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Surfers Paradise Catholic Parish E-Newsletter

This is Kombumerri Country - The Traditional Custodians of this region.

Parish Office: (07) 5572 5433 (9am – 12pm Mon-Fri) | Mass Times: (07) 5595 8466

Email: surfers@bne.catholic.net.au | Website: [www.surfersparadiseparish.com.au](http://www.surfersparadiseparish.com.au)

Emergencies: Priest contactable via office phone (after hours follow the menu prompts)

50 Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters, Queensland, 4226

[Check-In Qld app - Queensland Government](#)

Sunday, October 3, 2021

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year B

Readings for Sunday, October 3, 2021 - Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year B

FIRST READING: Gen 2: 18-24

Ps: Ps 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 "May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives."

SECOND READING: Heb 2: 9-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (1 John 4: 12): Alleluia, alleluia! If we love one another. God will live in us in perfect love.

GOSPEL: Mark 10: 2-16

**"Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it"** (Mark 10: 15)



(Shutterstock licensed image ID:590297786 -BERLIN, GERMANY, FEBRUARY - 14, 2017: The Fresco of Jesus Christ among the children in Herz Jesus church by Friedrich Stummel and Karl Wenzel from end of 19. and begin of 20. Cent. By Renata Sedmakova)

## PASTOR'S POST: Good Health, Good Life.

I expect by now you might be a little tired with my "reheated" Posts, which resurfaced while I was dealing with my latest "illness du jour". Over the last five years, I have been hospitalised about 7 times, which is 6 times more than the previous 60 years. I suppose to be fair, it was my turn for some things to go wrong, given that I have taken a little too much for granted in the health area. A little too little exercise and a lot too much of the things I like, e.g. food and its liquid accompaniment finally caught up with me. But unlike a lot of people, some marvellous doctors, wonderfully generous co-workers and a large band of prayerful friends and parishioners have put me well back on the road to recovery.

Lots of sound advice has been offered daily, including the suggestion from a well-intentioned parishioner that "honey and lemon juice will cure anything". If only the World Health Organisation had known that before billions were spent on Covid vaccinations. Anyway, I appreciated the thought. Fortunately, my thoughtful cardiologist prescribed the best medicine of all – no work and rest for a month. (I can give you a referral for a small price).

To be truthful, the two great learnings that have come from having to deal with a potentially serious illness is

that firstly, as much as my head feels that it's still 35 years old, the bits that are holding my head up are not as young as I thought. While most of the time I feel ready for most situations, part of our health comes from the contentment of being comfortable with who we are in this present age, not who we remember we once were. People who long for their youth are rarely content because every day a little more of that youth slips away. Discontentment is one of the biggest giants we must conquer if we ever hope to enjoy life fully. Being dissatisfied with our looks, age, position in life, possessions, or anything else makes us ungrateful for what we currently have.

The second lesson was that resting does not come easily. While we all talk about wanting to relax and take time out, it does require a certain amount of discipline. How do we change direction when our circumstances make us do a sudden U-turn? When we are so familiar with filling our waking hours with tasks and projects, we can feel quite useless when we are not able to show any concrete results for our efforts. Sitting down in an easy chair and reading for hours can foster feelings of guilt, while those around you are busily going about their lives making things happen. It took a bit of practice and some gentle nudging from caring people to remind me that all work and no rest will only prolong recovery and that sitting at a desk moving paper around might look like it's achieving something but can be just filling in time. When was it decided that reading a book was not producing something?

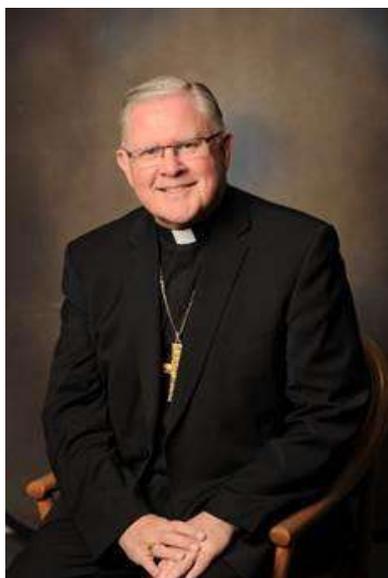
What I came to realise is that the human body was never designed for twenty-first-century living, when mentally stressful moments are the norm, not the exception and taking some time out means filling that time with activity. Sounds silly, but we all do it. Now that I'm back on the bike, so to speak, I realise how tempting it is to pick up where I left off rather than put my new learnings into practice. It doesn't mean less work, but more mindfulness, more awareness of how I do apply my energies. Rather than gravitating to the easy comfortable task, it's useful to ask beforehand, is this the best way to approach this issue, do I really care about the outcome and am I the best person to carry out the task? See, I haven't been wasting all my time reading.

**Fr Peter Dillon. PP**

**We congratulate the Stallard, Peebles and Mente-Uy families, whose children Levi Anthony, Frederik Disco and John Niño will be baptised in our Parish this weekend.**

**Please keep the Baptism families in your prayers as they begin their faith journey.**

## **MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP MARK COLERIDGE ON THE START OF THE PLENARY COUNCIL FIRST ASSEMBLY**



After five years of preparation and consultation, we're finally arrived at the moment of the first assembly of the two assemblies of the Plenary Council in Australia; the first Plenary Council celebrated in Australia since 1937.

