

St Peter's Catholic Parish

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PARISH PRIEST

Fr Baiyi (By-ye) Gong

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

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

955 Rochedale Rd, Rochedale

Open: Mon – Fri 8.15am-1.15pm

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Web: www.stpetersrochedale.org.au

Facebook: stpetersrochedaleparish

Secretary: Julie Hondronakis

Email: stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

Co-ordinator of Lay Ministries: Josephine Cullen

Email: lm.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 Advent (Year C) 23rd December 2018

Readings: Micah 5:1-4

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-44

Prepare a crib at home

Before Christmas, it is customary to prepare a crib in the church. You will see different cribs in different churches. Most of them are beautifully decorated and lit with light and colour. By preparing a crib in church, Christians try to recreate the scene in which Jesus was born. When we see the crib and attend Christmas' liturgies, we can conceivably be taken back to the Bethlehem of Jesus' time. We can feel the difficulties that Jesus faced, so that then, we understand better how much God loves us. This experience of God's love will hopefully inspire the seed of love in our hearts and make it grow. With that love in mind, we can live a better Christian life. And hopefully, every year when we celebrate Christmas, the love in our hearts will be encouraged and strengthened to endure.

In some places, Christians even set up a crib at home. I am not sure how many Aussie Christians do this. I think it is very good to have a Christmas crib at home. It doesn't need to be an elaborate or ornate one. A simple nativity scene will do. It will serve as a sign and reminder to help us to reflect on our Christian life and meditate on the meaning of Christmas. So this year, if you haven't already prepared a crib at home, I propose you do so soon.

As I make this suggestion, I would also like to add a few reflections. Firstly, Christian life is not limited to activity within the church. Actually, it's more about life at home. We spend much more time at home than in church. And Jesus commanded us to love God and our neighbours. Neighbours are not only those who live in our neighbourhood but also all those who live not far away from us. In this sense, family members are our neighbours, too, as they live with us. So home is the first place to practice our Christian faith.

Secondly, our Christian family is a family church, too. When we talk about church, we are talking about the people of God, not just the actual building. Family members should pray together and encourage one another to be better every day. Then Jesus will be there with them. As He said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." So, if we think we need a crib in our parish church, then of course, we should have one in our family church.

Thirdly, in today's society, it is evident that some people are struggling to have close, positive relationships within their families. Many factors contribute to this. One problem might be that family members know each other too well, and readily recognise each other's 'dark side'. Sometimes the better you know a person's dark side, the more difficult it can be to accept and love them. As well as this, some people are losing patience with senior members of their family. By preparing a crib at home, I hope that your family will build closer relationships and will care for each other, and in particular elderly family members, with respect, attention and affection.

I wish all St Peter's Parishioners and their families a happy and holy Christmas.

Fr Baiyi

Readings for next weekend:

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph (Year C)

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

Luke 2:41-52

IN OUR PARISH THIS COMING WEEK:

MON 24th Dec	Christmas Eve Note: No morning Mass 10.00am Practice for Children's Christmas Pageant & Mass including Readers, Musicians and singers 6.30pm Christmas Eve Family Mass 9.00pm Christmas Eve Night Mass Christmas Carols 15 minutes before each Mass
TUE 25th Dec	Christmas Day 9.00am Mass (<i>Carols 15 minutes before Mass</i>)
WED 26th Dec	No Mass
THU 27th Dec	No Mass
FRI 28th Dec	No Mass or Rosary
SAT 29th Dec	5.00pm Reconciliation 6:00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
SUN 30th Dec	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph 9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass

2019 Year planner: to help us plan for 2019, could Ministry Group leaders please advise the Parish Office of any dates your ministry group is planning events or fund-raising etc.

Planned Giving Envelopes for 2019 ready for collection.

No Masses: apart from Christmas Day, there will be no weekday morning Masses this week. Rosary group will not meet this week either.

