



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."

4th Sunday of Lent Year B 9th-10th March 2024



Our World Day of Prayer

was a wonderful success with 75 people in attendance including our State Government member of Parliament Jimmy Sullivan.



Lots of positive feedback was received from those in attendance.

One lady who saw the service advertised and decided to come along said simply "It was perfect" was from a Palestine's Advocacy Group.



Thank You to everyone who made this morning service a success and there are many. Our Speaker Alison Golden, gave an exceptional speech on the scripture with thought provoking words, for us all to take away and action. Special thanks to Maria and Allan for a beautiful morning tea.



Fr Joe's Reflection Confronting our Serpents

In the Book of Number (Num 21) we have the story of how the people's complaining and disbelief in God led to poisonous serpents coming among the people and biting them.

God told Moses to make an image of the poisonous serpent. When people were bitten, if they looked at this image, they would live. The serpents were a manifestation of the people's sins. By seeing the serpents for what they really were meant people would change and live. It wasn't the image that saved them but the realisation they had turned away from God. This image of the serpent was eventually placed in the Temple until the time of King Hezekiah.

Jesus on the Cross is a sign of what our sins do. They lead to death and destruction. Just like seeing the image of the serpent in Moses' time, looking and understanding what the Cross means leads to our salvation and to eternal life.

God does not want to condemn anyone. God wants people to see clearly where their actions are leading. The Gospel of John invites us to be people of the Light. People who want to see what God is asking of us. The alternative is to live in the dark, choosing to live in ignorance or disbelief.

Time and time again in the Bible God is shown intervening in history to save people: Noah from the destructive flood; The Hebrew people are rescued from slavery in Egypt and God sends Cyrus of Persia to rescue them from exile in Babylon.

Jesus Christ comes to save not to condemn. Jesus comes to open our eyes, ears and hearts to God's words. He shows an alternative way of living, one of compassion and mercy. A life of love of God and neighbour rather than one focused solely on one's own wants and needs. He also welcomes back those who have made mistakes and sinned but are ready to walk again in God's ways. Jesus returns us to God's ways leads us into eternal life.

Part of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is clearly stating one's sins. It is about clearly bringing them into the light, recognising the "serpents" in our lives, and understanding where they might ultimately lead. We then have a choice, do we keep following this path in our life or do we choose to walk in the Light?

Fr Joe McKay ofm



THANK YOU AUSTRALIA!



Thank you to the wonderful parishioners and Queen of Apostles students who supported our **Clean Up Australia** action. We collected many tiny pieces of plastic and aluminium, saving our waterways and marine life from the scourge of micro plastics.



Volunteers needed

Please call Maria at 0408 459 686

Supper/Cuppa

- (Easter) Sunday, Mar 31 9am mass
- Saturday, April 20 5pm mass
- Saturday (Mother's Day), May 11 5pm mass



Music Practice

SATURDAY, 30th MARCH 10am

(NO practice on March 24)



Everyone is Welcome to JOIN as we prepare for Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Liturgies!

Latte Ladies



Latte Ladies will meet **THIS Thursday, 14th March** at **Mocha Bella, Flockton St, Everton Park at 9:45am.**
All are welcome to come and enjoy a 'cuppa', great conversation and companionship.
Enquiries - Truci Dove 3359 2267

Men's Group CUPPA

THIS Friday (15th Mar) 10.30am-12nn
Café 63, Stafford



You are very welcome to bring along any of your mates (Catholic or not) and enjoy each others company plus a drink and something to eat.

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

There are more ministries required than usual (including Readers and other "unique" ministries for the Vigil.)

How to record dates and times of Availability

From the 'Rotas' tab select the 'Your Availability' menu. You will see the dates and times of all the services and your availability.

