

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PARISH



Rochedale Springwood
 955 Rochedale Rd, Rochedale 4123
 Phone: 3341 4421 (Parish Office)



PARISH PRIEST

Fr Johny Edapulavan CMI
 Email: pp.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au
 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."

First Sunday of Advent (Year B) 3rd December 2023

Readings: Isaiah 63:16-16: 64:1, 3-8 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37

Be Watchful and Be Alert

Samuel Becket's classic play 'Waiting for Godot' is about two men Vladimir and Estragon down on their luck, who, as the title suggests, wait for a man named Godot who has promised to meet them in a desolate place. They chat about nothing, complain about everything, and kill the time. They successfully kill the time the play allots to them, and the work ends without any sign of the title character. Becket has sketched a wonderful portrait of precisely what Christians should not do, and precisely what many of us do: wait, purposelessly for something to give our lives meaning and structure. Why don't we understand that God has already come into our lives and has shown us how to live, how to act and how to love? Season of Advent reminds us of this fact.

With today, the Church begins yet again a new liturgical year, dedicating the first days as days of Advent. Through appropriate readings as well as through the ritual of the Advent Wreath with four candles for each week the Church provides the faithful an opportunity as preparation leading up to the day of Christmas.

The Purpose and Symbolism of the Advent Wreath and Candles are mentioned below. The wreath is meant to remind us of both the immortality of our souls and God's promise of everlasting life to us through Christ. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday.

The Four Sundays and Themes of Advent

- First candle / Sunday: HOPE (The Prophecy Candle)
- Second candle / Sunday: PEACE (The Bethlehem Candle)
- Third candle / Sunday: JOY (The Shepherd's Candle)
- Fourth candle / Sunday: LOVE (The Angel's Candle)

The significant words to ponder upon in today's reading are, watch or be on the alert. The words can easily cause a misunderstanding for normally one would be asked to watch against some danger or some impending peril. But the event of the birth of Christ is not something that can be put in the category of an impending danger. In fact, if anything, Christmas is the best thing that could have happened to the world. It brings that distant God, living high above the clouds in heaven, down to earth and eventually, through the Eucharist, right into our hearts. The second thing to remember is that the words in the Gospel accompanying the main word, watch are the words of Jesus Himself. We are asked to be vigilant taking the parables of the talents and the five wise and five foolish virgins.

Hence, we need to understand that by being alert or on the watch, we are not meant to be frightened or put on the defensive out of fear, but to be positively involved in the mission of Jesus. It means that we first accept and let the Kingdom of God take root in us and secondly, being thus rooted in it, we need to make others aware of the values of the Kingdom and the person of Jesus. Thus, finally the words of Isaiah in the first reading today can be used by us meaningfully, as we await the second coming of Jesus, "would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways!"

Fr Johny Edapulavan CMI

In our parish this week: December 2023

Monday 4	Tuesday 5	Wednesday 6	Thursday 7	Friday 8	Saturday 9	Sunday 10
8.00am Mass	8.00am Mass 10.30am Mass at Rochedale Gardens 2.00pm Funeral Mass - Stella Joseph 4.30pm St Vincent de Paul meeting	10am Morning tea at Flying Pepper Cafe 6.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7.00pm Mass	St Ambrose No Mass Parish Office closed	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 8.30am Rosary 9.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.30am Healing Mass	8am - 10am Gardening working Bee 3pm- 5.30pm Advent Reflection 6.00pm Vigil Mass	Second Sunday of Advent 9.00am Mass 10am - 10.20am Primary School Youth gathering 6.00pm Mass



Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2023

This Christmas share the gift of hope by giving ...

Cash Donation or **\$10/\$20 Gift Cards** - from Woolworths, Drakes, Coles, Aldi, K Mart, Target, Big W
Food Donations – *these only*
Tinned Fruit, Tinned Vegetables, Pasta Sauce, Pasta, Rice, Cordial

Gift Cards or Cash, in marked envelopes can be pinned on the **"VINNIES' GIVING TREE"** at Mass

OR handed into

 the Parish Office or St Peter's School Office, by **Sunday 10th December, 2023** 

Books for Sale from the Church or Parish Office

With Expectant Hearts - \$6 - a 22 day prayer and reflection guide for Advent or anytime

Break Open the Word 2024 - \$22 - a fabulous resource for those who are Ministers of the Word. This commences with the readings for this weekend.

