

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PARISH



Rochedale Springwood

955 Rochedale Rd, Rochedale 4123

Phone: 3341 4421 (Parish Office)

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."



PARISH PRIEST

Fr Johny Edapulavan CMI

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

After-hours emergencies: 0481 975 660

The Third Sunday of Lent (Year C)

23rd March 2025

Readings: Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 Luke 13:1-9

Burning Bush Experience

Burning bush that burns but does not turn to ash is astonishing and naturally arouses Moses' curiosity. God chose a shepherd to free His people from the slavery of the Pharaoh in OT, it was fishermen that God chose to take His mission of liberation to humanity in the NT. One needs never ever forget God's preferences in choosing the types of people He does, including Saul, whose touching conversion story we find in the Acts of the Apostles. And ultimately what it means is that the mission of the Lord is achieved not through our own abilities, courage or zeal; but it progresses because of Him who commissions the mission.

"I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint. I know well what they are suffering. Therefore, I have come to rescue them." A few years ago, a rabbi wrote a best-seller, *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*. If God loves, why does he send us suffering? When tragedy strikes us and we are really hurting, we are tempted to cry out in anger against God who torments us or just does not seem to care. "Where were you, God, when I really needed you?"

I remember a riddle that was asked to a group of graduate students in their theology class. Once a couple, on a holiday tour, was traveling in a bus. On a particular place the couple stopped the bus. After they got off the bus, it moved a bit ahead and suddenly a huge rock from the mountain rolled down and fell upon the bus killing half of the passengers and injuring others. The couple looked at the bus and was terrified. What they might have said at that moment looking at the bus? Some of the listeners said they might have said 'Thank God'. While others might have exclaimed 'O God, we are saved because God was watching over us; but none of them could say what the couple had said. They said, "if we had not stopped the bus to get down at that spot the bus would have crossed the spot before the rock fell upon it and all would have been saved." How positive and altruistic! We all think about ourselves and never about others.

God spoke to Moses in the following words: "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry. I know well what they are suffering. Therefore, I have come to rescue them." This is a God who cares and comes to help us. To understand this God, we need to undergo a burning bush experience.

Have you ever had a burning bush experience? Do you ever remember a moment in which you were so profoundly in touch with the presence of God that your life from that moment onwards was totally transformed. Moses had that before a bush burning but not consumed. He understood the presence of God and within the ambience of fear and fascination he learnt his identity and the purpose of his life. St. Paul's burning bush experience happened on the way to Damascus. Our mother Mary had her burning bush experience when the angel brought the strange message. Joseph's burning bush experience was when he saw the dream. Jesus had this experience more poignantly in the garden of Gethsemane after the intimate meal with his friends.

Fr Johny Edapulavan CMI

In our parish this week: March 2025

Monday 24	Tuesday 25	Wednesday 26	Thursday 27	Friday 28	Saturday 29	Sunday 30
8.00am Mass 7.00pm Parish Finance Council meeting	The Annunciation of the Lord 8.00am Mass with school children 4.30pm SVDP meeting 7.30pm Baptism Information meeting	8.00am Mass 10am-12pm WOW gathering	No Mass <i>Parish Office closed</i> 7.00pm Youth Gathering	9.00am Rosary 9.30am Mass 11.30am Gr 2 Liturgy of the Word 7.00pm Lenten Reflection followed by Stations of the Cross at 7.30pm	5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass	Fourth Sunday of Lent (Yr C) 9.00am Mass (Children's Liturgy) followed by Stations of the Cross after Mass 11am Sacramental Program Penance Workshop 6.00pm Mass

The Season of Lent

Lenten book: Start Anew With Christ - Daily reflections for Lent \$5

Friday Evenings: Reflective Prayer from 7pm and Stations of the Cross from 7.30pm. Please join us for this weekly hour of Prayer, Reflection and Memorial in the Parish Centre and church. Volunteers needed to help run the weekly Stations of the Cross. Please contact Julie if you can assist. Resources available.

Sunday Stations of the Cross in Lent following the 9am Mass on the Sundays in Lent with some of the prayers being prayed in other languages. After the prayer reflection at each Station, the Our Father, Hail Mary & Glory Be to the Father will be prayed, with the first part of each in another language and the second part in English. Belmira has drafted a roster for praying the Our Father, Hail Mary & Glory Be to the Father in several native languages. If you would like to add your name please contact Julie.

Lenten Reconciliation Evening- Second Rite

Dear Parishioners,

There will be a Reconciliation service - Second Rite - on **Tuesday April 8 at 6:30pm.** Father Johny has asked Fr Joseph from Daisy Hill parish for assistance to help with the smooth running of the evening.

