

# St Peter's Catholic Parish

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### PARISH PRIEST

Fr Baiyi Gong

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

Phone: 3341 4421 (Parish Office)

After-hours emergencies: 0481 975 660

### DEACON

Rev. Mike Jones

Mobile: 0400 559 177

### PARISH OFFICE

955 Rochedale Rd, Rochedale

Open: Mon – Fri 8.15am-1.15pm

Phone: 3341 4421

Website: www.stpetersrochedale.org.au

Facebook: stpetersrochedaleparish

Secretary: Julie Hondroudakis

Email: stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

Co-ordinator of Lay Ministries: Josephine Cullen

Email: lm.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

Mobile: 0419 733 878

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator: Olivia

Email: youth@stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

### ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Bronwyn Buckley

Phone: 3341 4800

Email: prochedale@bne.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 Ascension of the Lord (Year A)

**24<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

Readings: Acts 1:1-11

Ephesians 1:17-23

Matthew 28:16-20

## He was lifted up

We are celebrating the solemnity of our Lord's Ascension this weekend. Jesus died, resurrected, and then on this day more than two thousand years ago, he was ascended into heaven and going to sit on the right hand of his Father. Some people might think that Jesus should not have left us for heaven. This would mean that Jesus remained with us until we all completely comprehended his teaching and were able to put it into practice. In this way Jesus would have been with us until we completed our journey towards the kingdom of heaven and were eventually united with God in eternity. Although Jesus had done great things in preparing our way for us, we were too far away from what he intended us to be.

However, the fact is that Jesus did physically leave us after his resurrection. After Jesus' ascension, are we left orphans? Do we have enough support? Do we have the help that we need for travelling on the road to heaven?

First of all, after Jesus' Ascension, we are not left orphaned. Before Jesus left for heaven, he promised to us, "I will not leave you orphans." (last Sunday's gospel). Jesus kept his promises. Jesus sent the Spirit of truth among us to be with us and lead us; Jesus left himself to enter into us through the Eucharist; also, Jesus, throughout the history of his Church, has continued to choose, through the sacrament of Holy Orders, many people as the successors of his apostles to accompany us, to guide us and to journey with us. With all these supports and companions we can move to the next phase of our spiritual journey. Therefore, we might say that Jesus' Ascension does not mean he has left us alone. It means that we, as humankind, have left our cradle period and grown into our childhood. Thus, with the care, company, supports and nutrition, prepared and provided by Jesus, we can and should walk by ourselves.

Certainly, Jesus' Ascension gives us hope. At another place, Jesus said, "There are many rooms in my Father's house.... I am going now to prepare a place for you.... I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am, you may be, too." (John 14:2-4). Jesus' Ascension indicates that he was going to heaven to prepare rooms for us there. Then Jesus will come back and take us to where he is now, so that we can be with him forever. The Ascension of our Lord shouldn't cause our hearts to be troubled. Jesus' Ascension is a crucial part of his great plan of our redemption. Every time that we are in trouble and difficulty, if we recall that Jesus is preparing a place for us in heaven and waiting for us there, we will have hope and strength to face whatever difficult situation in which we might be.

My dear friends, as we celebrate this important feast, let us always remember that Jesus' Ascension offers us an opportunity to make progress in our relationship with God. As Jesus said, we know the way to the place where he was going. Of course, that way is the way of love, so let us also, with hope coming from Jesus' Ascension and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, courageously walk on the way leading to the place Jesus prepares for us.

*Fr Baiyi*

A very special thank you to all our Ministry Group members in this Volunteer Week 2020.

**Readings for next weekend: Pentecost Sunday**

Acts 2:1-11 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13 John 20:19-23

Visit St Peter's Parish Website [www.stpetersrochedale.org.au](http://www.stpetersrochedale.org.au) and click on 'Stay Connected' to find the latest updates and links. Some printed copies of the newsletter & Sunday liturgies will be left in front of the church.

**Watch Mass online** from the Cathedral of St Stephen 8am Monday to Friday and 8am and 10am Sunday at [www.archbne.org/bzw](http://www.archbne.org/bzw). Channel 10 televises Mass at 6am on Sunday.

