

# St Peter's Catholic Parish

## Rochedale • Springwood

Serving the Rochedale and surrounding communities since 1974

### PARISH PRIEST

Fr Baiyi (By-see) 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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### ST VINCENT DE PAUL

#### HELP CENTRE

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### 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 B)

### 11th March 2018

Readings: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23    Ephesians 2:4-10    John 3:14-21

### Reflection

This weekend's first reading speaks of the People of Israel being taken into captivity by the Babylonians for 70 years due to their turning away from God. Throughout this whole account there is no doubt in the chronicler's mind but that God is in control of the world and of his people. This same thought is reflected in the 2nd reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. "God has made us his handiwork," St. Paul says. He has given us a place in the heavens. He has created us in Christ "to lead the life of good deeds which he has prepared for us in advance." Nothing is outside of God's grasp and power. He who is in control of the universe has called us to join him in his recreation of the world in Christ Jesus.

Keeping this all in mind we can understand the significance of the gospel proclamation. God has sent his Son who will be raised up so that those who look upon him with faith may have eternal life. The sign of their faith is that they will do their deeds in the light.

The sign of God's power is the cross. The Son of Man is lifted up so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life. Jesus died for us to restore us to God's intended place for mankind in the order of creation. At the same time, the cross is the sign of contradiction. Christ, put to death, is in control of the universe. What appears as defeat is really victory because the sacrifice of Christ initiates the reign of God. At his weakest, Jesus is the strongest. God is in control. He turns defeat into victory for those with a living faith in him.

We need to recognize this in our own struggles in life. When in our weakness, we are united to Christ's cross, we are at our strongest. We may be full of pain. Perhaps we have lost a loved one, a family member. Grief comes upon us in waves. One minute we are numb, the next we are beyond consolation. But through it all we do believe in God. We call upon Him. We give Him our pain. And eventually we realize that He is carrying us through our sorrows. Our grief has become our prayer. Through it all, we have become stronger. All because we let God take control.

Maybe, we have had a terrible disappointment. A job we thought we had for life comes to a sudden end. We miss out on the uni course we had our heart set on. We realise that a person we thought was a friend was really just using us. A relationship comes to an end, a marriage, a deep relationship of love, or a friendship we have valued over the years. Perhaps life is not turning out the way we expected. Saint Teresa of Calcutta once said, "If you want to give God a good laugh, tell Him your plans." It is easy to be disappointed in the world, in our lives, and particularly in ourselves. We have a choice, though. We can wallow in our grief, or we can take a huge step of faith and just ask God to make sense out of what appears to be nonsense. We let Him take control. And He does.

Life is too difficult to handle alone. We all need help. He doesn't want us to be in grief. He wants to heal us with His Love. We have Him. We need to trust in Him. Through it all God will take control. When we are convinced that we can't handle things by ourselves and call upon God for help, we are at our strongest. This weekend we pray that we might have the humility and the courage to trust our loving God to be our strength.

Deacon Mike



## IN OUR PARISH THIS COMING WEEK:

<b>MON 12th Mar</b>	<b>No Mass</b> 7.00pm Memorial Liturgy for Zhengchong Gong 7.30pm Liturgy Group meeting
<b>TUE 13th Mar</b>	8.00am Liturgy of the Word with children 4.30pm St Vincent de Paul meeting 7.30pm Lenten Discussion Group
<b>WED 14th Mar</b>	<b>No Mass</b> 9.00am World Day of Prayer at Daisy Hill
<b>THU 15th Mar</b>	<b>No Mass</b> 9.30am Lenten Discussion Group 7.30pm Lenten Discussion Group
<b>FRI 16th Mar</b>	9.00am Rosary <b>No Mass</b> 3.15pm Easter Capers 6.30pm Deanery Youth Mass at Kingston-Marsden 7.30pm Stations of the Cross
<b>SAT 17th Mar</b>	<b>St Patrick</b> 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday followed by cuppa
<b>SUN 18th Mar</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b> 9.00am Family School-Parish Mass 6.00pm Mass

## 2018 International Women's Day

Every year around the world International Women's Day is celebrated on 8th March. It is a day when we acknowledge the economic, political and social achievements women have made and for us when we give thanks to God for the many gifts and talents women bring to their communities. However, there are still many challenges facing women worldwide: domestic violence, extreme poverty, exclusion from education, lack of health care in developing countries, child marriages, unsafe living conditions in war ravaged countries or refugee camps. The theme this year is **#Press for progress, leave no woman behind**". We commit ourselves to the promotion of justice for women everywhere. We know that what-ever denies, diminishes or distorts the full humanity of women is not of God.