In the Second Rite, we gather as a group to listen to God's word and reflect on our sins. Then Father will hear one or two sins that are the most important to ask for forgiveness. It is not a time for an extended confession. Father Johny offers Reconciliation in the First Rite before Mass on Saturdays, starting at 5pm. This will be available through Lent. You could see Fr Johny to make a suitable time on a different day, if you prefer.

We hope to see many parishioners on April 8, as we prepare in a special way to celebrate Easter with renewed hearts and minds.

Books for sale in the church or Parish Office

Break Open the Word 2025 - \$26 - a fabulous resource for those who are Ministers of the Word.

**Readings for next weekend:
The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year C)**
Joshua 5:9-12 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32



WOW (Wise Owl Wednesdays): 10am-12pm

Wednesday 26th March in the Parish Centre.

St Patrick's Day with a Twist

Join us for morning tea, songs, quiz, raffles and lucky door prize. Open to all those aged over 65 in our local community. RSVP to the Parish Office by Friday 21st March on 3341 4421 or by email to stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au or write your name on the 'Expression of Interest' sheet in the church.

Sacramental Program 2025 - Attention parents & carers:

Sacrament of Penance: If your child received their First Holy Communion last year they are invited to a one day program on the Sacrament of Penance in the First Rite next Sunday 30th March from 11am. Please contact the Parish Office asap to enrol.

First Holy Communion: All of those children who have been Confirmed but not yet received their First Holy Communion are invited to join this program beginning with a Rite of Enrolment on Sunday 30th March at the 9am Mass.

Project Compassion. Please pick up a box or envelope

This Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.** You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



Morning Tea Gathering: Our next monthly get together at the local coffee shop, will be held at More Cafe in Springwood Mall (near Woolworths) at 10am on **Monday 7th April.** All are welcome to come along.



Those who have died: Col Woodhead, Pamela Potts, Fr Leo Burke, Phil Jones (*Deacon Mike's brother*)

Book of Life & Mass Requests: John Fitz-gibbon, Robbie Movick, May Neilsen, Len Torrens, Siglinde Luszczyk, Henk Peeters, John Knuth, Dennis Zandona, Mary Nicholl, Betty Settree, Cecil Allen, John Carlton, Bill Crowley, John & Doreen O'Neil, Robert Lynagh, Thomas Flanagan, Alice Chin, Frank Bray, Bill Ruthven, Thomas White, Lynette Bushby-Haddon.

Please pray for those who are sick, especially:

Gerry & June McCrenor, Stephen Land, Kevin Fry, Rex Bransdon, Cora Taylor, Brent Austin, Ann Gooiker, Mary Scholes, Ian Forno, Don Tallon, Robert Cussans, Yolanda Timkoe, Rikki-Lee Curran, Valerie Isaac, Kerriane Meulman, Mel Singh, Kent McMahon, Janet Hicks, Maxine Macdonald, Kevin Collier, Ray Parker, Maxine Macdonald, Sr Lila Galvin, Sandra Macdonald, Phillip Van Rooyen, Olga Mariani, Patricia Green, Joy de Souza, Reg Van Rooyen, Rhonda Lawson, Kathy Jensen, Steph & Les O'Gorman, Teresa Leong.

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—Wed 8.15am-1.15pm
Closed on Thursdays
Open: Fri 8.15am-1.15pm
Phone: **3341 4421**

Website:
www.stpetersrochedale.org.au
Facebook: [stpetersrochedaleparish](https://www.facebook.com/stpetersrochedaleparish)

Parish Secretary: Julie Hondroudakis
Email: stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

Co-ordinator 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@catholicearlyyedcare.qld.edu.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELP CENTRE

Phone: 1800 846 643

FAITH MATTERS: Third Sunday of Lent

We journey: We come to the mid-point of our Lenten pilgrimage. Lent invites us to take time, to seek a renewal, to seek a 'change of heart'. Such a change of heart has been called *metanoia*, a transformation of viewpoint, a conversion, allowing us to acknowledge our failings, and encouraging us to work towards becoming better people. The Lenten gospels present us with examples of transformation. Jesus' time of trial in the desert transforms him to fulfil his ministry. Jesus is transfigured and claimed as 'my Son the beloved' by his heavenly father. The prodigal lost son is transformed by his deeply humbling experiences and by the overwhelming forgiveness of his father.

The Parable of the Barren Fig invites us to see our lives, our travelling companions and our world through the lens of hope and compassion. Our God 'the gardener' appeals to the vineyard owner for a little time and care to allow the tree to fulfil its promise and bear fruit in abundance. We are reminded that our 'God of second chances' recognises the hope and promise in each of us.

