

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Rochedale Springwood

Since 1974

955 Rochedale Rd, Rochedale 4123

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

22nd January 2023

Readings: Isaiah 8:23 - 9:3 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 Matthew 4:12-23

The American spiritual writer, Patty Houser, wrote: 'I never listen to what a person says. I look at what a person does because what they do tells me who they really are'. We all know this as the maxim, 'Actions speak louder than words'. This maxim was first recorded in 1628 from John Pym, an English parliamentarian, whose attempted arrest in 1642 by Charles I sparked the English Civil War. We have all heard it so often that we believe it. It is certainly true that our actions reveal us to others, but I would not go as far as Patty Houser and say that I never listen to what a person says. As much as our actions are important, I think that our words are pretty important as well.

The author of the gospel in Matthew's name knew this. Whoever wrote it—scholarship generally thinks that it was written about AD 80 in Antioch, near the modern Turkish city of Antakya, near the Syrian border—was part of a community of Christian Jews who had formed around Matthew, one of the Twelve. Matthew's Gospel emphasises how Jesus fulfils the Hebrew Scriptures, and today's passage about Isaiah's prophecy about the land of Zebulun and of Naphtali is no exception. The centre of the gospel has five parts, and each part is divided into two: what Jesus does (the narrative) and what Jesus says (the discourse). Today we are hearing from the narrative of the first part. In the following five weeks we shall read from the discourse of the first part. Interestingly, whoever put our scriptural readings together seems to be telling us that words are more important than actions, since we get five weeks of words but only this one week of action. But we can leave that aside.

In our reading today we get only a small extract from the first narrative that includes the call of the first disciples (a good reason not to read the shorter form of the gospel, which even cuts out the call). We begin with a one-line summary of the central message of Jesus: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'. We heard these same words on the Second Sunday in Advent on the lips of John the Baptist. We shall hear them again throughout the season of Lent. 'Repent.' It is worth saying again that the Greek imperative verb *metanoete* means to turn around and head in a completely new direction. Jesus came to stop us getting lost and to point us in the right direction; he came to help us find God again. Today we meet four small-businessmen, Simon and Andrew, James and John. They have a little food-supply industry. We hear time and again these days that small business is the backbone of the economy. These four guys are making their contribution to the economic development of their community. This is what many of us also do.

Now, as important as that is for their own success and prosperity, Jesus calls them to follow him, calls them to leave that all behind. Why would he do that? And why would they listen to him? As St Augustine says in one of his homilies (Sermo 96), 'What the Lord has commanded seems hard and harsh, that any who wish to follow him should deny themselves'. Why does anyone take up a sea change? It is all about finding meaning and purpose in life. It is not that there is anything wrong with working, but Jesus calls us to see that there is more to life than this. Augustine says, 'learn to love yourself by not loving yourself'. In other words, put things into perspective. This is what it means to turn around and head off in the right direction.

Today we can thank God that, like Simon and Andrew, James and John, each one of us is called by Jesus to repent, to turn around, to go in the right direction. We can be thankful that each one of us is called to follow him, to fish not for food but for life. The Eucharist of the broken body and the blood poured out is the direction we are to follow; it is the life we are to seek.

Text: Geoffrey Dunn - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A. With permission of Liturgia, Archdiocese of Brisbane.



PARISH PRIEST

Fr Johny Edapulavan CMI

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Phone: 3341 4421 (Parish Office)

After-hours emergencies: 0481 975 660

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."



January		In our parish this week
Mon	23rd	No Mass
Tue	24th	St Francis de Sales No Mass <i>St Peter's School year begins</i>
Wed	25th	The Conversion of St Paul No Mass
Thu	26th	Australia Day <i>(Public Holiday - Parish Office closed)</i> 9.00am Liturgy of the Word followed by Morning Tea
Fri	27th	9.00am Rosary No Mass
Sat	28th	St Thomas Aquinas 5.30pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday (Celebrant: Fr Frank Jones)
Sun	29th	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 9.00am Mass with Children's Liturgy 6.00pm Mass (Celebrant for both Masses: Fr John Gillen)

Books for sale in the church or Parish Office
Break Open the Word 2023 - \$20 - a fabulous resource for those who are Ministers of the Word.

God's Word 2023 - \$15 - Liturgical diary with all of the daily readings for 2023 plus daily reflections. Only 2 copies left!!

The Catholic Leader - The Christmas Edition has finally arrived! \$4 Many great stories to read, even if it is a little late for Christmas!!
One final copy of the December edition still available - \$4 (Gerard is on the cover!)

Readings for next weekend:
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr A)
Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 Matthew 5:1-12

Masses this week: There will be no weekday morning Masses whilst Fr Johny is away. We apologise for any inconvenience caused to our regular weekday Mass goers.
This weekend, Fr Frank Jones will celebrate 6pm Saturday Mass and Fr John Gillen will celebrate both of the Sunday Masses. Please make these priests welcome this weekend.

Australia Day: This year our Australia Day celebrations on Thursday 26th January will be a Liturgy of the Word celebrated by Deacon Gerard Lai at 9am. We thank Deacon Gerard for coming to St Peter's to celebrate this Liturgy with us. We will follow the Liturgy with our usual Aussie themed morning tea. Please bring a plate of food to share.

Children's Liturgy of the Word will recommence during the 9am Mass next Sunday 29th January. Children's Liturgy, which runs during school terms, is suitable for primary school aged children. The children and catechists leave from Mass for about 25 minutes to listen to the Word of God and partake in simple activities designed to give them a clearer understanding of God's Word. Parents are welcome to attend.

Tuesday 8am Children's Liturgy of the Word will commence on 31st January. This will revert to Mass with Children when Fr Johny returns.