Because of COVID-19 we've had to postpone this first assembly for twelve months. We're still in the grip of COVID-19 but we decided to go ahead even though now the first assembly will be completely online.



**Plenary Council**  
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

**Assembly One: October 2021**

But here in Brisbane, unless we have a lockdown, we will gather as a group of about fifteen in Cathedral House behind me each day. So there will be some face to face, but most of it will be face to screen.

Now, not everybody can be a member of the Plenary Council. There will be about 300 of us online as members and expert advisors and helpers of various kinds so that 300 will be online.

But in fact, the Plenary Council is for the entire community of faith, all catholic people whoever you are, it's for you the Plenary Council.

So you may not be online as a member of the Plenary Council, but you are very much part of the journey of this week and that's why I write to you now.

If you're not online there are other ways in which you can take part; you can follow the live stream sessions each day, not all the sessions will be live-streamed, but some will be and you are very much invited to join the live stream sessions\*.

Then you can each day follow the updates that will be provided at the end of each day.

So again I invite you, I urge you to read the updates but most of all, to surround the assembly with your prayer; that this is a deep and real and powerful way of you sharing in the experience of this first assembly.

So the call is to all of us members or not the fact is you've been baptised and therefore you are very much part of the journey.

So let's take the road together and may God, who has begun the good work in us with the Plenary Council, bring it to fulfilment.

\* A google search for "Plenary Council" will find us at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

## HEARTFELT THANKS

Susan and Alan Ryding sincerely thank everyone for your prayers and thoughts whilst Susan was undergoing several operations and recovery from them. The prayers have been deeply appreciated and are very effective. God bless.

## REST IN PEACE - Mr Bede Shortis

Bede is the father of St Vincent's School Assistant Principal for Religious Education (APRE) – Margaret Hatzis. Bede passed away peacefully after battling ill health over a period of time, in particular over the past few months. He is now at peace and we find reassurance in knowing that he has now met Jesus face to face. Please continue to keep Bede, Margaret and Sam and the wider Shortis and Hatzis Families in your prayers. May Perpetual Light shine upon Bede. May he rest in peace.

## MASK WEARING UPDATE

**The mask rule in Queensland has changed again in the last few days. Masks are to be worn at all times in the church even when seated, unless medical exemption. Please ensure you check in with the Qld Check-in App. Also, please observe the seating rule of one person per 4 square metres unless with people**

**of the same household.**



The masked singer.



- Updated as of 1st October 2021: - Clergy and readers must keep their mask on indoors but may remove the mask when they are 1.5 metres away from others.
- Parishioners must keep their masks while indoors unless unsafe to do so.
- Choirs and all cantors will be required to keep their masks on at all times.

## RECENT ARTICLE IN THE COURIER MAIL (FROM FRIDAY 1ST OCTOBER, 2021).

Did you spot the article in the Courier-Mail newspaper the other day? It featured parishioner and Rugby League legend, John Sattler, interviewed prior to the NRL grand-final planned for this Sunday. John was a big part of the Rabbitohs winning the 1970 Grand final. It is a good article.

Also, here is John with Fr Paul (c January 2020), and no, Fr Paul does not feature in the newspaper article too.



See the Courier-Mail article online here:



[https://todayspaper.couriermail.com.au/infinity/article\\_popover\\_share.aspx?guid=269aed9d-ce13-4383-9caf-ed8455934fd5](https://todayspaper.couriermail.com.au/infinity/article_popover_share.aspx?guid=269aed9d-ce13-4383-9caf-ed8455934fd5)

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## TAKE FIVE FOR FAITH - Be an everyday mystic

In a secular world that prizes material possessions, the mystical aspect of the church can captivate. Saint Padre Pio (1887-1968) certainly drew attention for his mystical attributes. A relatively obscure Italian Capuchin priest, he gained fame for reportedly displaying the wounds of Christ, called stigmata, and for his insightful abilities as a confessor. He spent up to 10 hours a day with people who sought guidance and forgiveness in Confession. Only a few of us become mystics, but all can seek holiness and insight. Today meditate and act on the path to holiness that God has placed before you.

**SIGN UP FOR "TAKE FIVE" DAILY - [HTTP:- www.takefiveforfaith.com/subscribe](http://www.takefiveforfaith.com/subscribe)**

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION -

***"So out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name."* (Genesis 2:19)**

The creation story reminds us of two important points. First, since the start, God has put the entire world into our care. Second, stewardship has been around since the beginning of mankind, it isn't something recently invented by the Church. Just as past generations built our Church, it is now our responsibility to continue to nurture and develop these gifts for future generations.

**The vision of Stewardship speaks in every aspect of life, inviting everyone to be thankful, generous and accountable for what each has been given.**

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## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

### THE ORDER OF SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN:

#### BAPTISM in Surfers Paradise

Surfers Paradise Parish follows the policies of the Archdiocese of Brisbane as it welcomes each person into the family of the Church through the waters of Baptism. Baptism is the first of three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Infants and children are baptised at the request of parents. Within the Baptism ritual, parents promise to accept the responsibility of training their children in the practice of the faith and to raise their children to understand and live God's commandments. Parents can request baptism for their child by filling out an enrolment form, available on our parish website [www.surfersparadiseparish.com.au](http://www.surfersparadiseparish.com.au) Once the online baptism form has been received, our Baptism Coordinator will provide details for preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism and will also explain the requirements for booking the Baptism Celebration day.