We pray: 'Gracious God, may we recognise the dignity in every person we encounter, seeing beyond the surface to the heart within. Grant us the grace to cultivate patience and understanding, allowing your love to shine through us. Remind us that you are the gardener of our souls, patiently offering us hope and grace. Draw us close to you and transform our hearts. As we journey through this Lenten season may we be instruments of your compassion and hope in the world'. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen

'Metanoia' Lenten Program 2025, 'From the inside out' Mother Hilda Scott p.35. Catholic Diocese of Wollongong.

Faith Enrichment Ministry

Mass Ministers: The new roster for April to June was finalised this week for all those who minister at weekend Masses. Ministers, please check your inbox for the email containing the roster and swap list. Thank you all!

If you would like to join in any of the Ministries at weekend Mass, please contact the Parish Office.

Help needed: Several of our Parish Ministry Groups are in need of new members

Home & Nursing Home Communion Ministers: If you are free one Tuesday morning once a month, please consider joining our volunteers who take Communion to the house-bound and help Fr Johny with the Mass and taking Communion to those in the Nursing Homes in our parish. Please contact Julie in the Parish Office if you can help.

AV Operator during weekend Masses: We are in need of a few more AV operators at all of the weekend Masses. This role involves turning the AV and computer system on and off and clicking the powerpoint slide over throughout the Mass using the prompter. Please speak to one of the AV operators at Mass for more information or contact the Parish Office.

Hospitality Ministry: We are in need of willing parishioners to step in to help serve our weekend cuppas after the Masses. The more volunteers we have, the fewer times you will be rostered on. Please consider joining us in this wonderfully rewarding ministry. Contact Steph Lenihan (Coordinator) on 0413 268 860 or salenihan@hotmail.com.

Church Cleaning Ministry: If you would be able to help out once every 5 weeks on either a Saturday morning or Friday afternoon, please contact the Parish Office. Duties include vacuuming, mopping, dusting the church and Parish Centre and cleaning the Parish Centre kitchen and church toilets. Most people give an hour to an hour and a half of their time. This is a lovely way to support our Parish Family.

Roster: 29th & 30th March	Saturday 6pm Mass	Sunday 9am Mass	Sunday 6pm Mass
Mass Co-ordinator	Chris Jesuthasan	Baji Itteera	Helen Graczyk
AV Operator	Callista Jesuthasan	Eric Quan /Alina George	Jonathan Vigor
Readers	C. Mal Jensen 1. Neil Ballment 2. Pat Bransdon	C. Alina Jacob 1. Pauline Angus 2. Lauren Cocks	C. Bob Burns 1. Malcolm Carroll 2. Raylee Burns
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Carl de Mello Joyce Lyster Shelagh Ballment	Fion Fiju Shilgy Mathew Vivienne Linnett Deseree Quan Julie Hondroudakis	Anne Fry Sharon Fong Megan Carroll
Musicians	Elizabeth Fort	Tim Hondroudakis	Elizabeth Fort
Cleaning Group 4: Mary Crowley, Beverly Cramer, Francis Yoo, Chris & Callista Jesuthasan			
Cuppa & Chats after Mass : No Cuppa - 5th Sunday of the month			
This week 23rd - 29th March	Sacristan: Tina Nguyen		Counting: Bob'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 and Vulnerable Adults

Representative: Malcolm Carroll 0410 193 569 or
sgrep.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

STOpline: 1300 304 550

Social Justice Group Facebook

St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group

Chrism Mass: Every year this Mass is a very important Archdiocesan celebration, just before Holy Week, during which the Holy Oils for the year are blessed. Each parish is requested to send 4 or 5 parishioners to represent the Parish at the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St Stephen on Thursday 10th April from 7pm. If you would like to attend, please contact Fr Johny or the Parish Office.

Rochedale Youth: Youth & young adults gathering 7pm Thursday 27th March in the Parish Centre. For information on our Youth Ministry or Young Adults Group, please contact the Parish Office on 3341 4421 or via email stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

Reco Rally: The Youth and Young Adults team at Archdiocesan Ministries is gathering youth across the Archdiocese of Brisbane for a night of live music, games, inspirational speakers, prayer and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation **Friday 28 March**, from 6 pm - 8:30 pm at Lourdes Hill College, Hawthorne. To find out more and register your attendance, please visit tinyurl.com/reco-rally2

Around the Archdiocese:

Lenten Concert Series: The Cathedral of St Stephen, Thursdays at noon 20th & 27th March & 3rd April. Free admission.