**Parish Office hours** will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8.15am to 1.15pm. Emails & phone messages checked Mon/Thurs. **In case of an emergency please contact Fr Baiyi on 0481 975 660.**

**Care & Concern:** A very big **Thank you** and gratitude to all Care & Concern volunteers, Committee members and all volunteers in our parish for your selfless generosity of spirit, time and resources in bringing God's love and kindness to many. May God bless you all.

If you or anyone you know who is housebound or facing difficulties during these challenging times please contact Lynn on 0403051103 or the Parish Office 33414421. God bless you all, look out for another and let us stand united together in prayer, love and hope.

#### **Updates re new COVID-19 restrictions:**

Masses may now be celebrated with 10 people in total and churches may open for private prayer under strict conditions. Anyone over 70 years old or with health complications should continue to self-isolate. Anyone who has any flu-like symptoms should not enter the church. Funerals may have a maximum of 20 people, weddings and baptisms a maximum of 10. Cleaning and hygiene measures as well as social distancing measures must be adhered to.

**Masses:** Fr Baiyi will celebrate **Sunday Masses at 9am & 6pm, with 9 people** allowed to be present at each. If you would like to be included, please call or email the Parish Office with your expression of interest and Mass preference by 11am Friday. We will randomly select 9 names for each Sunday Mass from those interested. Those selected will be notified on Friday following the drawer.

Fr Baiyi will also be celebrating **Mass on Friday morning at 9.30am**. Again, only 9 other people are permitted but this will be on a 'first call, first served' basis so please call or email the Parish Office to be included.

**Private Prayer:** The church will be open for private prayer for a maximum of 10 people at any time on **Sunday from 10am to 11am** and on **Friday from 9am to 9.30am**.

Numbers for Masses and private prayer will be strictly adhered to and we will be **recording attendees' names, addresses and telephone numbers** for potential COVID-19 contact tracing as per government requirements.

**Youth Update:** How are you? We are moving towards June... how crazy is that? We are still online and not much has changed. We are so glad we can still provide a space even in such crazy times in the world.

**High School:** Youth group zoom catch ups will continue to happen weekly although I have not had much engagement so I would like to hear from you about what day/time suit you. Please fill out the survey below.

<https://forms.gle/u3g1caYHTugm6psV9>

I will send an email out in the next week or so with an updated time/day but for now I will continue to be online at 4pm on Saturdays.

**Young Adults (18-35):** Monday Nights 7pm are our time to catch up and socialise. ☺ Thank you to all those that have been joining in.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/464455070>

Meeting ID: 464 455 070

**Junior Youth (Years 3-6):** I missed hanging out with you in March but have some awesome plans for when we can join as a group again. Feel free to reach out if you need/ would like anything for your child in this age group.

During this time, I will be continuing to provide an open space for you to experience God, community and a bit of a break from the craziness. This will be our plan. I am here to support you so please let me know if there is anything I can do.

Follow us on our instagram @RochedaleYouth where I post the most. I am also hoping to be able to put more on the parish Facebook page.

Olivia, Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

**Laudato Si:** This year we are celebrating the 5th Anniversary of Pope Francis encyclical *Laudato Si*.

On 24<sup>th</sup> May, at noon, Catholics around the world are encouraged to pray the beautiful prayer (below) which you can find at <https://laudatosiweek.org/prayer/>

**Social Justice Group**

**Common Prayer for the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *Laudato Si***  
Loving God,

Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them,  
You created us in your own image and made us stewards of all your creation. You blessed us with the sun, water and bountiful land so that all might be nourished.

Open our minds and touch our hearts, so that we may attend to your gift of creation.

Help us to be conscious that our common home belongs not only to us, but to all of your creatures and to all future generations, and that it is our responsibility to preserve it. May we help each person secure the food and resources that they need.

Be present to those in need in these trying times, especially the poorest and those most at risk of being left behind. Transform our fear and feelings of isolation into hope and fraternity so that we may experience a true conversion of heart.

Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the consequences of this global pandemic.

Make us courageous to embrace the changes that are needed in search of the common good.

Now more than ever may we feel that we are all interconnected and interdependent.

Enable us to listen and respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

May the present sufferings be the birth pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world.

Under the loving gaze of Mary help of Christians, we make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sacramental Preparation for 2020** has been postponed due to COVID-19. All registered families will be notified by email.

**Families in Need:** Any you or any family you know is in need of free food hampers, please contact Jo on 0419733878. Completely confidential.