Attention Young Men in our parish! Exodus 90 Program: a number of young men from the Parish Youth Group will be engaging with the Exodus 90 Program - a Catholic Program of Prayer, Asceticism and Fraternity. Any men under the age of 30, if you are interested please get in touch with Sam Chamberlain via email: schamberlain431@g-mail.com.

Sr Kari Heatherell osu has been appointed Provincial of the Australian Ursulines, effective March 2023. As Sr Kari worked with many people across the Archdiocese, a farewell has been organised. You are invited to attend a farewell to Sr Kari from the Archdiocese at the Cathedral of St Stephen on Tuesday 14th February - 6pm for Evening Prayer followed by refreshments in the Hanly Room. RSVP by Wednesday 8th February via email rsvpcathedral@bne.catholic.net.au or phone to 3324 3030. The Cathedral carpark will be available.

Those who have died: Ray Kelley, Cardinal George Pell, Bernadette Connolly *(Mark's mother)*, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Li Shaofang *(Fr Baiyi's aunt)*

Book of Life & Mass Requests:

Andre Festina, Christopher Harding, Muriel Tonneli, Hetty Kloeckers, Wayne Webb, John Moy, Sharron McKenna, Sharron McKenna, Brian Christensen, Daisy Bucklar, Robert Irwin, Ron Tasker, Derek Sharp, Paula Mulderry, Vince Dibella, Julie Apted, Kathleen Slattery, Alan D'Mello, Pauline Maczkowiack, Peter Maczkowiack, Sheila O'Neil.

Please pray for those who are sick, especially:

Olga Mariani, Diane Land, Isabelle Mosteart, Patricia Green, Reg Van Rooyen, P.J. Paul, Maureen Flynn, Ray Kelley, Lien Pham (Maria), John Donohue, Harriet Ling, Steph and Les O'Gorman, Kaye & Len Torrens, Rhonda Lawson, Margaret Woltmann, Sr Lila Galvin, Margaret Linnett, Meryl Elliott Mitchell, Robert Fuchs, Teresa Leong, Mel Singh, Pat McDonnell, Katie Costello, Kathy Jensen.

Please contact the Parish Office via phone or email to add names to the list for Prayers for those who have died or who are sick.
Please ensure you have the permission of the person who is sick to make their name public prior to contacting the Office.



PARISH OFFICE

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Catholic Foundations module 1: Catholic Theology in Context

The Archdiocesan Centre for Catholic Formation's four core modules entitled 'Catholic Foundations' are designed to draw Catholics into the fullness of the Catholic life and provide formation for those considering ministry roles. The experience will engage both the head and the heart, so participants grow in knowledge and the lived experience of Catholic faith. Each module includes 10 sessions supported with individual reflection and a certificate awarded for completion. The modules will be spread across four semesters in 2023 and 2024 and cover theology, scripture, sacraments and mission.

The first module, Catholic Theology in Context, led by Shane Dwyer (Evangelisation Brisbane Associate Director, Adult Formation) will commence on Monday night 20 February 2023 at Xavier Hall, Holy Spirit Seminary.

To find out more, head to catholicformation.au. See Jo Cullen if you are interested.

St Peter's Pilgrimage to the Holy Lands October 2023:

If you would like to join us or to receive more information, please contact **Stephanie Lenihan** at salenihan@hotmail.com or mobile: 0413 268 860. Numbers need to be finalised so please contact Stephanie asap.

Make an offer on items in the LOST PROPERTY BOX

The items in the Lost Property Box in the church are up **FOR SALE**.

The proceeds will be given to St Vinnies.

No reasonable offer refused. Please check out the multiple umbrellas, water bottles, platters and containers now for sale on the table on the verandah at Mass this weekend.

Around the Archdiocese

Podcast Series on Great Characters of the Bible: This podcast series, hosted by Archbishop Mark Coleridge, will focus on the Bible as a story filled with fascinating human characters from the old and new testament. We are going to meet some of these characters, as they tell us a lot about our humanity, and they are coming to meet us, as they do in the stories of scripture.

Subscribe to the podcast on Apple Podcasts or Spotify streaming platforms to receive each episode directly to your device.

Episodes available now: 1. Abraham 2. Moses 3. David

4. Jeremiah 5. Peter 6. Mary Magdalene

The new episode on **Mary Magdalene** is currently available to view on the Archdiocesan website.

ST FRANCIS SOCIAL

7:30pm Saturday 4 February 2023

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Hall, West End

Inspired by the Catholic parish dances held around Brisbane during the 1950s-1970s (ask your parents and grandparents about them!), the St Francis Social will be a good ol' fashion dance/social mixer for young adults in their 20s and 30s, with a bit of fundraising for local charities thrown in for good measure.

GOOD TUNES + GOOD DANCING + GOOD CROWD + FOR A GOOD CAUSE = A GOOD NIGHT OUT

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SCAN FOR MORE INFO & TO PURCHASE YOUR \$20 (+BF) TICKETS

Entertainment Memberships: Support St Peter's Parish Fundraising and get access to \$1000's worth of discount offers and 2 for 1 deals at a huge number of dining, retail, tourism and accommodation businesses. You can purchase a single city (\$69.99) or Multi City subscription (\$119.99) which gives 12 months access to 21 cities across Australia and New Zealand. St Peter's Online Order Page <https://subscribe.entertainment.com.au/fundraiser/2224e97>



DO YOU KNOW?

Advertise Your Business Here

Don't Miss out!! Business advertising.

This is a great opportunity for any parishioners in our congregation who would like to advertise their business or workplace in the Parish Newsletter. Your business will be showcased on our website, facebook, emails to parishioners as well as hard copies available at the church each week.

If you are interested in promoting your business in our community and new estate please contact Jo in the Parish office for pricing and more details.

These businesses support us, please support them.



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