

St Peter's Catholic Parish

Rochedale • Springwood

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PARISH PRIEST

Fr Baiyi (By-ye) Gong

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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

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Co-ordinator of Lay Ministries: Josephine Cullen

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ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Bronwyn Buckley

Phone: 3341 4800

Email: prochedale@bnc.catholic.edu.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELP CENTRE

Phone: 1800846643

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."

The Presentation of the Lord (Year A)

2nd February 2020

Readings: Malachi 3:1-4 Hebrews 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40

The Presentation of the Lord

This weekend the Church celebrates the presentation of the infant Jesus in the temple in Jerusalem as was the Jewish custom. We are told in Luke's gospel that Mary and Joseph, Anna, Simeon and Jesus all met in the temple on a particular day. How did they get there? What brought them to that place of meeting? What brings us to our temple, the place where God resides?

Mary and Joseph came in obedience to the law, to present Jesus to the Lord and offer a sacrifice according to what was written in the law. Behind the legalities, however, was longing.

Anna never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. This is not, however, about a rule of life or asceticism. It is about longing.

Simeon was guided by the Spirit. He was righteous, devout, and looking for the consolation of Israel. But it was more than piety that took him to the temple. It was longing.

Jesus is brought to the temple, not as a passive baby but as the embodiment of his Father's longing for humanity.

The Feast of the Presentation is, at its core, a feast of longing. This feast reveals the longing between humanity and divinity. Our deepest longings are to know and be known. That can only ever really happen in relationship to God. This is not about gathering information or learning about God. This kind of knowing is of the heart not the intellect. It is about the union that sets us free, the oneness that allows us to depart in peace, and the relationship that is salvation. For this to happen we must live with and offer the fragility, vulnerability, and joy of an open and longing heart. That heart is the temple of meeting, the place where today we find Mary and Joseph, Anna, Simeon, and Jesus.

Longing is not an absence or emptiness waiting to be filled. Longing is a presence and fullness waiting to be expressed and manifested. Two persons do not long for each other because they are apart. They long for each other because they are in love.

We are sometimes too quick to quench the longing, to satisfy the desire. That never takes us to the temple. It keeps life superficial and us moving from one "fix" to another. Longing, however, if trusted and followed always takes us to the temple, the place of meeting, and we discover that we already hold the infant child.

This weekend, ask yourself what it is that you long for in life. Is it to know Jesus better or to gain material possessions? Remember what Jesus had to say on the matter,

"Seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and then all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt 6:33)

Deacon Mike Jones

Readings for next weekend: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 58:7-10

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Matthew 5:13-16

IN OUR PARISH THIS COMING WEEK:

MON 3rd Feb	No Mass 7.00pm Parish Pastoral Council meeting
TUE 4th Feb	8.00am Children's Liturgy of the Word 4.00pm St Vincent de Paul meeting 7.00pm Liturgy meeting
WED 5th Feb	Saint Agatha No Mass
THU 6th Feb	Saint Paul Miki & Companions No Mass
FRI 7th Feb	9.00am Rosary No Mass
SAT 8th Feb	5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
SUN 9th Feb	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass

No Weekday Masses: There will be no weekday Masses until Tuesday 11th February. There will be a Children's Liturgy of the Word on Tuesday 4th February at 8am. **Next Healing Mass will be Friday 6th March.**

Dear Parishioners, on 8th February we are celebrating the Feast Day of St Josephine Bakhita, the patron saint of Sudan and all those who are trafficked and enslaved. The Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans is hosting with the collaboration of the local Sudanese Community, a Mass at St Stephen's Cathedral, Elizabeth St., Brisbane on Friday 7th February from 7.30pm. Archbishop Coleridge will head the celebrations. Music and food will follow.

Our Lady of Lourdes: On Tuesday 11th February at 7.30pm, St Peter's is holding a Mass for Our Lady of Lourdes followed by Rosary Procession to the Grotto.

Sacrament of Penance: 1st Rite preparation for, and reception of the Sacrament of Penance is being offered in our Parish community to young people grade 5 and upwards, who have been confirmed and received their 1st Communion. The dates for preparation are in the Date Claimers. Should you wish to enrol your child, please contact the Parish office for more information. We look forward to sharing this preparation with your family. Blessings to you all,

Bev & Gwen (Sacramental Team Coordinators)

St Vinnies Charity Bin: The St Vinnies bin has been quite full over the holidays. Thank you to everyone for your generosity! However, please do not place donated items outside the bin, as many have been destroyed by the weather. If the bin is full and you have donations, please take them to the St Vinnies Collection Centre at 1/3375 Pacific Highway, Springwood.