#### CONFIRMATION in Surfers Paradise

### The second group of Confirmation candidates for 2021 have begun their preparation!



Over 90 children and their families have started their "At Home Preparation for Confirmation". They will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on October 15. We ask all parishioners to continue to pray for these children, their sponsors and their families. May they open their hearts and minds to the light and love of God as they seek to learn more about the gifts of the Spirit. And may our whole Parish family be inspired by the power of the Holy Spirit alive among us, today and always.

For your child to be included in next year's preparation Confirmation group, please go to the parish website [www.surfersparadiseparish.com.au](http://www.surfersparadiseparish.com.au) and complete an online enrolment application. Please use the drop-down menu under Sacraments and click on **Confirmation** (under Sacraments). Then scroll down to and click on CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM (in the blue

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box). Once you click on SUBMIT, you will receive an automated response so that you know that your completed application has been received. Next year, you will receive a personal email a couple of months prior to the next preparation group starting (around the beginning of Term Two)

### **EUCCHARIST - FIRST COMMUNION**

This year, 105 Surfers Paradise Parish children celebrated their First Holy Communion over two weekends - May 30 and June 6, 2021. They were two wonderful celebrations.

For children seeking to receive their First Communion in 2022, the parents of children who were confirmed in 2021 will be contacted via email in Term One next year. This email will explain the dates and requirements for meetings etc. If your child was baptised and confirmed in another parish and you would like to join the group making their First Communion in Surfers Paradise Parish in 2022, please go to the parish website [www.surfersparadiseparish.com.au](http://www.surfersparadiseparish.com.au) and complete an online enrolment application. The process is similar to that described above in the Confirmation section.

### **RECONCILIATION**

In the Archdiocese of Brisbane, Reconciliation follows the Sacraments of Initiation. That is, Reconciliation, also known as Penance, follows Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. The Surfers Paradise Sacramental Team's plan for Reconciliation is to prepare a program similar in style to the Confirmation and First Communion At Home Preparation Programs. This will be a lengthy task, we are unable to provide an exact starting date, but we urge all parents and caregivers to continue to check our newsletter for updates.

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## **ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT: REFLECTION & BIBLE STUDY**

### **NEXT SESSION - SUNDAY MORNING 3rd October 2021**

**In-person at the Parish Hospitality Centre and also coming to you on ZOOM!  
10 AM TO 11:30 AM IN THE PARISH HOSPITALITY CENTRE OR ON ZOOM**

**If you want to connect from your home, we can assist you in joining (ring 0409 486 326).**

**If you are already familiar with Zoom, access to the ZOOM Meeting is ID 743 836 7833**

This exciting 20-part (20 hours) DVD series takes you **through** the major people, places and events that make up the **history of the Catholic Church**. You will see the glory of **the Church** founded by Christ and understand where you fit into this **Epic** story.

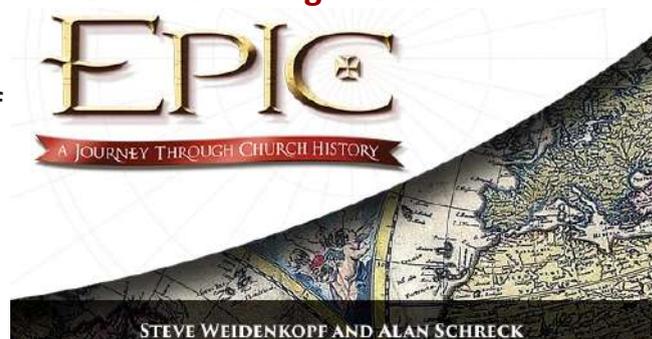
You will study:

- ★ The major people, places, and events of the past two thousand years in Church history.
- ★ Learn the twelve time periods of Church history
- ★ Grasp the true story of the Crusades
- ★ Recognise the rationale for the medieval inquisitors and the Spanish inquisition
- ★ See the revolutionary character of the Protestant Reformation
- ★ Understand the real story of the confrontation between Galileo and the Church
- ★ Discover the massive persecution of Christians in the twentieth century
- ★ Discern the workings of the Holy Spirit throughout Church history

**We have at least one study set available (but can order more if need be) so come along to the next session, you are most welcome. The Study Set will cost \$44.99 (no mark up - just the internet advertised cost - freight is on us) and includes everything you need to participate and complete the 20-part study.**

**If anyone is desperate to be a part of this but cannot afford the \$44.99 or is able to just afford some of it - please DO NOT let this stop you - we are very happy to have you participate.**

**FOR YOUNG AND NOT SO YOUNG AND IN-BETWEEN**



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## **The Parish Library 2021 - Are you called to help in the library?**

We are in need of volunteers to man the library before and after mass during the weekends. If you are called to help in the library, we shall appreciate it if you can contact Esta Mostert by texting / WhatsApp her on +61 410542427 or email her: [esta@mostertfamily.com](mailto:esta@mostertfamily.com)

Please text your name, WhatsApp or phone number and/or your email address to her as well as the times that you will be available. Alternatively, write your name on the Library Volunteer list at the back of the church. ***Ezekiel 2:9 Then I looked, and behold, a hand was extended to me; and lo, a scroll was in it.*** Source: <https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Books>

## **FAITH AND WORSHIP: The significance of numbers in the bible.**

No, it's not a secret code or a hidden message, but simply the powerful use of established numbers to represent perfection and salvation.