The Parish Office will be closed between Christmas and New Year We apologise for any inconvenience. The Office will re-open for business on Wednesday 2nd January.

Plenary Council 2020

Listen to what the Spirit is saying
What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?"

To have your say visit
www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au.

Mass Co-ordinators, Readers, Communion Ministers & Altar Servers are needed for all Christmas Masses.

We still have some gaps to fill on the roster sheets. Please consider if you can volunteer to help out in any way. Write your name on the sheets on the table near the main doors.

Christmas Decorating: We would love your help with decorating the Church for Christmas! All are welcome to come decorate your church home for Christmas. We will be decorating this Sunday 23rd December after 6pm Mass finishes around 7pm.



St Vinnies' News: for Sale from the Piety Stall: Columban Calendars for 2019 \$8.
Christmas Cards—pack of 8 for \$4.

Hampers: A HUGE THANK YOU from St Vincent de Paul St Peter's Conference to everyone (St Peter's School and Rochedale State School teachers, students and parents, parishioners and friends) for your helpful, thoughtful generosity and invaluable support. Donations of all kinds, time as well as considerable effort, both physical and financial are much appreciated. We delivered 50 hampers locally.

New Year's Day Tuesday 1st January for the Feast of **Mary, Mother of God:** Mass will be at 9.00am.
Rosters for Readers & Extraordinary Ministers of Communion If our records show that you do not hold a current Blue Card or Exemption Card or haven't had a Police Check you will find a note on your envelope to follow up with forms for these. Please see Jo or Julie for any queries.

Christmas Greetings from Fr Jacob: Its a joy that Christmas is at hand. A time of hope! A time to hope for and a time to share our joy! I am in the mood of Christmas and feel I am one with the world during this Christmas holidays May I wish you my dear friends a very Merry Christmas. May the Mary's Holy Child bless you, the St Peter's Parishioners! I am so glad that I can see you all in my heart and mind. Your prayers and blessings I cherish here in Kerala, India. We are better off now after the great flood and its aftermath. Many from all over the world reached out and were gentle and kind. You too were there without my asking help. I am very happy that you did that to my Kerala. Blessings to you all my dear friends. Wish you a blessed and happy New Year as well.

Fr Jacob Chacko MCBS, Christmas 2018.

Children's Pageant Practice is at 10 am on Christmas Eve, **Monday 24th December**



for **6.30 pm Mass** that night. All children who would like to be part of the pageant please come along.

The Practice usually lasts for an hour and a half. We need angels, kings, shepherds... We also need readers. Parents welcome! Help welcome! Contact Jo Cullen on 0419733878 for more information.



Musicians and singers for the 6.30pm Mass please also attend this practice at 10.00am on Monday.

Christmas Readings

Christmas Eve 6.30pm:

1st Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7

Gospel: Children's Pageant telling the story from the Gospel of Luke Chapter 2

Christmas Eve 9.00pm

1st Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7

2nd Reading: Titus 2:11-14

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14

Christmas Day 9.00am

1st Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

2nd Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14

Help needed: We are seeking a volunteer to clean the Parish Office. It would require an hour or 2 of your time preferably on a weekly basis. We also need people to join our **Church Cleaning Ministry Group**. Several long term members have retired from this ministry. Church cleaning groups of 4 or 5 people clean our church on an 8 week rotation. If anyone would be interested in joining either of these important 'behind the scenes' Ministries please see Fr Baiyi, Julie or Jo.

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.

God's Word 2019 Liturgical Diaries for sale. \$10. All the readings for every day of the year as well as reflections. Wonderful for yourself or as a Christmas gift.

Card Group: Come and join the Card Group for a friendly and casual game of cards every Monday morning in the Parish Centre from Monday 7th January.

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

Break Open the Word 2019: . Cost \$18 each. *Break Open the Word* is an invaluable resource for anyone in the Reading Ministry but also for those in the Music Ministry and Liturgy Group.

Pet Crosses: Please contact the Parish Office if you ordered a Pet Cross and have not collected it yet.

