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

Third Sunday of Advent

14th December 2025

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11

Rejoice, the Lord is coming

"Rejoice in the Lord always." "The Lord is at hand; have no anxiety about anything, but in all things, by prayer and thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God…". So, to express our joy in the coming of our Savior into our hearts and lives, we light the rose candle in the Advent wreath. The prophet Isaiah encourages the exiled Jews in Babylon to rejoice because their God is going to liberate them from slavery and lead them safely to their homeland. James the Apostle encourages the early Christians to rejoice and wait with patience for the imminent second coming of Jesus. Finally, in the Gospel, Jesus encourages John the Baptist in prison to rejoice by accepting Jesus' healing and preaching ministry as the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecy of Isaiah. Jesus presents John the Baptist as the greatest human being.

We need to learn how to survive a Faith crisis: If John the Baptist, even after having had a direct encounter with Jesus, the Messiah, had his doubts about Jesus and his teachings, we, too, can have our crises of Faith. On such occasions, let us remember the truth that all our Christian dogmas are based on our trusting Faith in the Divinity of Jesus who taught them, and on his Divine authority which he gave to his Church to teach what he taught. Hence, it is up to us to learn our Faith in depth and ask the Lord to remove our doubts.

"Go and tell others what you hear and see." We rejoice at the thought that Jesus is going to be reborn in our lives, deepening in us his gifts of love, mercy, forgiveness and the spirit of humble and sacrificial service during this Christmas season. Hence, let us joyfully share God's bountiful grace, forgiveness, and mercy with others. What Jesus commanded John's disciples, he commands us as well: Go and tell others what you hear and see. This means that we must share with others our experience of the rebirth of Jesus within us. We need to open our hearts and let God transform our lives. The message of Advent is that God is present among us, in our everyday lives. We must prepare our hearts to recognize and welcome him by allowing a change of thinking and acting.

In this season of penitential preparation for Christmas, the Church breaks out in laughter. The miracle of preaching brings new sight and insight, new hearing and heart, especially for 'the poor in spirit', those most in need of Good News. That Good News makes disciples with a deep and abiding joy, a joy that sustains them through every challenge. This is the miracle of the Word of God, coming to prisoners like John and liberating them from anxiety, despondency and doubt. "Let the bush and the desert exult," says Isaiah today, "let the outback rejoice, bloom, and sing for joy. Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees, and say to the fainthearted, 'Courage! Be not afraid. For your Saviour is coming. They will come singing for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; sorrow and lament will be ended, and joy and gladness be theirs forever." Finally, to ready our hearts to be a crib for the Christmas babe, let us then repent of our sins and experience Gaudete joy.

Fr Johny Edapulavan CMI

In our parish this week: December 2025

Monday 15	Tuesday 16	Wednesday 17	Thursday 18	Friday 19	Saturday 20	Sunday 21
8.00am Mass	**8.00am** Mass	**8.00am** Mass	*Parish Office Closed* **7.00pm** Youth Group Gathering	**9.00am** Rosary **9.30am** Mass	**5.00pm** Advent Prayer Gathering in Parish Centre **5.00-5.30pm** Reconciliation **6.00pm** Mass	**4th Sunday of Advent** **9.00am** Mass **6.00pm** Mass followed by Cuppa

Pilgrims of Hope in Advent: On **Saturday 20th December,** come along early for Mass and participate in a special Advent Prayer gathering. We will meet in the Parish Centre at 5pm. It will be a time of reflection, renewal, prayer and preparation for Christmas. Our time together will finish before Mass at 6pm so that you can attend if you wish. At this busy time of year, let us take some time for prayer. Please join us!

Reconciliation during Advent – there will be no communal Second Rite of Reconciliation during this Advent season. Instead, in addition to the usual time for Reconciliation of 5pm -5.30pm on Saturdays, Fr Johny will be available for Reconciliation for 15 minutes before Masses up to 23rd December – commencing 30 minutes before each Mass.

Merry Christmas to ALL from Children's Liturgy! A big thank you to all who were involved in this ministry this year, Leaders, parents and children. It's a true blessing to be a part of developing the faith journey of our youngest parish members.
If anyone is interested in being a part of our team for 2026, please don't hesitate to contact me. During the holiday break we will be leaving children's activity pages in a blue folder at the back of the church together with crayons which we hope will be used responsibly. Thank You. *Jodie Baigent 0405 406 337.*

The Parish Office will be closed from 1.15pm on 24th December - reopening on Monday 5th January

Readings for next weekend:
Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)
Isaiah 7:10-14 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24

LETTER BOX DROP Thank you to those who have already delivered our 'Christmas Greetings and Mass Times' cards. We still have a few areas to cover. The cards are all packaged in lots of 100. The pink shaded area shown on the map is where we need to have the cards distributed. If you can, please select your preferred map and card bundle, and get some exercise while you spread the word about St Peter's. Thank you.