[https://weekly.israelbiblecenter.com/seven-and-salvation-in-john/?via=48c765f&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=email\\_lead\\_standalone\\_content\\_seven-and-salvation-in-john\\_2021-7-31#48c765f](https://weekly.israelbiblecenter.com/seven-and-salvation-in-john/?via=48c765f&utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=email_lead_standalone_content_seven-and-salvation-in-john_2021-7-31#48c765f)

## **INSPIRING QUOTES:**

- "Most high, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me, Lord, a correct faith, a certain hope, a perfect charity, sense and knowledge, so that I may carry out Your holy and true command." — St. Francis of Assisi
- "In beautiful things, Saint Francis saw Beauty itself, and through His vestiges imprinted on creation, he followed his Beloved everywhere, making from all things a ladder by which he could climb up and embrace Him who is utterly desirable. St Bonaventure on St Francis.
- "Since happiness is nothing but the enjoyment of the Supreme Good, and since the Supreme Good is above us, we cannot be happy unless we rise beyond ourselves. Since we cannot reach above ourselves in our own strength, we must be helped by supernatural strength, lifted up by a higher power that stoops to raise us. However much we structure our inner lives and make progress, it does us no good unless our efforts are accompanied by help from on high. Divine aid is available for those who seek it with a devout and humble heart; this is done by fervent prayer. "Prayer is, therefore, the source and origin of every upward journey toward God. Let us each, then, turn to prayer and say to our Lord God: 'Lead me, O Lord, on your path, that I may walk in your truth.'" St Bonaventure
- "Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there, and in my unlovely state, I plunged into those lovely created things which you made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The lovely things kept me far from you, though if they did not have their existence in you, they had no existence at all. You called and cried out loud and shattered my deafness. You were radiant and resplendent, you put to flight my blindness. You were fragrant, and I drew in my breath and now pant after you. I tasted you, and I feel but hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I am set on fire to attain the peace which is yours." — St. Augustine of Hippo, Confessions.
- The Wisdom of Saint Bruno, the founder of the Carthusian Order of hermits.
  - While the world changes, the cross stands firm.
  - Only those who have experienced the solitude and the silence of the wilderness can know the benefit and divine joy they bring to those who love them.
  - No act is charitable if it is not just.
  - In the solitude and silence of the wilderness..., for their labour in the contest, God gives his athletes the reward they desire: a peace that the world does not know and joy in the Holy Spirit.
  - If the bow is stretched for too long, it becomes slack and unfit for its purpose.
  - Rejoice because you have reached the quiet and safe anchorage of a secret harbour. Many wish to come into this port, and many make great efforts to do so, yet do not achieve it.
  - By your work, you show what you love and what you know.
  - When you observe true obedience with prudence and enthusiasm, it is clear that you wisely pick the most delightful and nourishing fruit of divine Scripture.
  - The unclean spirit enters easily into a man and easily goes out from him.

- For the devil may tempt the good, but he cannot find rest in them; for he is shaken violently, and upset, and driven out, now by their prayers, now by their tears of repentance, and now by their almsgiving and similar good works.

## THE GOSPEL THIS WEEKEND - One Family In Christ

In the readings this weekend there is a recurring theme about the membership of a family. God has made us his children. We are all adopted sons and daughters of God through God's gracious action. God now treats us as full members of the family and with all the rights and duties of a member of the family. It is through Jesus that we become part of God's family. We are all brothers and sisters of Jesus.

This is such a special and profound gift. Through our baptism, we become part of God's family, which includes being brothers and sisters with all the saints who have gone before us into eternal life and stand in the presence of God praising him night and day and continuing to pray for us and intercede for us to Our Heavenly Father.

If the world truly realised and acted upon the truth of this message we would be living in a different situation. If everyone acted as if they were truly brothers and sisters to each other, then surely we would be so much closer to an end to war and violence and hatred. They say 'blood is thicker than water' but in the Christian mindset, (which turns on its head the values of the world), the water of Baptism is much thicker and stronger than the ties of blood relations. The first reading is also powerful as it reminds us that men and women were created to be equal and to be helpers and supporters of each other along life's path.



"Your Son went down from the heights of his divinity to the depths of our humanity. Can anyone's heart remain closed and hardened after this?" —Saint Catherine of Siena (1347-1380) (FHL)

### ***One Family In Christ -***

The readings this weekend speak of the sanctity of marriage and its indissolubility. Since, in marriage, the man and the woman become a new creation, a unity, then God intends that this unity is unable to be separated. Jesus criticizes the people who are trying to trap him over the issue of marriage by saying that even though Moses was forced to make concessions to a hard-hearted people, the intention of God remains to form and preserve the unity of equality between man and woman in a lifelong, committed, loving bond of marriage.