Help needed: A parishioner living in the Rochedale area would like a lift to either Saturday 6pm or Sunday 9am Mass on a regular basis. If anyone is able to assist, please call Julie in the Parish Office.

Donations of spectacles, Bibles, lead pencils, coloured pencils, crayons and exercise books for an optometrist to take to Vanuatu. Place your donations in the marked box at the back of the church.

Invitations from around the Archdiocese

Christmas Lights at the Cathedral: *The Lights of Christmas* will illuminate the side of the Cathedral with an enchanting 12-minute show, which will run continuously from 7:30pm until midnight every evening to 24th Dec. We are thrilled to invite all parishioners to join us on the lawn at St Stephen's for this magnificent event.

Are you new to our Parish? If you've recently joined the Parish, WELCOME!! Please make yourself known to us. We'd like to formally greet you, so please complete a 'New Parishioners Card' at the back of the Church and place it on the collection plate or hand it to Fr Baiyi or to one of the Parish Councillors.

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

Rosary Group: Fridays 9:00am

(1st Fridays 8.30am) All Welcome!

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

St Vincent de Paul Group:

New member enquiries John Blake 0411 196 775

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those who have died: Sam Dibella, Frances Barry, Sylvia Justo (Sylvia Privitera's mum)

Book of Life & Mass Requests: Ralph Lesslar, Thomas Doherty, Helen Lawlor, Ronald Kennedy, William 'Bill' Carver, Leo Lawlor, Mary Blattman, Patricia Holzknecht, Jodie Louise Ryan, Vera Adcock, Hilary Dempsey, Maurice Malloy, Leonard Stitt, John Bray, Christine Fitz-Gibbon, Jan Cuskelly, Betty Simpson, Betsy May Burton, Flo Beechworth, Warren Jackson

Please pray for those who are sick, especially Don Bechly, Armando Sta. Ana, Marcos Mendoza, Margaret Drummond, Gwen Green, Esme Jensen, Michael Harkin, Zhiding Gong, David Richardson, Vickie Routledge, Martine Pitts, Kaitlin Bakker, Warren Williams, Vivian Kennedy, Danny Costello, Benny Santanaraj, Jose Rochil Contreras, Kim Power, Lexie Harding, Violet Adamson, Max Drummond, Karen Johnston, Lori Hodder, Apolonio Aguas, Tony McDonald, John Drew, John Green, Kevin Dingwall, Alan Camp, Ramona Cruz, Ursula Williamson, Kieran McKenna, Sesinando de Leon Jnr, Trevor Parker, Sandra Murphy, Fabio Viola, Michael Smith, Sylvia Privitera, Andrew Briskey, Elmore Kotzur, Monica Ah Koy, Kevin Kelly, Hamish Stuhmeke, 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.

29th& 30th Dec	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 6pm
Mass Co-ordinators	Mark Connolly	Lydia Chew	Kate Guy
AV Operators	David Crowley	Julie Hondroudakis	John Donohue
Readers	C. Lyndal Bray-Claridge 1. Monika Svarc jnr 2. David Crowley	C. Stephanie Lenihan 1. Theresa Cruz 2. Jackson Sabu	C. Raylee Burns 1. Bob Burns 2. Malcolm Carroll
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Deacon Mike Jones Monika Svarc Snr Joyce Lyster	Lydia Chew Jim Nathan Joan D'Netto Donald Fernando	Diane McKeone Jo Cullen Anne Scanlon
Altar Servers	Talia, Layla, Rene	Jada, Finn S, Leo	Eza, Angelina
Musicians	Liz	Rita	Tim

Church Cleaning: 6 Neil Mone, Greg Rosso, Dona Thomas, Julie Hondroudakis

Children's Liturgy: None **This week: Sacristan:** Glenys Peters **Counting:** Carl's Team

Cuppa: no cuppa next weekend as it is the 5th weekend of the month

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