

St Peter's Catholic Parish

Rochedale • Springwood

Serving the Rochedale and surrounding communities since 1974

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Baiyi Gong

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Phone: 3341 4421 (Parish Office)

After-hours emergencies: 0481 975 660

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Rev. Mike Jones

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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."

Fourth Sunday Of Lent (Year A)

22nd March 2020

Readings: 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41

Response to COVID 19 at St Peter's Parish, Rochedale

The crisis of COVID 19 has become more severe across the globe. The relevant news takes up nearly the full coverage on TV channels as well as in the mainstream newspapers. The government keeps updating new instructions and restrictions on many things and in many areas, trying to curb the spread of the coronavirus and ensuring the safety of its people. On Thursday, Archbishop Mark Coleridge issued a message to the clergy and people of Brisbane Archdiocese, offering us some detailed decisions and guidelines on the operations of parishes and celebrations of liturgies. We have included the full message of the Archbishop, as an insert, in this newsletter for your information. We encourage you to read Archbishop Coleridge's letter in full and follow any recommendations that are not covered in this reflection.

As a Catholic parish in Australia, we will have to make changes to our parish life in order to meet the above requirements. Below are the main decisions we have made.

- A parish Mass will be celebrated at 9am on Sundays for the spiritual benefits of all the parishioners of St Peter's, Rochedale, **WITHOUT** a congregation. Please **DO NOT** come to the Mass but know that you are particularly remembered in this Mass. With all your family members, you are encouraged to read and meditate on the Mass readings and invite Jesus into your hearts in prayer at home at the same time. You could set up a table with crucifix and lit-candles, and with Mass readings on side, either a hard copy or a digital one. I believe it will be a beautiful family time in God's presence.
- Weekday Masses will be celebrated as scheduled for this week. As weekend Masses have been suspended, the numbers of the attendees of weekday Masses could possibly increase. Also, the majority of the weekday Mass attendees are getting on in years and we don't want them to be exposed to the virus as the elderly are more at risk. Therefore, if there are too many (nearly 100) or too few people (less than 5) to attend, we will have to cancel weekday Masses the following week.
- You are most welcome to watch live-streamed Mass celebrated at St Stephen's Cathedral online on weekends and weekdays. The website is as follows: archbne.org/bzw
- The church will remain open daily for personal prayer.
- The parish weekly newsletter will continue to be published on our parish website and Facebook page as usual during this period. However, the layout and the amount of content may be different. I will write Sunday homilies and put it in the newsletter as the reflection. We will print a small number of hard copies of the newsletter for those who can't access the website, you can collect a copy when you visit the church for prayer.

(Please turn over)

Readings for next weekend: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45



Response to COVID 19 at St Peter's (Continued from page 1)

- Our Lenten group discussion groups on Wednesdays and Saturdays, reflection and Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings have been cancelled.
- For weekday Masses and personal prayer, we ask that you maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres between one another. Thank you for your co-operation in advance.
- The usual Reconciliation time of 5pm Saturdays will not be offered, however Reconciliation in the First Rite can be arranged by appointment through the Parish Office during normal office hours and on the emergency mobile number out of hours.
- Apart from the above-mentioned activities, all other arranged activities will be suspended or cancelled until further notice. However, any activities or meetings arranged within a particular ministry group will be decided by its coordinator and the coordinator will consult with the parish leadership when necessary or relevant before the decision making. Please contact the coordinator for more information or follow the newsletter's indications.
- Please pay close attention to any possible changes of the guidelines and/or new ones.

My dear friends, let us place everything into God's loving care. We will try to do everything we can to stop the spread of the virus. We will support one another in facing such a difficult situation. If anything can help protect us from contracting the virus, we absolutely do that. Then we leave the rest to God. With God's love and grace, let us always have a calm mind. At this difficult time, together with St Francis of Assisi, let us pray:
My God and my all. *Fr Baiyi*