The First reading, speaks of the creation of woman by God and the relationship intended between man and woman in the book of Genesis. God took a bone from Adam's side, the rib-bone. The rib bone was taken in preference to any other

bone because the rib bone is the closest bone to the human heart. The rib bone surrounds, embraces and protects the heart. Just as the love of husband and wife is meant to surround, protect and embrace each other's heart. This shows the tender and close love a man and women share together. It also picks up on a thing called "complementarity" between the love of a man and a woman. Both the man and the woman bring something of themselves that enriches the other.

This reading also acknowledges that, although marriage is an exciting and beautiful adventure, there is also a real "parting" involved in marriage. A "leaving behind," can be painful to parents and to the couple. and yet,

family relationships take on a new shape. Where you are invited to continue (in relations with your family) what was already being nurtured before your marriage. Where you relate in love, respect and warmth. Adult to adult.

The major message of the readings this weekend is of the equality of man and woman. The complementarity of man and woman. And that the intention of marriage is for a lifelong unity of persons that is for the upbuilding, protection, respect and equality of each person.

The readings for mass reminds us that God made the whole world and everything in it. Sun, Moon, Stars, Sea, Earth, every animal and creature. and human beings too.

And it was all very GOOD.

God made men and women as the crowning of God's creation.

In God's image and likeness, God created humans.

And God set us over the whole world to look after the wonderful, precious resources that God has given us. Creation is sacred, Humans are sacred, so we must care for them with reverence, gentleness and concern.

The readings also remind us that we must work together as equals. because all people are of equal dignity and sacredness. men and women and children were all created equal to work together as co-operators in God's plan.

God welcomes and has a place for all people,

In Jesus time, women and children did not legally have equal status. In many ways, they did not have many rights, apart from their father or another significant male family member, and later their husband. This sounds crazy to us today. We know that all people are created equal in dignity. But in Jesus time this wasn't so. However, Jesus made it clear that men, women and children were indeed equal in God's sight and to be treated with respect and dignity, and fully included in God's family as equals and co-heirs to God's Kingdom. He welcomed the children and he validated the judgement of their mothers who desired to bring the children to him for blessing and inclusion.

Tomorrow, (Monday the 4th of October), is the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. When hearing the Genesis account of God's creation, it is fitting to think of this wonderful Saint who sang hymns of praise to the God of all creation who lovingly made all things. Saint Francis, who is the patron name of our present Pope. – And also, the readings capture that same deep reverence and care for all God's creation. Francis was a great saint and he recognised that God's handiwork was to be discovered in all things; because God created all things. God's fingerprint, (in a spiritual sense), is present in everything that God had lovingly created. so, we must treat creation with care and reverence. all creation sings out in praise to God, who created them all. The Gospel ultimately speaks of how men and women were created as equals and co-workers together in God's wonderful creation. And all men, women and children are one family in Christ and so we must act accordingly. God, through the loving graciousness of his son, calls us all back to original innocence and to the harmony and the clarity of God's full plan for us and for all of creation.

"Saint Francis sought occasion to love God in everything. He delighted in all the works of God's hands and from the vision of joy on earth his mind soared aloft to the life-giving source and cause of all. In everything beautiful, he saw the imprint of God, who is beauty itself, and he followed his Beloved Lord everywhere by his care and stewardship of his surroundings, imprinted on creation; Saint Francis saw all of creation as a "ladder by which he might mount up and embrace the Creator who is all-desirable." By the power of his extraordinary faith, he tasted the Goodness which is the source of all in each and every created thing, as in so many small streams from the one great River. He seemed to perceive a divine harmony in the interplay of

gifts and qualities given by God to his creatures and like the prophet David he exhorted them all to praise God in his mighty works. " (Quoted from The Major Life of St. Francis, By Saint Bonaventure)

"His attitude towards creation was simple and direct. His realization that everything comes from the same source made him call all created things -- no matter how insignificant -- his brothers and sisters because they had the same origins as him- God's creative, loving hand." (--Minor Life of St. Francis)

I love the following prayer: (Which is so fitting for the texts of today's liturgy:

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
and where there is sadness, joy.  
O Divine Master,  
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood, as to understand;  
to be loved, as to love;  
for it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.  
Amen.*

To listen to the whole Sunday Mass each week (including homily) from Surfers Paradise Catholic Parish, please visit this link: **Liturgy for you at Home (by SPCP) - <https://soundcloud.com/user-633212303/tracks>**

(Source: Fr Paul Kelly; Ideas taken from short commentaries found within the resource: When we marry. (1985). Brisbane, Qld. Liturgical Commission; Reflections on Saint Francis' Life based on a school liturgy I was involved in. Source unknown)

(Image: ShutterstockLicensed image ID:2043205592 -ROME, ITALY - AUGUST 31, 2021: The fresco Christ Blessing the Children in the church Santa Maria in Monticelli by Cesare Mariani (1859).-By Renata Sedmakova )

## POPE FRANCIS: "Be more inventive and daring."

When Pope Francis began his recent four-day trip to Central Europe, many people wondered whether there was some deeper meaning and purpose for the September 12-15 papal visit.