Date Claimers

Children's Pageant Practice is at 10 am on Christmas Eve for the 6.30 pm Mass that night. All children who would like to be part of the pageant must attend the practice. We need children to play Mary, Joseph, angels, shepherds, kings… and we need readers. Please contact the Parish Office on 3341 4421 for more details.

Christmas Masses:
Christmas Eve Wednesday 24th December
6.30 pm (Family Mass with children's pageant)
& 9.00 pm (Vigil)
Christmas Day Thursday 25th Dec
9.00 am Mass only

No Masses on Friday 26th December, Mon 29th, Tues 30th or Wed 31st December.
Weekend Masses 27th & 28th December as normal for the feast of the Holy Family

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Mass on New Year's Day, Thurs 1st January at 9.00am
First Friday 2nd January - Rosary at 8.30am, Adoration 9am, Healing Mass 9.30am.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those who have died: Gail Wyer

Book of Life & Mass Requests John Francis Doyle, Mary Duncan, Gary Pattinngale, Margaret Lynch, Margaret Bradley, Hanorah Henderson, Rod Caligari, Udhav Mone, Emily Jane Mahony, Sarah Hamill, John Pulley, Maria Riccobon, James Glancy, Clare Breen, Kevin Mullins, Sr Philomena Lyons, Ken White, Alexander Forbes.

Please pray for those who are sick, especially: Lameka Eketi, John & Simon Weatherley, Angela Russo, Betty Partridge, Ursula Williamson, Carol Timkoe, Victor Timkoe, Kate Kim, Veronica Scholes, Tany Lemon, Lynda Sweeney, Shelly Furman, Ray Dupreez, June McCrenor, Ian Forno, Brent Austin, Rex Bransdon, Don Tallon, Robert Cussans, Rikki-Lee Curran, Janet Hicks, Valerie Isaac, Mel Singh, Kerrianne Meulman, Kent McMahon, Maxine Macdonald, Kevin Collier, Ray Parker, Sr Lila Galvin, Phillip Van Rooyen, Olga Mariani, Patricia Green, Joy de Souza, Teresa Leong, Reg Van Rooyen, Rhonda Lawson, Kathy & Danae Jensen, Steph & Les O'Gorman, Laurie Newnham.
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, Tues, Wed & Fri 8.15am-1.15pm
Closed Thursdays
Phone: 3341 4421
Website: www.stpetersrochedale.org.au
Facebook: stpetersrochedaleparish

Parish Secretary: Julie Hondroudakis
Email: stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au
Coordinator of Lay Ministries: Belmira D'Souza
Email: layministry.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL:
Principal: Michael McInerney
Phone; 3341 4800
Email: prochedale@bne.catholic.edu.au

ST PETER'S OSHC:
Phone: 3219 7672
Email: co.rochedaleoshc@catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL (VINNIES) HELP CENTRE:
Phone: 1800 846 643

Faith Matters: **Joy at Advent: Relying on God's Promise**

This weekend in our Old Testament reading, Isaiah 35 1-10 the writer gives the Israelites one of the most beautiful and hope-filled passages in all of Scripture. It speaks so honestly about judgement, exile, human sin, and the world's brokenness as a wilderness yet in the midst of that bleak landscape, Isaiah offers a vision so radiant, so alive with promise, that Jewish and Christian tradition alike has always heard it as a glimpse of God's ultimate restoration. It tells them that the desert and the dry lands will exult, the wasteland will rejoice, bloom and bring forth flowers. He promises that weak hands and trembling knees will be strengthened and that all will be made well when God comes and that His people will respond with Joy.

This is a promise that speaks right into our own broken world today with its devastation, climate change, wars, death and personal trauma. This Advent we should be joyful that God has promised healing and restoration for us and look forward to Christ's return in glory. Perhaps this is the year of Christ's return, who knows? So, let's all celebrate not only Christ's coming 2000 or so years ago but also look forward to His return to heal and restore a broken World unto himself. **We pray that, relying on the promise of God, already made real in Jesus Christ, that we might joyfully look forward this Advent to Christ coming to make all things well and reclaim His Kingdom.**

Faith Enrichment Ministry

Rochedale Vinnies' Christmas Appeal

'The Lord hears the cry of the poor' (See Ps 34:7)

Thank you to our St Peter's Parish Community!!

Your generosity has greatly helped us to provide some love, hope and joy this Christmas to over 160 local people (adults and children) who are enduring great hardship.

God bless you all this Christmas!