God's Word 2024 - \$15 - Liturgical diary with all of the daily readings for 2024 plus daily reflections.

St Peter's Parish Golden Jubilee: Pentecost Sunday 19th May 2024. Please mark this date in your diaries! Your suggestions are requested for the celebrations. Please hunt out any photos you might have of parish life over the years - either hard or soft copies. We would also love parishioners to jot down their significant memories of parish life and send them in to the Parish Office. Some may be used in the newsletter as has happened in previous weeks. All will be useful in compiling our 50th anniversary book. Please send your memoirs to the Parish Office by email if possible at stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au Many thanks.

Position Vacant: Co-ordinator of Lay Ministries: We are looking for someone to take over the role of recruiting volunteers and coordinating our parish ministry groups. For more information or to apply for the role of Lay Ministry Coordinator, which is a paid position for 10 hours per week, please contact the Parish Office.

Readings for next weekend:

Second Sunday of Advent (Year B)

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

2 Peter 3:8-14

Mark 1:1-8

St Peter's Coffee Get Together: Wednesday 6th December at 10.00am at the **Flying Pepper Cafe**, 120 Kate Court, Rochedale 

Gardening Working bee: Saturday 9th December from 8am to weed the gardens and get the church looking good for Christmas.

Children's Liturgy of the Word and **Tuesday Mass with Children** will resume in February 2024. Thank you to all the leaders, parents and children who have participated in 2023.

Gifts from the Crib:

An Advent Retreat afternoon

Saturday 9th December in the Parish Centre.

3pm Cuppa

3.30pm - 5.30pm Retreat



Advent Date Claimers:

Reconciliation (2nd Rite): 6:30 pm Monday 18 Dec

Choir & Musicians Practice for 9pm & 9am Christmas

Masses: 7pm Tuesday 19th Dec

Fourth Sunday of Advent is also Christmas Eve this

year - so Masses 6pm Saturday 23rd Dec & 9am

Sunday 24th Dec will be 4th Sunday of Advent.

The evening Masses on Sunday 24th will be Christmas Masses.

Christmas Masses:

Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December

6.30 pm (Family Mass with children's pageant)

& **9.00 pm** (Vigil)

Christmas Day Monday 25th December **9.00 am** only

Children's Christmas Pageant Leaders needed: Please contact the Parish Office if you would be able to assist with the Children's Pageant at the 6.30pm Family Mass on Christmas Eve. We would love a mix of experienced and new helpers!

Pageant practice will be held in the church at 10am on Saturday 23rd December.



Those who have died: Stella Joseph (*Tony's wife*), Mark White, Queenie Patricia Gill (*Carmel Northey-Cherrett's mother*)

Book of Life & Mass Requests:

Bernard Luton, Sophie Robinson, Bernard Montegrando, Marie Maguire, Ruth Ballment, Clyde Spearitt, Kay Topping, Les Harris, Silvia Milaudi, Eddie McDonnell, Alfie Healan, Michael Bahn, Bobby Smith, Bernie Minton, Bill Smith, Otilie Brandt, Vincent Blundell, Charlie Fry, Anastasia Medcraf, Desmond Van Der Haar, Mary Becker, Clifford Sharp, Frederick Taylor, Doris Quan.

Please pray for those who are sick, especially:

Darrell Lusk, Philomene Crowley, Nan Hauff, Janet Hicks, Maxine Macdonald, Doris Choy, Joy de Souza, Lee Mazzaglia, Sandra MacDonald, Don Tallon, Dan O'Gorman, Don O'Donoghue, Phillip Van Rooyen, Kevin Collier, Leigh O'Shea, Ray Parker, Kerriane Meulman, Olga Mariani, Diane Land, Patricia Green, Reg Van Rooyen, Rhonda Lawson, Sr Lila Galvin, Steph & Les O'Gorman, 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

955 Rochedale Rd, Rochedale
Open: Mon—Wed 8.15am-1.15pm
Closed on Thursdays
Open: Fri 8.15am-1.15pm
Phone: **3341 4421**

Website:
www.stpetersrochedale.org.au
Facebook: 
[stpetersrochedaleparish](https://www.facebook.com/stpetersrochedaleparish)