But it soon became clear that the 84-year-old pope had decided to stop in Budapest, the capital of Hungary, and then go on to Slovakia to address all of Europe from his geographical heart.

This was especially true regarding Slovakia, which was separated from its Czech neighbour 20 years ago. In the main Slovak cities of Bratislava, Bresov and Košice, Francis repeatedly described the country as a bridge between Eastern and Western Europe, as well as a country where numerous communities coexist.

Thus, it was from here that he urged the various communities (Jews and Catholics, Latins and Greeks, Catholics and Orthodox) to collaborate in the name of shared fraternity.

The Jesuit pope has always been convinced that it is often more helpful to address the centre from the "peripheries". And that is why he chose the Slovak capital, Bratislava, as the platform from which to address old Europe, to speak to the Catholics of these de-Christianized countries. A person close to the pope said

Francis sees the Church in Europe as held captive to hierarchical structures that often lack daring. As he has done since the beginning of his pontificate, the Argentine pope continued to use the theme of the Church as a field hospital. This time he also said it should not be "a fortress" or "a lofty castle, self-sufficient and looking out upon the world below".

During the four-day visit, he did not stop talking about freedom and roots as two poles that should make Slovak and Hungarian Christians stand up, not to mention other Catholics who were also listening to him.

In Budapest, in front of Prime Minister Viktor Orban, he called on Hungarian Catholics to cultivate their faith, while accepting to be challenged by the Gospel." Keep our roots firm, but without defensiveness," the pope summarized. He never made reference to migrants, a subject on which he and the ultranationalist prime minister have radically opposed positions. It is a matter of being "builders of hope" rather than trying to control all the dimensions of each person's life, Francis told Hungary's Catholic bishops."

If we always look at how a plant grows, we kill it," he said the next day while addressing the Catholic bishops of Slovakia. Francis is expected to continue pushing Church leaders towards "creativity" and pastoral "inventiveness" next month when he formally opens the two-year preparation phase of the 2023 assembly of the Synod of Bishops. The gathering's theme is "synodality", and its aim is to shake up the Church's decision-making processes. As he often does on trips abroad, Francis encouraged the faithful to prefer the discomfort of inventiveness and the freedom that comes from faith, rather than the security of structures.

Convinced that such freedom is rooted in the Gospel message, the pope urged Catholics -- while visiting the Roma neighbourhood of Košice in eastern Slovakia -- to overcome their prejudices. That's a message intended not just for the Catholics of Central Europe, but to all believers on the Old Continent and far beyond.

Read more at: <https://international.la-croix.com/news/religion/the-popes-trip-francis-messages-to-all-of-europe/14892>

(Image - Shutterstock Licensed Image -1376940776 -Vatican City. By Riccardo De Luca - Update ).

## STARTING NEXT YEAR - NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL WITHIN OUR PARISH Star of the Sea - Merrimac

*Starts 2022*  
*Initially Prep to Year 3, and then extend*  
[Website: Star Of The Sea Merrimac](#)  
[Facebook Page: Star of the Sea](#)

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## PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Your support is needed to help our Parish continue valuable pastoral activities and to provide ongoing sustainability. To assist you to support the Parish, you can give via [here](#).



If you are able to continue to support us, we would be most grateful. For all those who have been making payments via credit card and those who have donated directly into the parish account, we thank you. The pay-wave or tap-and-go machines on the timber stands in our Churches are also a safe and handy way to donate to the Parish. **God bless you for your support.** If you would like confirmation of your donation or a receipt emailed to you please contact me at [man.surfers@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:man.surfers@bne.catholic.net.au). To join planned giving, please contact the Parish Office: (07) 5572 5433 (9 am–12 pm Mon-Fri).

## MASS TIMES: SURFERS PARADISE MASS TIMES

**Sacred Heart**  
350 max capacity

**Saturday Night - 5 pm**

+ (Maronite Mass 6:30 pm, Saturday Night).

\*Note **First Saturday of the month morning Mass 9 am (Next: 2nd October)**

**Sunday - 9 am & 6 pm**

+ (Polish Mass 12:30 pm Sunday)

+ (Italian Mass 4 pm Sunday)

**Weekday Masses - Monday - Friday weekday Mass - 9 am**

**St Vincent's**  
200 max capacity

**Sunday - 8 am & 10 am**

+ (Hispanic Mass – 5.30 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays)

Extra parking is available only metres from St Vincent's Church, King's Car Park, entry via Beach Road

**Stella Maris**  
150 max capacity

**Saturday Night - 5 pm**

**Sunday - 7 am**

Please note: Numbers allowed in each Church are based on social distancing restrictions, and the Archbishop has continued to exempt everyone from the obligation to attend Sunday mass during restrictions.

Please remember that as per restrictions we are still expected to check in for mass, maintain a **social distance of 1 person per 4 square metres**, and to receive Holy Communion in the hand only, refrain from physical contact when offering the Sign of Peace, and to sanitise when entering and exiting the premises.

**Please note that people entering the church are required to scan the [Check-In Qld app](#), which will register you as attending that mass time.**

Please show our volunteers at the door your  before entering the church. Ask for assistance if you require help getting the App on your phone. If you are not able to get the App (your phone is too old /not compatible /you don't have a mobile), only then are you required to write down your name and contact number. **Please remember that if you are experiencing any symptoms, get a COVID test** and quarantine at home until you receive a negative result. Thank you for keeping our parish communities safe.