Youth Update:

High School Youth Group (& reunion of St Peter's graduates): 7-8:30pm in the parish centre on Feb 1st, 15th and 29th.

Young adults: location and other info is sent out closer to the date. Dates for February are 13th & 25th.

Junior (years 3-6): March 22nd 10am-12:30pm
For more information on any of these events contact Olivia, our Youth Ministry Co-ordinator youth.spetroch@bne.catholic.net.au.

Date Claimers for February

11 Our Lady of Lourdes Mass & Procession, 7.30pm
14 Opening school Mass, 9.30am
15 High School Youth Group, 7pm
15 & 16 Rite of Enrolment for Sacrament of Penance
16 Plenary Forum with Rob Cosgrove, 10.30am
22 PPC morning tea with Kuraby Muslim community
23 Sacrament of Penance program full day, 10:30am
25 Baptism Information meeting, 7.30pm
26 Ash Wednesday
29 Ministry Coordinators day at Marian Valley
29 High School Youth Group, 7pm

All Ministry Group leaders, please send your Ministry's proposed dates for events, meetings and fundraisers via email to the Parish Office as soon as possible so we can check for clashes with other events. All requests need to be submitted at least one month prior to the event as our diary fills quickly. Thank you.

Community Day: Our Parish is considering having a Community Day for all ages on the first Sunday of each month, possibly beginning in March. We would like to encourage you to let us know your thoughts on: **What interest group would you like to suggest? (not necessarily join)** **What interest group would you be interested in? If you, or someone you know, would like to coordinate any particular group?** Please send your ideas or suggestions to the parish office via email or phone 33414421.

Faith Matters! Plenary Council

Theme 6: Open to Conversion, Renewal & Reform

The Plenary Council is calling all Catholics in Australia to consider new ways to be a Christ centred Church that is **open to ongoing conversion, renewal and reform.**

Archbishop Mark Coleridge, in his address at the Plenary Assembly last year, spoke about the fact that the Church in Australia is at a crossroads. He stressed that we cannot 'stay as we are!' We are called to make important decisions about what changes will need to be embraced so that we become a listening and discerning Church.

He reminded all that this process of discerning the 'journey of conversion, renewal and reform' will be a **slow and messy process that involves hard work.** It requires a **shared responsibility** and an **openness to prayerfully listen** to the voice of the Spirit whom he described as both a 'comforter' and a 'discomforter or disturber' challenging us to move out of our comfort zone.

True conversion requires owning the truth, responding with profound humility and placing deep trust in our God who is moving with us! We are encouraged to be a Church that is filled with the courage to change our mindset and heartset so that we work together to make changes that will lead us to renew our purpose and commitment to open our doors and make a fresh start!

Take time this week to pray this prayer for our Church as it continues the journey of the Plenary Council.

Loving God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things which should be changed, and the Wisdom to distinguish the one from the other. Amen.

Faith Enrichment Group

Expression of Interest to Attend Plenary Council as a Delegate of the Archdiocese of Brisbane

The Archdiocese of Brisbane is seeking expressions of interest from potential delegates to participate in the two sessions of Plenary Council 2020. Delegates to the Council will contribute toward the renewal of the Church via discussion of the Plenary Council Agenda, which is currently being developed.

Please go to <http://www.evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/parishes/plenary/> for more information if you are interested in being considered as a delegate. The *Expression of Interest Form* has to be completed and submitted by 12.00pm Monday 10th February 2020.

Thank You & explanation from St Vinnies: *An extract from a letter from Keith Mercer, Chief Executive Officer, St Vincent de Paul Society, Qld. To read the full letter, please see the noticeboard on the verandah.*

Thank you for your support for Vinnies to help us help Queenslanders during this unprecedented series of natural disasters. You've helped Vinnies give \$5.8 million to Queenslanders battered by our floods, bushfires and ongoing drought since August 2018. Vinnies is committed to absolute transparency in our financial affairs. You can be assured 100% of your donation to disaster relief goes directly to people and communities impacted – no part of it is used for administration or any other expenses. However, recovery from disaster is not a quick fix. It takes months and years to recover from disaster and Vinnies is always there in the community supporting the recovery of those impacted, through the wise stewardship of your generous donations.