<i>IN OUR PARISH THIS COMING WEEK:</i>		<u>Youth Update:</u>
MON 23rd Mar	8.00am Mass	Following the suggestions of the Archdiocese, Rochedale Youth will be moving to a fully online presence. For more information contact Olivia , our Youth Ministry Co-ordinator youth.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au or check out the Instagram @rochedaleyouth
TUE 24th Mar	St Turibius of Mogrovejo 8.00am Mass with children 4.00pm St Vincent de Paul Meeting	
WED 25th Mar	The Annunciation of the Lord 6.30am Mass	<u>Living Lent - Fasting from Hurtful and Negative Words</u> Why fast from Potentially Hurtful, Fear Engendering and Unconsidered Words? Being able to communicate with each other is a marvellous gift from God, and words, both spoken and written, have an incredible power for both good and evil. Words can bring us closer to God and to each other, or they can distance us from God and others. Words can encourage and build up or they can isolate by generating judgement and fear. There is a real danger in the negativity we might unintentionally spread about others and situations. What practices might help me be more mindful in choosing words that are life giving and compassionate - for myself and for others? I could ... take time each morning to ask God to bless my words so that I speak positively and helpfully to others and about others, and refrain from criticism or fear mongering. I could ... make time each evening to reflect on my day and give thanks to God for the blessings I have received. I could begin a Gratitude List where I name 3 things I am grateful for. I could ... intentionally look for moments e.g. conversations, a Facebook post or a phone call, in which I might be tempted to offer harmful words of criticism or negativity and instead offer words of understanding or just refrain from commenting. <i>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer (Ps 19:4 RSVCE)</i> Faith Enrichment Group
THU 26th Mar	No Mass 7.30pm Care & Concern meeting	
FRI 27th Mar	9.00am Rosary 9.30am Mass	
SAT 28th Mar	Reconciliation by appointment only No Vigil Mass for Sunday	
SUN 29th Mar	Fifth Sunday Of Lent No Mass	
<u>Share the Dignity:</u> Donations of sanitary products needed to help homeless women and girls this March. You can drop your donations into the box at the back of the church and into the Parish Office. Thank you.		
<u>Recruitment:</u> Our Parish abides by the Archdiocesan requirements for the recruitment of Ministers.		
<u>Church Cleaning Roster :</u> Can you help clean the church once every 8 weeks? Small groups of parishioners meet on a Saturday morning to vacuum dust, sweep and clean the church, Parish Centre and toilets. In the current situation we will also be disinfecting the pews each week. If you could help us keep our church home clean and tidy, please contact the Parish Office.		
<u>Thank you:</u> We thank all of our parishioners for their support always, but especially at this difficult time. Please contact the Parish Office if we can be of support to you.		



Fourth Sunday of Lent 22nd March 2020

32 year old Sakun lives in a village in central east India. She developed polio as a child and has difficulty walking. After joining a Caritas Australia funded program, Sakun has learned new skills and gained important mobility.

She is more resilient, more confident and more independent.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help people like Shirley, and her children gain confidence and respect within their community.

Let's Go Further, Together.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



Prayers for the Sick: If you wish to add anyone's name to the list for Prayers for the Sick, first ask the permission of that person. If they give you their permission, you may add their name to the list via the form on the table near the main church doors as normal. Alternatively, you may contact the Parish Office via phone or email to add the names of those who are sick to the prayer list.

St Oscar Romero: On 24th March the church celebrates the Feast Day of St. Oscar Romero. He was the Archbishop of El Salvador at a time, when his country, San Salvador, was wounded by great poverty, violence and corruption. He became the voice of the voiceless fighting for justice. Oscar Romero received many death threats and finally paid the ultimate price. On 24th March, 1980, he was shot while celebrating Mass. Oscar Romero WALKED THE WAY OF THE CROSS, never giving in to fear or intimidation. He was canonized by Pope Francis in 2018. During Mass the Pope wore the blood stained rope belt that Oscar Romero had worn. (For more information see the noticeboard) *The SJG*

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.

Bequests and Endowments: Have you considered leaving a bequest or endowment to the parish in your will? Pick up one of our bequest brochures.

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 the grey St Peter's Post box near the main church doors

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

Social Justice Group Facebook: St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group

Rosary Group: Fridays 9:00am (1st Fridays 8.30am)

St Vincent de Paul: New members: John Blake 0411 196 775

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those who have died: Kathleen Larsen, Archangela Dibella, Archbishop John Bathersby, Winston Van Rooyen (*Joyce Lyster's brother*), Noel McDonnell, Ron Routledge

Book of Life & Mass Requests: John Fitz-Gibbon, Robbie Movick, May Nielsen, Siglinde Luszczyk, Henk Peeters, John Knuth, Dennis Zandona, Betty Settree, Cecil Allen, John Carlton, Doreen O'Neil, Robert Lynagh, Thomas Flanagan, Alice Chin, Frank Bray, Bill Ruthven, Thomas White

Please pray for those who are sick, especially: Beryl Ryan, Lori Hodder, Elmor Kotzur, Kevin Fry, Maureen Sheils, Elizabeth Karipa, Morris Mirabito, Garry Capper, Paolo, Olga & Diego Tagini

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.

Church Cleaning Roster 28th March. Thank you to Group 7

Nita Stratton-Funk, Judith Littlefield, Kathy Winter, Cathy Heenan.