**MASKS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHEN IN CHURCH**

**Hispanic (Latino American) Mass:** Fr. Syrilus Madin

5 pm Mass 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month - St Vincent's Catholic Church, Surfers Paradise.

Gold Coast Contact: Juan Arrieta 0406 705 349

**Polish Mass:** Fr Grzegorz Gawel SChr (Bowen Hills 3252 2200)

12.30 pm Mass Sunday Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters.

Gold Coast Contact: George Syrek 0411 302 802

**Italian Mass:** Fr Angelo Cagna 0423648736

4 pm Mass Sunday Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters.

Gold Coast Contact: Connie Canale 5575 8882

**Maronite Mass:** Fr Fadi Salame 0421 790 996

6.30 pm Saturday Vigil, Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters.

## NOTICES AND MESSAGES

### FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament this 1st Friday 1st October at Sacred Heart Church from 7pm to 8.30pm.  
Enquiries: Helen 0421935678 "Could you not watch one hour with Me?" Mt 26:40

### FIRST SATURDAY MASS AND ADORATION

Sacred Heart Church First Saturday Mass at 9 am Saturday 2nd October, followed by a time of Adoration and Benediction.

## SACRED HEART AND ST VINCENT'S RELIGIOUS GOODS SHOPS

Are you still looking for a Confirmation gift for the special child in your life. The shops have a wide variety of suitable gifts and are open before and after Mass each weekend.

## Functional Exercise Class - Low Impact for Heart Health

Spring has sprung! Join Rochelle for a fun functional exercise class at Casey Hall. Low impact cardiovascular exercises for heart health, improve strength and balance- an all-around fitness class for over 65's. Stretch and strengthen the whole body, make new friends and feel great. Tuesday mornings @9.30 Beginners welcome. Contact Rochelle for further information on 0438 333 308.

## Worldwide Marriage Encounter

**A weekend experience for married couples, priests and religious, away from the distractions of everyday living.** Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset and revitalise your Sacrament. This is a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh your relationship. It gives you the opportunity to grow in your relationship with your spouse or your community. Our next COVID-SAFE live-out weekend will be held from Friday evening 15 October to Sunday afternoon 17 October (including Mass) at Trinity College, Beenleigh (south of Brisbane) – going home on the Friday and Saturday evenings. Contact Maria and David Murphy: (07) 3342 1456, [dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au](mailto:dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au) Information website: [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)

Please watch a Youtube clip about Marriage Encounter by Archbishop Mark Coleridge, [here](#). It is a powerful testimony.

## THE SACRED HEART BRIDGE CLUB

**Meets at the Sacred Heart - Parish Hospitality Centre, Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters.**

Playing Bridge keeps your brain active and increases your social network! So why not give us a try?

Learn to play Bridge at "Our Friendly Club" - Free Lesson. "Introduction to Bridge"

**Easy to learn format, no previous card playing experience necessary. All are welcome.**

For more information and to enrol, Please phone: Cheryl 5538 8821 or Mob 0417 772 701

## YOGA AT THE PARISH HOSPITALITY CENTRE

Come join us for our friendly class in the Parish Hospitality Centre next to the Parish Office. Classes run every Tuesday at 10:45 am. Learn to relax, yet gain greater flexibility, inner strength, body awareness and concentration. All while increasing your breath support and general wellbeing. Ruth is an IYTA accredited instructor with wide experience and runs a caring, carefully monitored one-hour session costing \$10 (new attendees need to arrive by 10.30 am to prepare adequately for class). For more information, call Ruth on 0421338110.

## FAN THE FLAME PLENARY COUNCIL REFLECTION

[www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheblade/](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheblade/)



Through the Listening and Dialogue phase, along with the Listening and Discernment phase, parishes and faith communities right across the Archdiocese of Brisbane have been integral to the Plenary journey.

If you wish to remain close to the Plenary First Assembly and pray together with us, you are welcome to attend the Plenary Council First Assembly Opening Mass at 12.00pm on Sunday October 3 in St Stephen's Cathedral, as well as the Closing Mass at 10.00am on Sunday October 10 at St Stephen's Cathedral. All are welcome.

Please remember to wear a mask to comply with COVID requirements. A return to ticketed seating and registration will better help us accommodate the expected numbers. Please book for free via the following booking systems for the Mass you would like to attend:

Opening Mass on Sunday 3 October at 12 noon  
<https://plenarycouncilopeningmass.eventbrite.com.au>

Closing Mass on Sunday 10 October at 10.00am  
<https://plenarycouncilclosingmass.eventbrite.com.au>

May the Spirit lead us and inspire us.

## The Holy Spirit will Teach You

*John 14:24-39*

### **ALL HALLOWS' SCHOOL 50TH YEAR REUNION**

The "Class of 1971" and anyone who shared the journey are invited to attend our 50th Year Reunion Gathering at Cloudland, 641 ANN STREET, ON SATURDAY THE 30TH OCTOBER 2021 AT 1 PM.