Floods, February to March 2019: We gave \$3.2 million where it was needed.

Drought, August 2018 to January 2020: \$2 million to those suffering.

Fire and drought, September 2019 to January 2020: \$353,000 directly into the hands of those impacted. The disaster relief you have provided has gone to supply shelter, water, food, stock feed, fence repairs, clothes, longer term accommodation, medical assistance, and countless other basic needs to get people back on their feet. Vinnies will always be transparent in its financial dealings and it will always be here for Queenslanders.

St Peter's Planned Giving via Direct Bank Transfer: If you would like to direct transfer your Planned Giving to our bank account, our BSB is 064-786 and Account number is 007021101. Please use your surname and Planned Giving (or PG) as reference.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those who have died: Sarah Land (*Stephen Land's Mother*), Keith Mayer, Graham Moore, Lyle Watson

Book of Life & Mass Requests: Robert Mallon, Monica Wing, Harold Potent, Mary St George, Ivy Mosely, Win Peters, Len Carmody, Kevin Garland, Patrick Hanlan, Daniel Ryan, Donna Tiderman, Brian Menz, Carmel Cox, Mavis McEwan, Sis McEwan, Ethan New, John Thompson, Albert van der Haar, Joseph Rice, Kevin Lenihan, Pauline Karlsen, Peter Wojewoda, Sheila McLachlan, Jane Denaro, Barry Flynn, Thelma Kennedy, Kevin Flanagan, Justin Scott, Anthony Greaves, Bill Greenup

Please pray for those who are sick, especially: Maureen Sheils, Elizabeth Karipa, Morris Mirabito, Garry Capper, Paolo, Olga & Diego Tagini, Winston van Rooyen, Oliver Akomolafe, Elmore Kotzur, Michael O'Grady, Joseph Peki, Vickie Routledge, Alan Camp, Ian Thompson, Kevin Kelly, Edna Bultitude, Vilma Ghouse, Callum Poynter, Sue Power, Rebecca Power, Rex Bowen, Catherine Nystrom, Kevin Hargrave, Joyce Byrne, Simon Hinton, Ray Parker, June Richards, Brad Richards, Barrie Martin, Marcos Mendoza, Gwen Green, Esme Jensen, Fabio Viola, Michael Harkin, David Richardson, Kaitlin Bakker, Karen Johnston, Warren Williams, Vivian Kennedy, Danny Costello, Benny Santanaraj, Lexie Harding, Violet Adamson, Max Drummond, Lori Hodder, Ramona Cruz, Kieran McKenna, Trevor Parker, Sesinando de Leon Jnr, Sandra Murphy, Sylvia Privitera, Johnny Summers, Hamish Stuhmeke, Bonnie Dematillar, Ursula Williamson

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.

8th & 9th Feb	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 6pm
Mass Co-ordinators	Carl de Mello	Lydia Chew	Helen Graczyk
AV Operators	Mike Collier	Arthur Leow	Kate Guy
Readers	C. Lyndal Bray-Claridge 1. Joseph Varkey 2. Joyce Lyster	C. Jo Cullen 1. Allen Vigor 2. Lydia Chew	C. John Blake 1. Anne Fry 2. Charisse Mone
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Danny Vaihu Ann Maree Collier Carl de Mello	Deacon Mike Jones Marilyn Mills Anne Scanlon Julie Hondroudakis	Stephanie Lenihan Donald Fernando Joan D'Netto
Altar Servers	TBA	Finn, Leo, William	Talia, Marissa, Matilda
Musicians	Liz	Roger & Tongan Choir	Tim

Church Cleaning: Group 8 Basil's Cleaners

Children's Liturgy: Stephanie Lenihan **This week: Sacristan:** Celine Phillips **Counting:** Carl's Team

Cuppa: Saturday 9th Feb after 6pm Mass: Ann Maree Collier, Peta Grandin, Mike Jarvis

Are you new to our Parish? WELCOME!! 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.

Other Parish Contacts:
Care & Concern: Transport: 0412 267 337
Co-ordinator Lynn White 0403 051103
Family Group Facebook: St Peters Rochedale Family Groups
Memorial Wall & Gardens: Mal Jensen 0411641312
St Vincent de Paul: New members: John Blake 0411 196 775

Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Representative: Malcolm Carroll 0410 193 569 or sgrep.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au
Social Justice Group Facebook: St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group
Rosary Group: Fridays 9:00am (1st Fridays 8.30am)

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