Parish Secretary: Julie Hondroudakis
Email: stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

Co-ordinator of Lay Ministries:
Position Vacant
Email:
lm.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Acting Principal: Michael McInerney
Phone: 3341 4800
Email: prochedale@bne.catholic.edu.au

ST PETER'S OSHC

Phone: 3219 7672
Email: co.rochedaleoshc@catholicearlyyedcare.qld.edu.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELP CENTRE

Phone: 1800 846 643

FAITH MATTERS:

*If the Lord does not build the house,
in vain do its builders labour;
if the Lord does not guard the city,
in vain does the guard keep watch.*

*In vain is your earlier rising,
your going later to rest,
you who toil for the bread you eat,
when he pours gifts on his beloved while they sleep.*
(Psalm 127)

The psalm tells us that if we try to achieve everything in our lives through our own efforts, no matter how noble the aim, we have no assurance of success. Whereas, if we place our lives and goals solidly in God's hands, first, asking for his guidance and his perfect will to be in control, then proceed with doing what we sense is right and good, we can be completely sure that God will bring about the very best results.

God really wants us to trust in his loving care for us. Sure, he has given us gifts and talents to be used, but we can live in a mindset where we just move along in our own effort, and maybe call on God when we run into difficulties. It smacks of the Adam and Eve syndrome, where we think we know what's best for us, and God is peripheral to the situation.

In reality, if we humbly acknowledge that God has a special plan for each of us, and our first priority is to seek that plan and to ask God's grace to fulfill it, then what we attempt will be constantly put in his hands, and any success attributed to God's favour.

Israel saw God's greatest power and miracles when they sought his word, listened attentively, and acted accordingly: **the battle belongs to the Lord!**

Wonderful things happen when we decide to ask God's grace and wisdom for all we do, then trust his response. His love is completely faithful, and his desire to bless us, immense.

Faith Enrichment Ministry


Youth Update

New members always welcome!

✉ youth.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au 📷 @rochedaleyouth

Seeking volunteers or beneficial ideas on growing our youth ministry: Do you have a passion for promoting the Catholic faith to our young people? Do you have any great ideas for ways to engage our primary school, high school and young adults? Are you a parent or grandparent or a young adult yourself who would like to be involved? Please contact the Parish Office

Primary School Youth gathering: Postponed to Sunday 10th Dec 10am to 10.20am (after 9am Mass). Parents can enjoy a cuppa on the verandah while Rosie leads the children in some faith based activities.

All primary school students welcome. 



St Peter's Planned Giving:

We would be very grateful, if you are able, to support the Parish financially. There are several options.

Via Direct Bank Transfer: To direct transfer your Planned Giving to our bank account, our BSB is 064-786 and Account number is 100000067. Please use your surname and Planned Giving (or PG) as reference.

Envelopes, Credit Card or Direct Debit: Please contact the Office to set these up.

'Parish Giving' App: The logo to look for in the app store is a yellow and white cross forming a circle on a purple background. See our parish website for detailed 'User Guides'.

Tap & Go Donations: No cash at Mass? Try our donation terminal near the main doors: \$10 donation per swipe to support St Peter's Parish.

Roster: 9th & 10th Dec	Saturday 6pm Mass	Sunday 9am Mass	Sunday 6pm Mass
Mass Co-ordinator	Mark Connolly	Baji Itteera	Anne Fry
AV Operator	Calista Jesuthasan	Jonathan Vigor	Tristan Edison
Readers	C. Shelagh Ballment 1. Neil Ballment 2. Joseph Varkey	C. Lauren Cocks 1. David Roati 2. Maria Chamberlain	C. John Blake 1. Bob Burns 2. Raylee Burns
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Trish Meulman Rob Meulman Carl de Mello	Anne Scanlon Deseree Quan Del Reynolds Joan D'Netto Julie Hondroudakis	Vickie Routledge Sharon Fong Kate Guy
Musicians	Elizabeth Fort	Rita Bishop	Elizabeth Fort
Cleaning Group 1: Lyndal Bray-Claridge, Kate Guy, Nita Stratton-Funk, Helen Graczyk, Deb Meggs			
Cuppa & Chats after Mass Cuppa after Saturday 6pm Mass: Care & Concern			
This week 3rd - 9th Dec.		Sacristan: Suma Joseph	Counting: Marcos' group