**Important Message for our St Peter's Elderly or Isolated Parishioners:** TransitCare is funded by the Commonwealth and Queensland governments. During this time of COVID-19 TransitCare is offering FREE Collection of Groceries and Pharmaceutical items delivered to your home. Please contact TransitCare for more information on 1300 153 636 or the website is [www.transitcare.com.au](http://www.transitcare.com.au). If you would like more information contact the Parish Office.

**Highlights of Isolation:** We would love our parishioners to send us any words of wisdom or photos on how you are watching Mass online or TV, praying at home or any activities or projects you are undertaking in your isolation during this COVID 19 period. Photos of family activities, gardening, sewing, Anzac Day, prayer time, home schooling, de-cluttering etc. Please email to Jo by end of May to [lm.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:lm.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** Service will be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St Stephen from 7.00pm on Wednesday May 27<sup>th</sup>. View at: [www.archbne.org/bzw](http://www.archbne.org/bzw).

**The Catholic Leader:** [www.catholicleader.com.au](http://www.catholicleader.com.au).

**Clairvaux MacKillop College Enrolment Applications** are being accepted for **2021 – 2024**. Please visit the College website and click on Enrolment Application Forms. If you have any questions, please contact our Enrolment Secretary on 3347 9223 or [enrolments@cvxmck.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@cvxmck.edu.au).

**Lourdes Hill College** is accepting enrolments for Year 7 students for 2024. Go to [lhc.qld.edu.au](http://lhc.qld.edu.au)

**Project Compassion 2020.** There are a number of ways to get your Project Compassion donations to Caritas Australia. You can bank your donations online or at a bank branch to 'Caritas Australia' BSB 062 217, account number 10072446. Use your donor id number if you know it or your surname as reference. You could post a cheque to Caritas Australia, GPO Box 9830, Sydney NSW 2001. You can also donate by phoning 1800 024 413 or at [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion)

**St Peter's Planned Giving:** We would be very grateful, if you are able, to please continue to support the Parish financially.

**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. You can set this up yourself on any device where you can access your online banking.

**Or via Credit Card:** Please contact the Parish Office via phone or email as we can either set up a monthly credit card donation or do an individual case by case donation of as little as \$5.00 over the phone.

**Direct Debit:** Please contact us to set up Direct Debit through the Archdiocesan Development Fund.

**'Parish Giving' App** Our parish is one of the trial parishes for this app that the Archdiocese has created. The app is available to download from the Apple Store and Google Play store or you can access it via [parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au](http://parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au). You will need to create an account the first time you log in and select your favourite parish, St Peter's Catholic Parish Rochedale! The logo to look for in the app store is a yellow and white cross forming a circle on a purple background. You can use the app for a one-off payment or set it up for regular giving. See our parish website for detailed 'User Guides'.

From the Home Page click on 'Parish Contribution'.

**Thank you for your continuing support.**



### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Those who have died:** Gwenda McNaught, Ronald Hauff

**Book of Life & Mass Requests:** Ken Kearney, Joyce Booth, Ruby Brownlee, Nidya Vellido, Sandra Chapman, Fr Michael Carew, Ken Thorley, Joshua Duffy, William More Campbell, Bernard Gibbs, Terry Ahern, Brigid Lohmeier, John Mulherin, Walter Blattman, Richard Gallagher, Dorothy Wilson, Moreen McMahan, Richard Elmer, Thora Lee, Jim Ward, Elizabeth Rice, Richard Balshaw, May Gladys Thorley, Br Brian Hanlan, Eileen Connors, Patrick Madden, Kevin Connors

**Please pray for those who are sick, especially:** Wally Scanlon, Anne Marie Kelleher, Ian Thompson, Stephen Land, Sayuri Kobayashi Cantwell, Melissa Vink, Ursula Williamson, Maureen Sheils, Elizabeth Karipa

**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.**

**Are you new to our Parish? WELCOME!!** We'd like to formally greet you, so please contact the Parish Office on 3341 4421 or [stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### **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

#### **Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults**

**Representative:** Malcolm Carroll 0410 193 569 or [sgrep.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sgrep.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### **Social Justice Group Facebook:**

St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group

#### **St Vincent de Paul:**

New members: John Blake 0411 196 775

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