**This weekend we will be having a retiring collection for our friends in Africa, in Zambia and Ethiopia.**

*The Social Justice Group*

**Fr Baiyi's Dad, Zhengchong Gong** passed away early Tuesday morning. Mr Gong's Requiem Mass was held in China on Thursday morning. We would like to invite you all to attend a Memorial Service on Monday at 7pm to pray for his soul and for Fr Baiyi. Deacon Mike will celebrate this Liturgy here at St Peter's.

**Thank You:** Dear Friends, thank you so much for your generosity last weekend. We have raised as a parish \$1,525 for the needs of the seven Tamil asylum seeker families. If anyone has any work that they need doing eg mowing or handyman work these families would be grateful.

Contact Jon Sorohan on 0412 074 196

**Lenten Reflection Groups:** Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7.30pm and Thursday mornings at 9.30am.

**Easter Capers** Lenten Program for Primary school aged children. 2 more Friday afternoon sessions 3.15pm to 6pm. Includes afternoon tea, scripture, fun, craft, singing, dance, drama and more. Cost \$5 per child or \$10 per family. Registration form at the back of the church. It isn't too late for your child to attend. Contact Jo Cullen on 0419733878 for more info.

**Stations of the Cross** every Friday in Lent at 7.30pm. Volunteers needed to lead each week please. If you can help please write your name on the sign up sheet. Resources provided.

**Ecumenical Way of the Cross** 10am on Good Friday at Daisy Hill through the grounds of John Paul College and St Edward's. Volunteer readers needed. Please write your name on the sheet provided.

**World Day of Prayer** this year is to be held at St Edward the Confessor, Daisy Hill this Wednesday 13th March, commencing with Mass at 9:00am then prayers for Suriname. *All Welcome*

**Sacramental Program:** Please pray for the children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last week in the form of the 2nd Rite. Next term they will prepare for First Holy Communion.

**Readings for next w'kend: 5th Sunday of Lent (Yr B)**  
Jeremiah 31:31-34 —Hebrews 5:7-9 —John 12:20-30

**St Patrick's Day Cuppa:** after Mass next Saturday night 17th March we would like to give the cuppa after Mass a St Paddy's Day theme so please bring along some food to share..... green cupcakes anyone?

**Easter Services Flyers:** Looking for volunteers who like to walk and do the Lord's work. Next weekend we will have Easter Services flyers that need to be dropped into mail boxes in the new Rochedale Estates.

**School-Parish Family Mass** 9am next Sunday 18th: Anyone who would like to read or sing or otherwise help out at this Mass please contact Jo. Cuppa afterwards

### Times for Easter Services:

**Communal 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm

**Holy Thursday 29th March 7.30pm**

**Good Friday 30th March**

10am Way of the Cross at Daisy Hill

3pm Passion at St Peter's

**Easter Vigil 31st March 7pm (NOTE later time!!)**

**Easter Sunday 1st April 9am only**

### YEAR OF YOUTH 2018

"Jesus is the Lord of risk. He is the Lord of the eternal "more". Jesus is not the Lord of comfort, security and ease." — *Pope Francis, WYD Message 2016*

**Logan Deanery Youth Mass:** Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at St Maximilian Kolbe Church, Marsden at 6:30pm.

**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.



**Project Compassion Resources:** Envelopes and boxes available for collection this weekend. Remember that almsgiving is one of the main pillars of our Lenten journey each year.

**Fourth Sunday of Lent** Evangeline featured in Project Compassion 2016. With the support of Caritas Australia, she has risen to the role of Senior Artswoker at Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation, now a multi-level contemporary arts centre and major employer for young people in her remote Northern Territory community. Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help provide employment and training for First Australians, allowing them to remain on country and keep their culture alive, essential for a just future. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.



