



# Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish—Stafford

A Parish of the Brisbane North West Deanery

Vision: "To follow the example of Jesus in word, deed and service."

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent Year B 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024

## Fr Joe's Reflection

### JESUS' ZEAL FOR HIS HOUSE

The passage from this week's Gospel describes what is happening at Passover in Jerusalem. The crowds are coming to the Temple to celebrate the festival and they are exchanging their foreign currency for half-shekels so that they can pay the Temple tax, the payment for their salvation (Exodus 30:11-16). They are also buying suitable animals as sacrifices to seek atonement and thanksgiving to God.

Outside the Temple it is a marketplace so that people can buy what they need to make sacrifices at the Temple!

Jesus appears violent here as he uses a cord-whip and overturns tables to disrupt and destroy this marketplace. What is Jesus objecting too? Surely people are just trying to fulfil their religious duties?

What Jesus is objecting to is a belief that a person's relationship with God is based on an exchange. We give to God and God will give to us? We buy a sacrifice and all is right with God? No! We cannot buy our relationship with God!

Ultimately there is only one exchange that is important in Christianity, Jesus comes to live and die for the salvation of the world. He gave himself on the Cross and in the Eucharist. He gave his entire life so that we may know a God of mercy and compassion.

There is nothing that we can give to earn God's grace. God has given something we could never earn and will never be able to repay. *We have been made sharers in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.* (CCC 526).

The Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD and the Jewish population was again scattered and exiled. They again had to re-imagine what their relationship with God was without the Temple and modern Judaism evolved.

God's clearing of the Temple, mentioned in Zechariah and Jeremiah, was a sign of the day of judgement by the Lord. Jesus' zeal for his house is not for a building. His zeal is for building a new heaven and earth, the Kingdom of God.

For Christians Jesus' body is the Temple and bearer of the Holy Spirit. After the Resurrection Jesus bequeaths the Holy Spirit to us. The Church celebrates Eucharist, and we receive the Body and Blood of Christ, and through the sacraments we too become bearers of the Holy Spirit.

We don't make an exchange with God. You cannot bargain with God. We accept an offer to participate in God's life. The more we live this life the deeper our relationship with God becomes. The gift of Jesus in the Sacraments is a free gift from God. There is nothing we can do to earn this. We just need to be ready to receive God with an open heart and most importantly prepared to allow Jesus' words and actions to come alive in our lives. *Fr Joe McKay ofm*



Last weekend we were pleased to officially welcome Fr Joe as our pastor. Bishop Tim Norton svd officiated at the mass and was assisted by Fr Phillip Miscamble ofm, the provincial leader of the Franciscans in Australia and New Zealand and Fr John Nguyen ofm from the Kedron Priory. Fr Joe pledged his support to working with the Parish Missional Council and Finance Council to support and advance the good works of the parish. Fr Joe will continue to work with Padua College in the role of chaplain and was supported on the day by the presence of the college principal, Mr Elmore, and college leaders and their families. A special thanks to our Filipino families who provided a sumptuous morning tea and a special cake to celebrate the occasion. *By Helen Royan (PMC Chairperson)*

### Altar Servers Welcome

The parish welcomes children and young adults to participate in the mass by assisting Fr Joe as an Altar Server.

If you are interested to know more, Fr Joe will provide a brief training session on SUNDAY 3rd MARCH straight after 9:

**THIS**

Please note: it is preferred children have already received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist

### The Sacramental Team needs you!

The Sacramental Team is urgently seeking someone who is confident in computer programs such as Microsoft Forms and Excel. We also extend the invite to welcome those who are not so computer savvy to also join our team!

Please reach out to Teresa Rotolone or Jules Esler for more information or if you can help us in any way. Please send an email to: [goasacs@hotmail.com](mailto:goasacs@hotmail.com)

### Anna's THURSDAY Group

7<sup>th</sup> March at Rosetta's at Stafford City at 12pm.

Any questions ring :

Dianne on 0407616637



## Care for Creation

We are ready for

### Clean Up Australia Day, 2024

Join us at 4.00pm, THIS Sunday 3rd March. We will meet at Keong Park, Quandeine St, clean the park, then 'emu bob' progressing along Appleby and Shand Streets to Roy Harvey Park where we will clean up, and conclude. The event will run for a maximum of 90 minutes. Gloves and bags will be provided. Be sun safe, COVID safe and remember to hydrate.



