ramona Cruz, Bonnie Dematillar, Terri Mills, Johnny Summers

Prayer requests should be recorded on the form on the back table of the church nearest to the lectern. Please ensure you have the permission of the person who is sick to make their name public.

Roster 8th & 9th April 2017							
Communion			Readers	Altar Servers	Musiclans		
Sat 6:00pm	Mary Naughton Ann Maree Collier Carl de Mello	C 1 2	Mal Jensen Joyce Lyster Fiorenzo Matarazzo	Volunteers please	Liz		
Sun 9:00am	Del Reynolds Alan Scanlon June Wilson	C 1 2	Lydia Chew Arthur Leow Kevin McMahon	Volunteers please	Anne		
Sun 6.00pm	Helen Graczyk Cora Gatbonton	C 1 2	Aurelie Regnard Bob Burns Raylee Burns	Volunteers please	Rita		
Church	Cleaning: 4 Grace and	Efren 1	uazon, Murray Wickman, I	Help needed!!			

Children's Liturgy: none This week: Linen: Celine Phillips Counting: Carl's team

Cuppa: Sun 9th April after the 9am Mass: Family Group/Tongan Community

#### Other Parish Contacts

Care & Concern: Transport: 0412267337 Co-ordinator Lynn White 0403 051103

Family Group Facebook:

St Peters Rochedale Family Groups

Memorial Wall & Gardens: Les O'Gorman 3341 3862

Rosary Group: Fridays 9:00am (1st Fridays 8.30am) Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Representative: Malcolm Carroll 0438 949 099 or mcarroll580@gmail.com Social Justice Group Facebook:

St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group

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