

# St Peter's Catholic Parish

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### PARISH PRIEST

Fr Baiyi (By-ye) Gong

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Phone: 3341 4421 (Parish Office)

For after-hours emergency

call the Parish Mobile: 0481 975 660

### DEACON

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### PARISH OFFICE

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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."*

## Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Year A

26th November 2017

Readings:

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17    1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28    Matthew 25:31-46

### In so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me

In 594 BC, a war broke out between the kingdoms of Qin and Jin in China. One day, the two kingdoms fought a fierce battle. The general of Jin was called Weike. When the two armies were brutally fighting against each other, Weike suddenly saw an old man in the battlefield, making knots with grass, and the general of Qin was tripped by the knots and fell to the ground. Immediately, he was captured alive by Weike and Jin had a big victory.

That night, Weike had a dream. In the dream, the old man told him a story. When Weike's father was sick, he told Weike to let one of his concubines remarry freely after his death. Later, his condition deteriorated and he became insane. And then he changed his mind and ordered Weike to bury the poor woman alive with his body after death. When the day came, Weike didn't follow his father's second Will but the first one, letting the woman get remarried. When Weike was questioned why he hadn't followed his father's later Will, he replied, "When a man is seriously ill, he isn't able to make a sensible decision. That I let the woman remarry was to respect my father's Will made when he was sensible enough." This old man was the father of that woman. He came intentionally to help Weike win the battle in order to thank Weike for saving his daughter's life.

This story is well-known in China and usually quoted for stressing the importance of thanksgiving. But here I would like to use this story to talk about something else. It is that, for human beings, those whom we love are more important than ourselves. When our loved ones are looked after, it is ourselves being looked after. With this reasoning, that old man helped Weike for having saved the life of his beloved daughter.

I believe that after this point has been discussed, it will be much easier to understand today's Gospel. Jesus says to the good in today's Gospel, "In so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." And to the evil, he says, "In so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." At the end, he concludes his teaching by saying, "And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life."

Everyone in this world meets all different kinds of difficulties. Jesus hopes that all can be looked after well in difficult situations. When hungry, food will be offered; when thirsty, drinks will be served; when naked, clothes will be given; when sick or imprisoned, visitation and sympathy will be received. Because of Jesus' deep love for us, whoever has been cared about, it is Jesus Himself who has been cared about. Like the old man in the story, for him, Weike saved the life of his daughter, just like his own life had been saved.

Dear friends, Jesus loves each of us and hopes that we will be helped when necessary. When we are helped, it is Jesus who is helped. If we all follow Jesus' teaching, we will help and be helped when needed. In so doing, we will not only receive the love from one another now but also enjoy the eternal rewards from Jesus later.

Fr Baiyi

**Readings for next weekend: First Sunday of Advent (Year B)**

Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8    1 Corinthians 1:3-9    Mark 13:33-37

## ***IN OUR PARISH THIS COMING WEEK:***

<b>MON 27th Nov</b>	8.00am Mass
<b>TUE 28th Nov</b>	8.00am Mass with children 6.30pm Graduation Mass of the Year 6 Class 7.00pm RCIA meeting
<b>WED 29th Nov</b>	6.30am Mass 7.30pm Baptism Information meeting
<b>THU 30th Nov</b>	<b>St Andrew</b> 7.30pm Training for Communion Ministers
<b>FRI 1st Dec</b>	9.00am Rosary 11.00am Whole School Mass for the end of the school year—All Welcome
<b>SAT 2nd Dec</b>	12 noon Care & Concern Christmas Lunch 5.00pm Reconciliation 6:00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
<b>SUN 3rd Dec</b>	<b>1st Sunday of Advent</b> 9.00am Mass                                  6.00pm Mass

**Care & Concern Christmas Lunch** Saturday 2nd December 12 noon – 2.30pm. Lunch, fun quiz and entertainment, Christmas raffle. Supporting St Vinnies and Caritas. Tickets \$10 each—on sale this weekend.

**Children's Liturgy** this Sunday is the last one for 2017! Thanks to all the children, leaders and parents for making this year a success. Children's Liturgy will recommence in early February 2018.

