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

Second Sunday of Advent

7th December 2025

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12

St. John the Baptist

St. John the Baptist stands as one of the most significant figures in the New Testament. He is revered as the forerunner of Jesus Christ, and he prepared the way for the Messiah. His life and ministry are deeply rooted in prophecy, humility, and unwavering commitment to God's mission. John's birth was foretold by the angel Gabriel to Zechariah and Elizabeth (his parents). His conception was miraculous, as Elizabeth was barren and advanced in age. From the beginning, John was set apart for a divine purpose. This prophetic calling shaped his entire life.

John's character: a) **Humility**: Despite his popularity and influence, John never claimed glory for himself. When questioned about his identity, he declared: I am not the Christ. I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness. His humility shines in his statement: He must increase but I must decrease". b) **Courage**: John fearlessly confronted sin, even among the powerful. He rebuked Herod Antipas for his unlawful marriage to Herodias, knowing it could cost him his life. His boldness exemplifies moral integrity. c) **Ascetic Lifestyle**: John lived simply in the wilderness, wearing camel's hair and eating locusts and wild honey. His lifestyle symbolized detachment from worldly pleasures and total devotion to God.

d) **Faithfulness to Mission**: John remained steadfast in his calling to prepare the way for Christ. He baptized multitudes, preached repentance, and pointed people to Jesus. e) **Repentance:** John's primary message was: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand". Repentance involves turning away from sin and aligning one's life with God's will. He demanded genuine transformation. f) **Baptism as a Sign of Renewal**: John introduced baptism as a public declaration of repentance and cleansing. g) **Justice and Charity**: John emphasized ethical living: "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none". He called tax collectors and soldiers to honesty and fairness. h) **The Coming Messiah:** John's ultimate mission was to point people to Christ. He proclaimed Jesus as "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world". His testimony affirmed Jesus' divine identity and mission.

John bridges the Old and New Testaments. He fulfills Isaiah's prophecy: "A voice cries in the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord'. His ministry marks the transition from the age of prophecy to the era of fulfillment in Christ. Jesus acknowledges the central role that John played in God's plan of salvation. He was the greatest born among women because he had the privilege of pointing to Jesus. But he was the least in the kingdom of God. John fully accepted his subordinate role to Christ. He denied that he was the Christ and repeatedly emphasized that he was simply a witness to the Light. John stated that Jesus was greater than he. He did not want to baptize Jesus, but rather desired to be baptized by Jesus. John allowed his disciples to leave his own leadership and follow Jesus. But for all his greatness, John was merely human.

John the Baptist is of great theological importance in the New Testament. He ended nearly four hundred years of prophetic silence and paved the way for the Messiah. In the spirit of Elijah, he preached a message of repentance and baptism. In his darkest hour he questioned if Jesus was the One who was to come, or whether there would be another.

Fr Johny Edapulavan CMI

In our parish this week: December 2025

Monday 08	Tuesday 09	Wednesday 10	Thursday 11	Friday 12	Saturday 13	Sunday 14
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary **8.00am** Mass	**8.00am** Mass ***6.30pm*** *2nd Rite of Reconciliation at St Edward's, Daisy Hill*	**8.00am** Mass **11.00am** WOW – Sunpac Concert	*Parish Office Closed*	**9.00am** Rosary **9.30am** Mass **10.00am** Vinnies packing hampers	**St Lucy** **5.00pm** Reconciliation **6.00pm** Mass	**Third Sunday of Advent** **9.00am** Mass **6.00pm** Mass

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. Many of us last did a group training back in late October, early November 2023 so we are needing to redo our training. 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. When there is sufficient numbers, Julie will schedule another training session.

Readings for next weekend:
Third Sunday of Advent (Year A)
Isaiah 35:1-6, 10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11

Carols Under the Stars: Congratulations to Carmel Northey-Cherrett and her band of singers, musicians and assistants for all of their work. It was a fabulous night and very well attended.

Chairs 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! Please speak to Fr Johny or contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

Final weekend for donations to the Giving Tree!

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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those who have died: Gail Wyer, Patricia O' Keeffe, Katarina Warwas *(Ursula Williamson's sister)*, June Power

Book of Life & Mass Requests, Eddie McDonnell, Alfie Healan, Michael Bahn, Bobby Smith, Bernie Minton, Bill Smith, Ottilie Brandt, Vincent Blundell, Charlie Fry, Anastasia Medcraf, Desmond Van Der Haar, Mary Becker, Clifford Sharp, Frederick Taylor, Hazel Taylor, Luise Warwas, Doris Quan, Lindsay Maiden, Jim Whewell, Philippe de Baritault, Margaret Quigg, John Jolley George, Thelva O'Shea, Ethel Bevan, Noela Parker, John Francis Doyle, Mary Duncan, Gagry Pattinngale, Margaret Lynch, Margaret Bradley, Hanorah Henderson.