With gratitude, Rochedale Vinnies

Christmas at Shalom World Media: This Christmas, share moments of true joy with your family. Heartwarming Christmas shows, inspiring talks, joyful music and stories of hope – for every age. Watch all for free. No pay walls. No ads. Just Christmas with Jesus.
Go to shalomworld.org/Christmas.

Rochedale Youth: The Youth & young adults gatherings are usually held fortnightly on Thursday evenings in the Parish Centre starting at 7pm. The next meeting will be **on 18th December**. For information on our Youth Ministry or Young Adults Group, please speak to Clive D'Silva when you are at Mass or contact the Parish Office on 3341 4421.

Roster: 20th & 21st Dec.	**Saturday 6pm Mass**	**Sunday 9am Mass**	**Sunday 6pm Mass**
Mass Co-ordinator	Anthony Andradi	Stephanie Lenihan	Liberty de Jesus
AV Operator	David Crowley	Alwin Joseph	Mike Collier
Readers	C. Joyce Lyster 1. Mal Jensen 2. Joseph Varkey	C. Alina George 1. Lisa Hammett 2. Blanca Mastrangeli	C. Anne Fry 1. Vickie Routledge 2. David Roati
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Shelagh Ballment Trish Meulman Lyndal Bray-Claridge	Vivienne Linnett Rosie Bertolacci Leroy Lobo Anne Scanlon Deseree Quan	Ann Maree Collier Sharon Fong Cesarina Gigante
Musicians	Rita Bishop	Carmel Northey-Cherrett	Elizabeth Fort
Altar Servers	Tayden	**Volunteer**	Jake & Jayden
Cleaning Group 2	Brian & Janice Mason & Julie Hondroudakis.		
Cuppa & Chat: after 6pm Sunday 21st Dec Mass: Jodie Baigent & Lynn White.			
This week: 14th – 20th Dec:	**Sacristan:** Celine Phillips	**Counting:** Carl's Group	

Are you new to our Parish? 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: 0413 268 860
Co-ordinator: Lynn White 0403 051 103
Memorial Wall & Gardens:
Mark Connolly 0434 147 835
St Vincent de Paul:
New members: Kevin Fry 0417 002 782

Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Representative: Malcolm Carroll 0451 804 058 or sgrep.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au
Social Justice Group Facebook:
St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group

Welcome to Flocknote: December Signup! Parishioners and visitors are invited to sign-up to Flocknote, our communication and engagement tool. Our Parish (and the Archdiocese of Brisbane) has officially adopted Flocknote for all parishes, as a safe, new, and improved database and means of communicating in parishes. Flocknote is free for parishioners to use, and there is no need to download anything. Please register to update our parishioner information. Your info is kept secure and private.
It only takes a couple minutes to sign up to receive emails from the parish. You are even able to reply directly back to those emails so we can get feedback and hear from you. Parishioners and visitors are invited to use the link or QR code and signup and register with the parish.
If you have any questions, please see Fr Johny, or speak with Julie in the Parish Office.
Please go to https://rochedale.flocknote.com/register or scan the QR code

Books for sale from the Parish Office & church.
God's Word 2026: With all the readings for every day of the year. Cost $15 each.
Break Open the Word 2026 resource for readers at weekend Mass. Cost $33 each.

Safeguarding Training: We are all responsible for the Safeguarding of each other especially children and Adult-at-risk whenever we are at the church or parish. Every volunteer in any role of the parish potentially dealing with children or adults-at risk must undertake Safeguarding Training every 2 years. This is now ideally done via the Arch elearn portal. Please go to https://welcome.brisbanecatholic.org.au/.
For those unable or unwilling to use the online portal, we will be running group training sessions. Please contact the Parish Office to register for a group training session.

Chairs. TV and a fish tank to give away! We have 20 plastic chairs from the Parish Centre that we would like to give away. We also have a rather large fish tank and a 42 inch colour TV. Please speak to Fr Johny or contact the Parish Office if you are interested in any of these items.

Entertainment Memberships Your 12 months Membership gives you savings on dining, retail, entertainment and travel. You can chose between a Single City membership or Multi-City which covers over 20 cities – great for travel!
* 20% of your purchase goes directly to our parish.
Your key to exclusive savings and meaningful impact awaits! St Peter's Online Order Page is https://subscribe.entertainment.com.au/fundraiser/2224e97

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.

Tap & Go Donations: No cash at Mass? Try our donation terminal near the main doors: you can choose from 4 options for your donation amount to support St Peter's Parish.

Thank you for your support.

SVDP Piety Stall is open after Sun 9am Mass: **Columban Calendars** for 2026 on sale **$10** each. **Christmas cards $5** for a pack of 5.

These businesses support our parish, please support them:

THE BEST BUILDING AND PEST INSPECTION
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Pool Safety Inspector
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