**Parish Leadership Development Day—‘Leading through listening, led by the spirit’**

Last Saturday, 5 representatives from St Peters, were privileged to participate in this very informative and enjoyable day. Two keynote addresses from Archbishop Mark Coleridge and Sr Monica Cavanagh RSJ presented challenging and complementary ideas relevant not just for leaders but for us all in our daily Christian lives. We must always listen to the voice of God through the Holy Spirit. Our capacity to listen to God is totally tied to our capacity to listen to each other. Pope Francis too, has commented that we are a church journeying together - we need to be a listening church - to the Word of God and to each other. Prayer too, begins with listening and enables us to be aware of what God is calling us to do. The powerful addresses were followed by 10 workshops from various presenters, all very focused upon topics relevant to our Christian lives and parish community. *Bev de Paola*

**Invitations from Around the Archdiocese**

**PROCLAIM 2018: National Conference on Parish Renewal and Evangelisation** 12 – 14 July 2018

**Early Bird Registrations** and Group Discounts for 5 or more **now available**

To find out more visit [www.proclaimconference.com.au](http://www.proclaimconference.com.au) and register at our early bird rate.

**Chrism Mass** - Archbishop Mark Coleridge invites you to the Annual Chrism Mass to be held in the Cathedral of St Stephen on Thursday 22nd March commencing at 7.00pm. This is a celebration for the entire Archdiocese and all are welcome.

**Easter Passion Play turns 60—The Iona Passion Play** at the IPAC Theatre, Iona College, LINDUM

Matineés: Sat Mar 24 & Sun Mar 25 at 2pm. Evenings: Sat Mar 24 & Good Friday Mar 30 at 7pm

Tickets: Early Bird: \$15-\$19 At the Door: \$20-\$22 . Children (5-14) \$7 Children (under 5) Free on laps.

Group discounts available.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Those who have died:** Zhengchong Gong, Adrianus (Arie) Breed, Sister Alponse Maria, Mary Woodhead, Finau Naupoto

**Book of Life & Mass Requests:** Carol Stewart, Edward McCormick, Ray Bennett, Florence Chia, Matti Yacoub, Terrence Powis, Douglas Littlefield, Pat McDonnell, Veronica Smith, Paul Ruthven, Margaret Evans, Marie Kerslake, John Laughren, Mary Hunter, John McKenna, Agnes Kluck, Bernard Campbell, Regina Fernando, Lorna McNulty, Clara van Bekkum, Dominic Chin

**Please pray for those who are sick, especially** Max Drummond, Esme Jensen, Karen Johnston, Lori Hodder, Apolonio Aguas, Tony McDonald, John Drew, Dot McLennan, John Green, Kathleen Anderson, Kevin Dingwall, Alan Camp, Ramona Cruz, Ursula Williamson, Kieran McKenna, Seseinando de Leon Jnr, Rev. Dcn. Peter Olsen, Trevor Parker, Sandra Murphy, Fabio Viola, Michael Smith, Peter Harris, Sylvia Privitera, Andrew Briskey, Elmore Kotzur, Flex Dance, Monica Ah Koy, Kevin Kelly, Hamish Stuhmeke, Joe Wegener, Bonnie Dematillar, Johnny Summers

*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.*

**Roster 17th & 18th March 2018**

Co-ordinator		Readers		Communion		Altar Servers	Musicians
Sat 6:00pm	Joyce Lyster	C 1 2	Lyndal Bray-Claridge Michael Claridge Joseph C Varkey	Rob Meulman Trish Meulman Carl de Mello		Monika Talia	Madden family
Sun 9:00am	Marilyn Mills	C 1 2	Jo Cullen School teacher School child	Lydia Chew Donald Fernando Kevin Healan Diane McKeone	Julie H Marilyn Mills Volunteer	Zac	Carmel
Sun 6.00pm	Anne Fry	C 1 2	Fiorenzo Matarazzo Vickie Routledge John Blake	Ann Maree Collier John Blake Mel Mckay		Eza	Rita

**Church Cleaning:** 5 Mark & Gabrielle Connolly, Narelle & Frank Garland, Shane D'Silva

**Children's Liturgy:** Anne Flood      **This week: Linen:** Celine Phillips **Counting:** Bob's team

**Cuppa:** after the 9am Mass on Sat 17th March: Romana Langdon, Helen Viola

## Other Parish Contacts

**Care & Concern:** Transport: 0412267337

Co-ordinator Lynn White 0403 051103

**Family Group Facebook:**

St Peters Rochedale Family Groups

**Memorial Wall & Gardens:** Mal Jensen 0411641312

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

**Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Representative:**

Malcolm Carroll 0438 949 099 or mcarroll580@gmail.com

**Social Justice Group Facebook:**

St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group

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
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