Tony Alonso: Internationally Renowned Composer, Theologian & Recording Artist Tony Alonso is coming to Brisbane in May 2025. Tony Alonso PhD is one of the foremost contemporary Catholic liturgical composers and a noted theologian whose work responds to the diverse realities of contemporary culture. Many of his 200+ compositions and arrangements appear in compilations and hymnals throughout the world. Tony is presenting a series of Brisbane Events: Lecture 15th May, Workshop for Teachers and students on 16th May, Concert 17th May and a Parish Music Ministry Workshop on 17th May. For more information go to "Shop-Workshops" on the Liturgy Brisbane website or <https://liturgybrisbaneworkshops.weebly.com/tony-alonso.html>

Entertainment Memberships: An Entertainment Membership unlocks amazing rewards and helps support our parish.

*Instant Savings: Enjoy up to \$20,000 in exclusive offers on dining, activities, and more.

*Something for Everyone: Discover fine dining, family fun, and everything in between—with new deals added weekly!

*365 Days of Value: Use your Membership year-round and share the savings with your family.

* 20% of your purchase goes directly to our parish.

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St Peter's Online Order Page is <https://subscribe.entertainment.com.au/fundraiser/2224e97>



St Peter's Planned Giving:

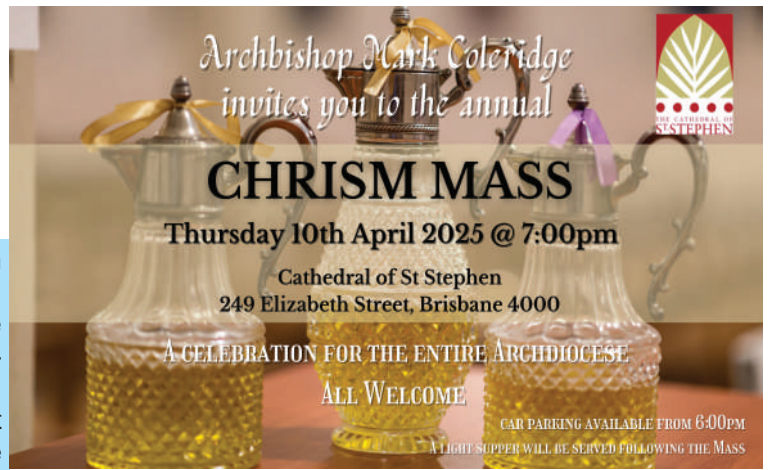
We would be very grateful, if you are able, to support the Parish financially. There are several options.

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.

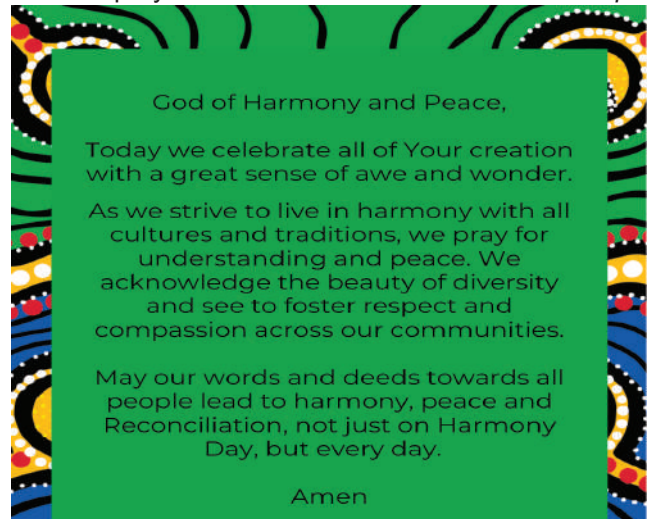
'Parish Giving' App: The logo to look for in the app store is a yellow and white cross forming a circle on a purple background. See our parish website for detailed 'User Guides'.

Tap & Go Donations: No cash at Mass? Try our donation terminal near the main doors: \$10 donation per swipe to support St Peter's Parish.



Archbishop's Vocations Dinners: Archbishop Mark Coleridge is hosting 2 Vocations dinners for men and women discerning a vocation to the Priesthood or Consecrated Life. Dinner for Women is on the 24th April from 6 pm. Dinner for Men is on the 22nd May from 6 pm. Contact Fr Johny to express your interest in attending.

Harmony Day 2025 is celebrated on March 21st. We are celebrating Australia's cultural diversity and promoting inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all. The theme is "Everyone Belongs". Please pray this beautiful prayer. *St Peter's Social Justice Group*



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