Time: 4.00pm  
Date: **THIS Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March**  
Place: Keong Park,  
Quandeine St, Stafford

## Sacrament of Penance

### PREPARATION

Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> March at 10.15am

### LITURGY

Saturday, 16th March at 4.00pm

**(one parent MUST accompany child)**

For inquiries:

[goasacs@hotmail.com](mailto:goasacs@hotmail.com)

## LENTEN CONCERTS SERIES

7th March

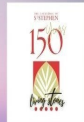
D'Arne Sleeman (soprano) | Ireni Utley (soprano)  
Dominic Perissinotto (organ)

14th March

Dominic Perissinotto (organ)

21st March

Christopher Trikilis (organ)



The Cathedral of St Stephen  
Lenten Concerts 2024  
Thursdays at Noon  
Free Admission

Archbishop Mark Coleridge invites you to the annual

## CHRISM MASS

Thursday 21st March 2024 @ 7:00pm  
Cathedral of St Stephen  
249 Elizabeth Street,  
Brisbane 4000

A CELEBRATION FOR THE ENTIRE ARCHDIOCESE  
ALL WELCOME

CAR PARKING AVAILABLE FROM 6:00PM  
A LIGHT SUPPER WILL BE SERVED FOLLOWING THE MASS

### Laudato Si' Lent 2024:

Listen to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor (LS49)

Laudato Si' Movement invites Christians to pray this across the Lent season: 1. where did I hear and see Creation's song? Thank God who created all things, for the gift of Creation and ask for light so you can hear God's message of love and justice through the beauty of Creation 2. Where did I hear and see Creation's cry? Review your day and how you have failed to fully care for Creation. Think about some of your ecological sins: the small actions in your daily life such as waste, pollution of all kinds, consumerism and carbon footprint 3. Seek forgiveness and reconciliation with the Creator and the gift of Creation, so that you may recognize yourself as a humble creature created by God to live in harmony with the whole cosmos. Notice where God in Creation may be calling you to act for love and justice. See the whole 2024 LSM Lent Calendar at: <https://laudatosilent.org/> Can my next big purchases be electric rather than fossil fuelled (e.g., hot water system, stove, car etc.)?

## Gentle Reminder...

As Easter Liturgies are approaching, may we ask Parishioners to update their availability on ChurchBox. Thanks!

Please Help Make Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday.

If you don't know how, we will show you.

Morning tea provided.

When: Friday, 22/3/23

Time: 9.30am

Where: Parish Meeting Room

Please bring pair of scissors



MORE!

VOLUNTEERS  
needed

Support Cuppa and other special parish occasions

Please call Maria at 0408 459 686



## LENTEN PROGRAM

THURSDAYS after the 8.30am mass

### Stations of the Cross

Fridays

\*following Friday morning mass

\*5.30pm each Friday during Lent





*Next Sunday's Readings  
Fourth Sunday of Lent  
9-10 March*

*First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23*

The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

*Responsorial Psalm: Ps 136*

Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

*Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10*

When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

*Gospel: John 3:14-21*

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.



**What's on in the coming week at QoA parish?**

Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Mass
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Thu 7 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am <b>9.00am</b> <b>12.00pm</b>	Mass <i>Lenten Group</i> <i>Anna's Group</i>
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am <b>9.30am</b> <b>5.30pm</b>	Mass <i>Stations of the Cross</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm 5.00pm	Reconciliation 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am 10.15am	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent PREPARATION-Sacrament of Penance

Are you looking for some extra support on your Lenten Journey? St Declan's Parish, Peshurst, has created a wonderful Lenten Guide with a focus on eco-conversion. Here is the link it's not too late to join; you will receive a weekly email and resources. It's a wealth of material that really connects you with the world.

<https://www.stdeclansparish.org/events>

Another thought provoking Lenten Resource comes from Tearfund, the theme is Following Jesus for a World Restored. Here is the link, you will receive weekly resources.

<https://www.tearfund.org.au/following-jesus-for-a-world-restored-lent-2024>



*Children's Liturgy of The Word*

**CLOW**



**every  
third weekend  
Masses**

*5pm (Saturday)  
9am (Sunday)*

*"Let the little children come to me ...."*



**ONLINE TENNIS COURT BOOKING**

**FOR CASUAL HIRE** Click link below:

[www.tennisvenues.com.au/booking/stafford-parish-tennis-courts](http://www.tennisvenues.com.au/booking/stafford-parish-tennis-courts)

or scan:



[Terms and Conditions](#)

**Please contact the parish office for PERMANENT BOOKINGS.**

*Our SUNDAY 7.30pm to 8.30pm*

*SENIOR permanent hirers are needing more players. If interested, please contact the parish office (call-3356 7155 or email: [stafford@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stafford@bne.catholic.net.au))*

**Waste Voucher 2023-24**  
100 kg for general and green waste  
Creating a clean and green Brisbane  
Valid from 1 July 2023 to 31 August 2024

**DONATION NEEDED!**

**You may leave vouchers at the parish office or mail box.**



**Third Sunday of Lent  
2 & 3 March**



**MORE envelopes**

Samoa may be a country surrounded by water, but access to clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, with many families facing extreme hardship as a result.

Leaia lives with her five children, husband, brother and sister-in-law on the island of Upolu in Samoa. Not having access to a reliable source of clean water caused Leaia a lot of worry.