BOOKINGS CAN BE MADE AT [www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ahs-class-of-71-reunion-tickets-166265242817](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ahs-class-of-71-reunion-tickets-166265242817)

It would be appreciated if you could forward this information to friends and family who may not have received an invitation, or may have a change of email. Please direct any enquiries to Anne Marie Troutman on 0408495094 or [amtrout@bigpond.net.au](mailto:amtrout@bigpond.net.au)

### **JOBS AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE**

#### **Position Vacant – Cannon Hill Catholic Parish**

Applications are open for a position at the Cannon Hill Catholic Parish. A person with excellent administration and secretarial skills is required for a part time position of Administration Support Officer for 10 hours per week, Thursday & Friday.

For additional information, please visit the Archdiocese of Brisbane website <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/> and to careers.

Applications close: 13 October 2021

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## PLEASE PRAY - IN OUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS AT THIS TIME

**FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:** Kent Vince, Judy Alexander, Mathew Duran, Kurt Hillesheim, Sr Mary Teresa (NZ-sister of Caroline Moulden), John Davis, Peter Cotton, Bobby Courtney, Lisa Mangan, Doreen Slater, Christina Hendriksen, Diane Land, Robyn Skein, Sharyn Lucas, Kye Oh, Irene Carney, Michael James, Bill Gilmore, Olga Hamshari, Roy Ferraro, Margaret Haerse, Rosalind Lee, Milka Barac, Mary Ashton, Bill Goodrem, Rodney & Norma McLennan, Lois & Doug Wood, Duncan Dawson, Sam Maxwell, William Franklin, Maria Mihalic, Annie Scicluna, Anne Logan, Dymphna Hogg, Margaret & Louise Thompson, Patricia Moor, Helen Bohringer, Peter O'Brien, Angela Duvnjak, Rachel Raines, Savannah Ayoub, Gus Reeves, Baby Maeve Lombard, Kathy Kiely, Rosslyn Wallis, Arthur Haddad, Jean Di Benedetto, Michael & Denise Tracey, Joanne Mooney, Joanne Parkes, Michelle MacDonald, John & Molly Robinson, Mary Kerr. **And all suffering from Covid-19 and its effects.**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Bede Shortis, Robyn Quirk, Anthony (Tony) Weinand, Barbara Murray, Maureen Mary Long (mother of Fr Denis Long), Saleha Begun, Valentine Krausman, Peter Lawlor, Jack Healy, Doris Zarb, Vincent Attard, Daniel Simpson, Thomas Edward Holt, Maria Di Martino, Flor de la Cuesta, Rose Carroll, Eva Rose Hinde, Dawn Grigson, Bruno Chiera, Jeanette Edna James, Sr Margaret Finnan, Danny Connelly, Des George, Elizabeth Grippo, Bruno Chiera, Jeanette James, Adelina Ochoa, Monica Bokeyar, Marilyn Casey, Bernice Camilleri, Noel John Ancrum, Shirley Ann Appleby, John Francis Paul, Justin King, Mark John Nussbaum.

**ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH:** Winifred & Thomas Robertson, Yvonne Henrietta Lofthouse, Veronica Ella Mantle, Reginald Ronald Glover, Rhonda Milne, Craig Antoine Blanch, Gwyneth Aiken, Gordon Farquhar, Imelda Petronella (Millie) Duijn, Edward Lawrence(Ned) Darcy, Elio Romanin, Diana Angela Tam-Barrett, Frank Alcock, Muriel Rasey, John Roy Wotherspoon, John Sudgen, Terry Maloney, Edwin Emile Ware, Noel Francis (Frank) Evans, Marie Kjölller, Eileen Roulent, Anne Mary Donaldson, Steven John Smithers, Leo Brennan, Fr Andrew Horan.

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## LINKS & RESOURCES

You can visit the [Stay Connected](#) page on our website to find an extensive list of information and resources.

**Liturgy for you at Home (produced by SPP):** <https://soundcloud.com/user-633212303/tracks>

**Weekly Homily (produced by SPP):** <https://homilycatholic.blogspot.com>

**Surfers Paradise Parish Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/surferscatholic/>

**Breaking Parish News (SPP Blog):** <https://news-parish.blogspot.com/>

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## Next Sunday's Readings

Readings for Sunday, October 10, 2021 - Twenty-eighth Sunday of the Year. Year B

FIRST READING: Wis 7: 7-11

Ps: Ps 90: 12-13, 14-15, 16-17 " Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!"

SECOND READING: Heb 4: 12-13

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Matt 5: 3): Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in Spirit; The Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

GOSPEL: Mark 10: 17-30 or 10: 17-27

### **Acknowledgement of Country - This is Kombumerri Country - The Traditional Custodians of this region.**

*We respectfully acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First People of this country. We pay our respects to the Kombumerri people, who are the traditional custodians of the land, waterways and seas upon which we live, work and socialise throughout this Catholic Parish of Surfers Paradise. We acknowledge Elders, past and present and emerging, as they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes of our Indigenous people. We pay tribute to those who have contributed in many ways to the life of the community. We affirm our commitment to justice, healing, and reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.*

### **Commitment To Child And Vulnerable Adult Safety**

*"The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and protected from any harm." As a Parish Community, we pray for a change of heart, that we respond to our grief by reaching out to one another in truth and love.*