If you are unable to fulfil your roster at this time, please contact other members of your group and the Parish Office



THE ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

19 March 2020
Solemnity of St Joseph

TO THE PASTORS AND PEOPLE OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

These are anxious times as we enter new and uncharted territory. The spread of the coronavirus is alarming for a generation that has known nothing like it, and it shows how fragile we are. How long it will last we do not know, but almost certainly we are in for the long haul. For all of us, this is a challenge at many levels.

In the Archdiocese there is a daily meeting to address the most recent advice from the Government and the health authorities and to consider its implications for the Catholic community. As a result, we have already taken some decisions to curb the spread of the virus. Now in the light of the latest advice from the Government and Catholic Health Australia, the Archdiocese has come to further decisions. Therefore, the provisions below will now apply and more are sure to follow:

- The celebration of Mass on Sundays (including the Saturday vigil) is suspended with immediate effect and until further notice, and all the faithful are dispensed from the Sunday obligation.
- Priests will continue to celebrate Mass (the *Mass for the people*) on Sundays without a congregation, with people able to follow Masses live-streamed from the Cathedral at archbne.org/bzw on Sundays and weekdays.
- For the time being, weekday Masses may be celebrated as scheduled, with the current restrictions and precautions to be observed.
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation should in general be celebrated only by appointment with the priest, with the current precautions to be observed.
- Any Church celebration or event where more than 100 people are expected should be cancelled or postponed.
- All attending any Church celebration or event should respect the requirements of physical distancing.
- All ministers of Holy Communion, including the priest, should disinfect their hands before and after distributing.
- In the Ordinary Form of the Latin Rite, the Body of Christ should be administered only in the hand and the chalice should be received by the celebrant alone.
- The Sign of Peace should be limited to saying "Peace be with you" with a nod or bow; no hand-shaking or hand-holding should occur here or at the Our Father.
- Hymn books should not be used.
- As far as possible, churches should remain open to allow private prayer; the Blessed Sacrament might be exposed in the monstrance for this purpose (as long as fewer than 100 are attending and with the usual provisions for reverence and security of the Sacrament).

The Most Reverend Mark Coleridge

GPO Box 282, Brisbane Qld 4001 Australia

Telephone +61 7 3324 3415 aomail@bne.catholic.net.au



THE ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

- Communion to the sick should be taken by priests alone and in general be restricted to Viaticum to the dying, with the current restrictions and precautions to be observed.
- Prayers of intercession for an end to the pandemic and for the safety of all should be included in Masses, in the Liturgy of the Hours and in private prayer; houses of consecrated religious are asked to intensify their intercessory prayer also.
- Baptisms, weddings and funerals may be celebrated, but restricted if necessary to immediate family; baptisms and weddings can always be postponed.
- Preparation for and celebration of First Penance, Confirmation and First Communion should be postponed until the pandemic is over.
- Priests should ensure that parishioners can contact them in emergencies.

It is essential in a time such as this to strengthen and deepen our spiritual life, precisely so that we do not “lose sight of Jesus” (Hebrews 12:2). The Archdiocese will do everything possible to assist you with this; and there is an abundance of online resources – including Mass at home – to nourish your faith through this time. As Pope Francis has said, pastors will have to show creativity in ministering to their people; and there are many examples of this around the world, with technology making it less difficult than in the past.

To conclude I offer two prayers which you may wish to pray through this time. The first is one I have written: its words are simple but they may help to guide you in your prayer. May the God to whom we turn in this moment listen to the pleading of our heart and answer as he has so often before, so that love may come from fear, hope from despair and joy from sorrow:

Almighty and all-merciful God,
lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds,
in whom there is no shadow of death,
save us in this time of crisis;
grant wisdom and courage to our leaders;
watch over all medical people
as they tend the sick and work for a cure;
stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation;
if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open.
By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear,
that hope may never die
and the light of Easter, the triumph of life,
may shine upon us and the whole world.
Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.
St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.



- 3 -

THE ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

The second is an ecumenical prayer from the National Council of Churches, who have invited all of us to pray this prayer at 7pm each day, but especially on Sunday 29 March which we will mark as a National Day of Prayer in this time of crisis:

Gracious God,
We give thanks anew for your providence and presence.
We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and overseas.
We pray for those in need of healing.
We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or grieving.
We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain
all those who are serving in response.
We pray for your Holy Spirit's discernment
amidst the many choices and decisions
facing our national, community and medical leaders.
We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do
to help those who are vulnerable.

This prayer for our nation in the family of nations,
with all that is on our hearts,
we gather now and pray
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

With the blessing of peace,

Archbishop of Brisbane

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