Are you new to our Parish? **WELCOME!! WELCOME!!**

We'd like to formally greet you, so please contact the Parish Office on **3341 4421** or **stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au**

OTHER PARISH CONTACTS

Care & Concern: Transport: 0450 287 902

♥ Co-ordinator: Lynn White 0403 051 103

♥ Memorial Wall & Gardens:

Mark Connolly 0434 147 835

♥ Evangelisation Task Group Facebook 

♥ St Peter's Catholic Parish Evangelisation

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

Representative: Malcolm Carroll 0410 193 569 or
sgrep.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

STOpline: 1300 304 550

Social Justice Group Facebook 

St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group

St Vincent de Paul:

New members: John Blake 0411 196 775

Care & Concern Thank you: Thank you very much to every one who attended, our committee, volunteers, Julie & Fr Johny and all those who helped in many ways to support the Care & Concern Christmas brunch in support of St Vinnies last Saturday. It was a great success. May God Bless you all, Lynn

Safeguarding Training: Thank you to those who attended the Safeguarding Training sessions. Anyone who missed these training sessions will be able to do the training online at home. Those ministers who must renew their Safeguarding Training every 2 years include Pastoral Council and Finance Council members, Adult altar servers, Mass Coordinators, Sacristans, Children's Liturgy leaders, Sacramental Program leaders, Care & Concern Visitation and transport volunteers, Home Communion & Nursing Home Communion Ministers, WOW Senior's Ministry & RCIA team, St Vinnies members, counters, Office admin, musicians & choir. Please contact Julie or Malcolm for more information.

Mass Ministers: The new rosters for January to March 2024 will need to be compiled soon. Could all those who minister in any way at weekend Masses, please advise any dates that you will be unavailable either by email to Julie or on the yellow slips on the table near the doors in the church. Thank you all!

The Catholic Leader: In 2024 The Catholic Leader will move to an individual subscription distribution model. Parishes will no longer receive a bulk delivery of the paper after the Christmas 2023 delivery. The production of the digital online edition of the paper will also stop at this time. Readers will need to take out individual subscriptions and will receive the newspaper delivered to their door. If you take out a subscription for \$65 before 10th December you will receive the December & Christmas editions as well as all 2024 editions. Subscription envelopes available at the church.

Eight Mile Plains State School Breakfast Club volunteers needed for 2024. We invite people who would help cook and butter toast, and serve the toast and maybe fruit/cereal to the students from 7:30 to 8:45ish to clear away and wash up a few items. At this stage, the days are will be Monday and Tuesdays. Please contact the Parish Office if you would be interested in helping the families at EMP State School with this initiative.

Around the Archdiocese

See the noticeboards on the Church verandah for the events below

Christmas Carols & Sausage Sizzle: Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Parish, Sunnybank, invites you to the Christmas Carols & Sausage Sizzle on Friday 8th December commencing at 6pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 121 Mains Rd, Sunnybank. Come and join us for an evening of singing, friendship and fun!

Advent Concert Series at St Stephen's Cathedral in December:

5pm Saturday 2nd - Advent Vespers by the Cathedral Schola * Free Admission

5pm Sunday 3rd - Dominic Perissinott (Pipe organ) * Ticketed admission

5pm Sunday 10th - Christopher Trikilis (Pipe organ) * Ticketed admission

5pm Sunday 17th - (in the chapel) Susan Colins (violin) * Ticketed admission

3pm Saturday 23rd - Christams Carol Service * Free admission

The Queensland Choir presents: Sounds of the Season. A Choral Christmas with the Queensland Choir conducted by Kevin Power - 7.30pm Saturday 16th December at the Concert Hall, Old Museum Building, 480 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills. Tickets \$45, Concessions \$40, Full-time Students \$20. Call 3257 4089 or visit www.oldmuseum/event

Entertainment Memberships: Cyber Syper Sale: 27% off all memberships! When you purchase any 3, 12 or 24 Month Membership to The Entertainment App before 11am, Friday 8th December 2023 you will receive 27% off the original price of your chosen Membership. Great for the school holidays or as a Christmas gift! St Peter's Online Order Page is <https://subscribe.entertainment.com.au/fundraiser/2224e97>

These businesses support our parish, please support them.