**The annual Archdiocesan Peter's Pence Collection** to support the charitable works of Pope Francis around the world will be held in our parish next weekend 2nd & 3rd December  
**Calendar:** Reminder to all ministry group leaders: please send in your groups' dates for any events, meetings etc for 2018 so we can prepare a parish calendar of events. Our aim is to issue the calendar to parishioners before Christmas.

**Mass Co-ordinators, Readers & Communion Ministers** please collect your new rosters.

**St Peter's School End of Year Mass** will be held this Friday 1st December commencing at 11.00am. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Please note there will be no 9.30am Mass that day. The next Healing Mass will be held next Friday 8th December.

**Practical Training for Communion Ministers:** Would you like to become a Communion Minister? We are holding a practical training evening for people who have recently joined the ministry and others who would be interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Communion. Training will be held this Thursday 30th November at 7.30 pm in the church. It is open to any of our Communion Ministers but is aimed at people new to the role.

**Parish Census & Planned Giving Commitment:** Have you been away? If you have, you may have missed filling out a Parish Census card or a Planned Giving Commitment card. Please look for these cards near the main doors of the church and complete them so we can update our records (census) and look to the future with financial confidence (Planned Giving). If you have brought your completed slips from last weekend please place them on the collection plate at either collection or hand the completed cards to Fr Baiyi or one of the PPC members. Thank you.

Remember that there are several ways you can contribute to our Planned Giving Program to keep our parish functioning fully

**\*\*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.

**\*\*Direct Debit**—you can direct debit your nominated account either weekly, fortnightly or monthly. Ask for a Direct Debit form. This is organised through our bank.

**\*\*Credit Card**—processed once per month. Ask for a Credit Card form

**\*\*Envelopes**—the traditional weekly cash method  
**Bequests and Endowments** are another way in which you can help our parish financially. Ask for a brochure on how to remember our parish in your will via a bequest or to set up an endowment. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

### **Spotlight on a Ministry: Music Ministry**

Parishioners love to hear music in St Peter's church as it inspires and reinforces the scriptural message that we hear in the readings. The famous quote says – *Those who sing, pray twice.* (attributed to St Augustine). Thankfully, the wonderful parishioners of St Peter's join in singing to support the musicians and we are grateful for this. We are also fortunate to have a dedicated group of musicians who meet to plan the music for Mass, to sing and play for Masses, to practice for major celebrations and to receive new musical ideas through attendance at conferences and seminars. When we meet, we use *Break Open the Word* and reflect on the messages contained in the scriptures. We consider when to introduce new hymns and when to try something different. There are many people in the Parish, from a wide variety of age groups, so we try to balance the music selections to suit different groups. Everyone has their favourites! We are always in need of more singers, organists/pianists/guitarists/other musicians! As you may know, you can start off by playing one or two parts of the Mass and building your confidence. All the musicians are happy to assist you to start playing at Mass. We are also happy for singers, young and older, to come to the microphone to support the parishioners to join in the singing.

Our next major event is Christmas and we would love to have you join us for rehearsal. What a great way to start – the wonderful repertoire of carols! On **Wednesday 20 December at 7pm**, we will have a practice in the church. Please come along and join us – we would love to have you participate in Music Ministry. For further information, please contact Liz Fort on 3341 0852.

**Break Open the Word 2018:** now available on the back table. 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. Year B starts next weekend!

**God's Word 2018** —is a Liturgical diary which has the readings for every day from the New Jerusalem Bible, inspiring reflections on the readings of the day. A great resource for yourself or it would make a fantastic Christmas gift—special deal \*\* still only \$10! Also on the tables near the main door to the church.



**Vinnies News:** 1. Christmas is fast approaching and we are in the process of organizing Christmas hampers. For this and the next 3 Sundays there will be baskets near the Baptismal Font for your donations of non perishable goods, toiletries, age appropriate gifts, toys and festive fare. Hampers are a way of bringing a little Christmas joy to those most needy in our community. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please take a leaflet after Mass for some gift ideas.

2. Now available from the St Vinnies Piety Stall: Christmas cards \$4 per pack. Each pack contains 8 beautiful cards with envelopes. Also available: Columban Calendars for 2018 (cost \$9).

**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.

**Holiday Home** needed for Jack the Maltese terrier, formerly owned by parishioner, Paul O'Brien. Jack's new owners need him minded from 11th December to 14th January. Can you help?