Their home is not connected to a piped water system, so they had to rely solely on rainwater collected in old fridges. When their water ran out, Leaia had to walk with her young children to collect water in buckets and containers from a neighbour down the street.

With the support of Caritas Australia's local partner, Caritas Samoa, a water tank was installed at Leaia's home. She and her family now have a steady supply of clean drinking water at home. Next year, they will also have a toilet built, with the support of Caritas Samoa, which will further improve their health and living conditions.

"We are very thankful and grateful for the water tank. It has helped us so much and made our daily life easier," Leaia said.

**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](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Laura Womersley/Caritas Australia





Are you a VISITOR or do not carry cash? You can help our Parish's Good works. A "Smart Terminal" is at the front door. CHOOSE ONE of the pre determined amounts OR your own preferred Amount and THEN "tap and go" THANKS!

### Our Parish PIETY Shop

has a large range of cards, religious icons, rosary beads and medallions. Below are samples of Confirmation & First Communion memorabilia.



Please call the Parish office 3356 7155 if you would like to have a look on a Monday, Tuesday or Friday or after week-end Masses. Thank you.

Glass wine and spirit bottles for a 10c refund. How good!



Stafford Parish Scheme ID:  
C10195625



### STAMPS FOR MARIST MISSIONS:

ALL STAMPS -used or unused, Australian or Overseas. They can be left in the specially marked wooden box to the left of the main Church entry. Thank you & God bless!



### Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Office

Address: **70 Appleby Road, Stafford**  
Parish email: [stafford@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stafford@bne.catholic.net.au)  
Parish WEBSITE: [www.staffordcatholicparish.org.au](http://www.staffordcatholicparish.org.au)  
Parish Administrator: **Fr Joseph McKay OFM**  
Parish Priest's E-mail: [mckayj@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:mckayj@bne.catholic.net.au)  
Secretary: **Tisha King** Office Telephone: **3356 7155**  
Office Hours: **Mon, Tues & Fri: 9am-3pm**

QR code to access  site: 

#### Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR):

**Helen Royan** - Email: [lsr.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:lsr.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au)  
(Archdiocese Office for Safeguarding Services: 07 3324 3752)  
**STOPLINE** Service: 1300 304 550 or  
[AOB@stoline.com.au](mailto:AOB@stoline.com.au)

**SAFEGUARDING INCIDENT REPORT FORMS** may be accessed from the brochure table which is at the left front corner of the church.

### Our Lady, Queen of Apostles School Contacts

Address: **10 Thuruna Street, Stafford**  
School email: [pstafford@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pstafford@bne.catholic.edu.au)  
School Principal: **Troy Parsons**  
APRE: **Megan Conroy**  
APLE: **Leonie McCormack**  
Phone (Thuruna St): **3352 9200** Phone (Chuter St): **3326 0400**

**BAPTISMS** are celebrated at 10.30am on the **Third Sunday of each Month.** For **BAPTISM BOOKINGS**, contact the Parish Office.

Further information on our website: <https://bit.ly/3VHHQ62>



OUR MISSION  
We donate 50% of our profits to ensure everyone has access to clean water and a toilet within our lifetime  
And with your help, we'll get there.



WE'VE DONATED OVER...  
**11,222,000 AUD**  
It's incredible! But we still have a long way to go.

Available at the parish office:  
**\*Toilet paper roll: \$2 Paper Towel: \$3.5 Tissue:\$2**

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you are **going to the hospital unexpectedly** for an op OR develop a **serious illness**, let Fr Joe know and we can celebrate this Sacrament beforehand. Celebrations of this Sacrament are on the **THIRD WEEKEND** of each Month. You may add a **sick person's name** to the list by phoning the Parish Office (3356 7155).



**NOTE: To keep our "unwell list" fresh, the last names will be removed. If their illness continues, let us know and we'll add them to the start of the list. Thank you.**

### Let Us Pray

#### We pray for those who are unwell:

Bunny Vargas, Miguela Savellon, Sr Patricia Coyle, Zina Di Mauro, Sr Catherine Hefferan rsc, Bev Lofgren, Gerard McGrory, Sr Dorothy Bayliss, Rachel Oxenham, Sandra Henry, Margaret Alcock, Liz Martin, Robert McLean, Graeme Rosewarne, Lyn & Jim Payne, Caitlyn Sheehan, Brian Scanlan, Wendy Roberts, Ed Taylor, Allan Gibney, Peter Caruso, Timothy Willson, Graham Taylor, Maria Pirrottina & Sam Fumera.

#### We pray for those recently deceased:

Barbara Ann Byrne, Joan Madden; Elaine Rutherford, Helen Mullins, Anne Carter, Frank Deighton and Gloria Ryan.

**And those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Barbara Cavanagh and our other deceased parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.



Weekend Masses are **streamed live on Zoom**. Click [Link to Zoomed Stafford Weekend](#) OR enter Meeting ID: **443 363 1440** and Passcode: *eucharist* via the Zoom app.