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: Pope Leo XIV in Beirut

As part of his time in Lebanon this week, Pope Leo XIV led a silent prayer at the site of the Beirut port explosion and demanded justice for its victims, as he wrapped up his three-day visit to Lebanon.

He also met some relatives of the 218 people who were killed by the massive blast on 4 August 2020, which devastated a large part of the capital.

Later, the Pope said he was "deeply moved" by his visit to the port and shared "the thirst for truth and justice, of so many families, of an entire country".

After praying at the blast site, the Pope celebrated the final Mass of his trip in front of an estimated 150,000 people gathered on Beirut's waterfront.

Addressing the crowd, he lamented that the beauty of Lebanon had been "overshadowed by poverty and suffering, the wounds that have marked your history".

But he appealed to the country's diverse communities to unite to solve its problems.

"Let us cast off the armour of our ethnic and political divisions, open our religious confessions to mutual encounter and reawaken in our hearts the dream of a united Lebanon," he said.

"A Lebanon where peace and justice reign, where all recognise each other as brothers and sisters."

https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cn41jge1990o

Faith Enrichment Ministry

WOW (Wise Owl Wednesdays): Our next WOW will be the 'Back to the Tivoli Christmas Spectacular' Concert at Sunpac, Sunnybank at **11am on Wed 10th December.** Tickets are $20 and there is only one left!!! Please see Julie, to pay for this last ticket asap. Transport to Sunpac is of your own arrangements. Lunch to follow the concert is optional and at your own expense at Sunset Bar and Grill restaurant at the Sunnybank Sports Club. It will be best to place your lunch order before the concert begins so check your emails for the menu.

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.

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.

Rochedale Youth: The Youth & young adults gatherings are usually held fortnightly on Thursday evenings in the Parish Centre starting at 7pm. There will be **no gathering on 11th 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: 13th & 14th Dec.	Saturday 6pm Mass	Sunday 9am Mass	Sunday 6pm Mass
Mass Co-ordinator	Dee Daniels	Preetha Pereira/Deseree	Kate Guy
AV Operator	Mike Collier	Eric Quan	Jonathan Vigor
Readers	C. Shelagh Ballment 1. Neil Ballment 2. Peta Grandin	C. Mae Marfil 1. Julie Hondroudakis 2. Maria Chamberlain	C. Malcolm Carroll 1. John Blake 2. Sharon Fong
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Joyce Lyster Ann Maree Collier Carl de Mello	Alan Vigor Rosie Bertolacci Conrad D'Netto Lisa Hammett Stephanie Lenihan	Laly Chakoo Megan Carroll Anne Fry
Musicians	Carmel Northey-Cherrett	Rita Bishop	Elizabeth Fort
Altar Servers	**Volunteer**	Diane	Jake, Jayden & Tayden
Cleaning Group 1	Lyndal Bray-Claridge, Kate Guy & Nita Stratton-Funk.		
Cuppa & Chat: after 9am Sunday 14th Dec Mass: Anne Scanlon, Rosie Bertolacci & Rodrigo Rodrigues.			
This week: 7th – 13th Dec:	**Sacristan:** Suma Joseph		**Counting:** Marco'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

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.

Christian Religious Instruction (CRI) Needs YOU!

Do you have a heart for local mission – reaching those literally in your own backyard?
Why not consider going back to school in 2026?
In Queensland State Schools we have the wonderful privilege of being able to volunteer to teach children within the Christian Religious Instruction program. Volunteers from many different Christian denominations form a team to teach CRI at Rochedale State School. As a CRI teacher or helper, you can read the Bible and share the gospel message clearly though our curriculum which has full lesson plans, student workbooks and online resources. All that is needed is 30 minutes a week to teach, some time to prepare, 3 online training modules, a Blue Card and a letter from our parish priest.
We always need and welcome new volunteers of all ages and all walks of life to our group and I can confirm that it is such a rewarding outreach ministry of our church. Maybe you would consider joining us?
If you would like more information, please contact our CRI coordinator Sonia Kenny soniajkenny@gmail.com or 0422 068552 or Rita Bishop ritajbishop@yahoo.com or 0408154751

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.

These businesses support our parish, please support them:

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Pre-Purchase Building and Pest Inspector
Pool Safety Inspector
THE BEST BUILDING AND PEST INSPECTION
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