**Invitations from around the Archdiocese:**

**TALK: Rebuilding Iraq and Syria:** SOS Chrétiens d'Orient and the Future of the Christian Middle East. Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre (St Stephens Cathedral) 249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Tuesday November 28 @ 7pm. SOS Chrétiens d' Orient is a French Catholic humanitarian organisation providing humanitarian aid to persecuted Christians in the Middle East. Speaking will be co-founder, Benjamin Blanchard, who spends much of his time working in Syria and Iraq. Come and meet us and find out what you can do to help. Free parking available in the Cathedral car park.

**Dinner Dance:** You are invited to dance the night away and enjoy island cuisine with great music for a good cause. The Tongan Catholic Youth will host you for the evening and the proceeds will contribute towards activities to promote youth participation in church, social cohesion and faith. Saturday 2nd December 6pm to 12am at the Marymac Community Centre, 616 Ipswich Rd, Annerley 4103. Ticket \$40 per person at the door or \$30 prepaid before 30th November. Contact Sia on 0423 670 961 or Olivia on 0468 949 991

**Advent Gospel Reflection with Dr Antonia Pizzey.** The dates are Tuesday 5th December; 12th December; 19th December at 7:00pm. The Workshops will take place at Our Lady of the Assumption Church at Park Ridge. Tea and coffee will be available and if people could bring a small plate to share for supper that would be appreciated. Gold coin contribution would be appreciated to offset costs. Please contact St Bernardine's Parish office, Regents Park for more information on 07 3884 7600.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Those who have died:** Joan Hine, Pat Feeny (Les O'Gorman's sister), Marie Toomey (Brian's sister), Sam O'Brien

**Book of Life & Mass Requests:** Clyde Cook, Edna Mary Easton, Phyllis Power, John Macartney, Arthur Weston Snr, Peg Corbould, Jim Hobson, Marie Carpenter, Neville Cavanagh, Michael Mildren, Len Louis, Kathleen Walsh, Mario Gatbonton, Mona McKenna, Vince Fitzsimon, Evelyn Ellwood, Mabel MacDonald, Bernard Luton, Sophie Robinson, Bernard Montegrande, Marie Maguire, Ruth Ballment

**Please pray for those who are sick, especially** John Green, Michael Bahn, Edmund Ho, Tricia Dowing, Kathleen Anderson, Kevin Dingwall, Anthony Van Rooy, Sr Patricia Lynch MMM (Fr John's aunt in Dublin), Evelyn Scanlon, Alan Camp, Ramona Cruz, Ursula Williamson, Kieran McKenna, Sesinando de Leon Jnr, Rev. Dcn. Peter Olsen, Trevor Parker, Sandra Murphy, Fabio Viola, Michael Smith, Peter Harris, Sylvia Privitera, Andrew Briskey, Pat Mildren, Elmore Kotzur, Flex Dance, Monica Ah Koy, Kevin Kelly, Annette Sparks, Hamish Stuhmeke, Joe Wegener, Bonnie Dematillar, Terri Mills, 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 2nd & 3rd December 2017**

Co-ordinator		Readers		Communion	Altar Servers	Musicians
Sat 6:00pm	Mark Connolly	C 1 2	Les O'Gorman Geoff Hondroudakis Peta Grandin	Rob Meulman Trish Meulman Lyndal Bray-Claridge	Clive Angelina	Carmel
Sun 9:00am	Marilyn Mills	C 1 2	Lydia Chew Arthur Leow Stephanie Lenihan	Alan Scanlon Diane McKeone Marilyn Mills	Jada Luna	Madden family
Sun 6.00pm	Kate Guy	C 1 2	Helen Graczyk Daniel Twidale Aurelie Regnard	Cesarina Gigante Matt Jarvis Kate Guy	Chevonne Rena	Rita

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

**Children's Liturgy:** none      **This week: Linen:** Celine Phillips      **Counting:** Carl's team

**Cuppa:** after the 6pm Mass on Sun 3rd December: Kate Guy, Helen Graczyk, Malcolm Carroll



## Other Parish Contacts

Care & Concern: Transport: 0412267337  
Co-ordinator Lynn White 0403 051103

Family Group Facebook:

St Peters Rochedale Family Groups

Memorial Wall & Gardens: Les O'Gorman 3341 3862

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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