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

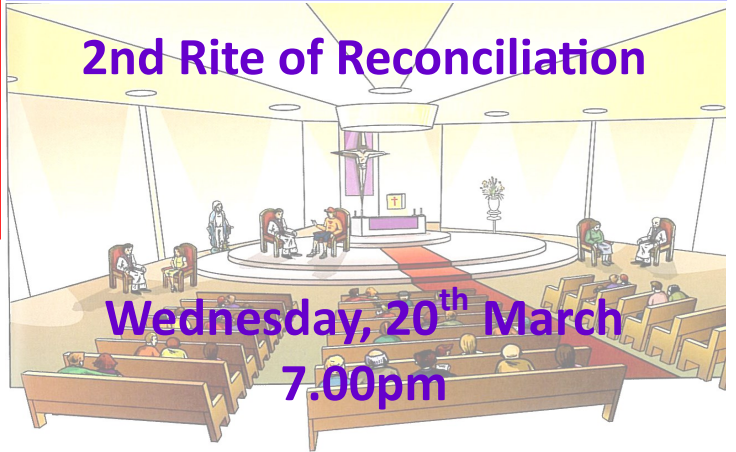
Time: 9.30am

Where: Parish Meeting Room

Please bring pair of Scissors



2nd Rite of Reconciliation



Wednesday, 20th March
7.00pm

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

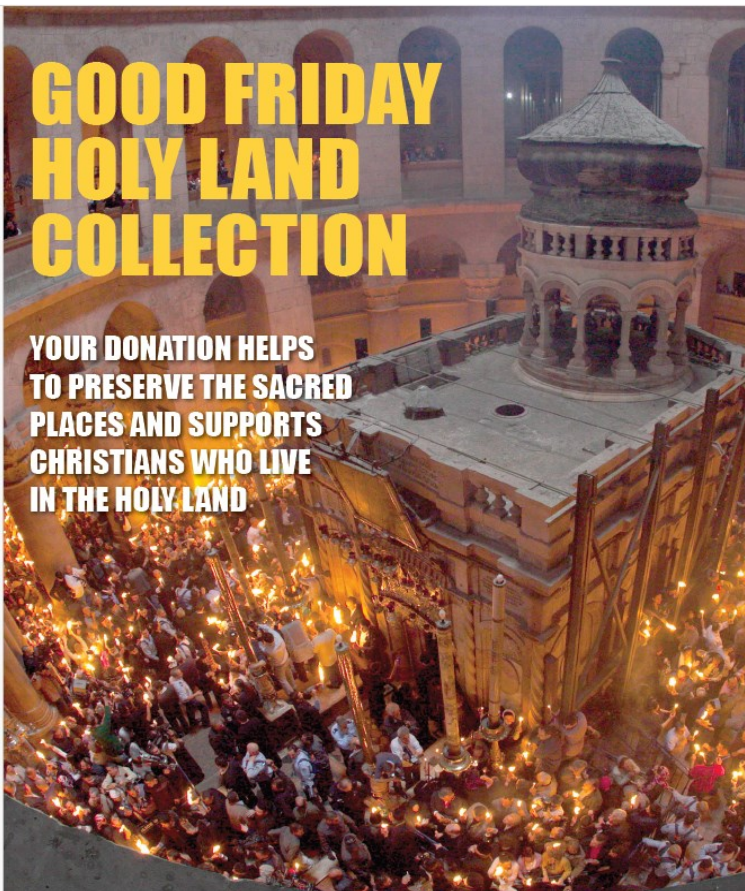
A CELEBRATION FOR THE ENTIRE ARCHDIOCESE

ALL WELCOME

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

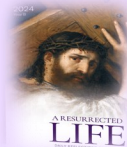
GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND COLLECTION

YOUR DONATION HELPS
TO PRESERVE THE SACRED
PLACES AND SUPPORTS
CHRISTIANS WHO LIVE
IN THE HOLY LAND



LENTEN PROGRAM

THURSDAYS after the
8.30am mass.



Stations of the Cross

Fridays

*following Friday morning mass
EXCEPT on 1st March when we host
WORLD DAY of PRAYER

*5.30pm each Friday during Lent



Waste Voucher 2023-24

100 kg for general and green waste
Creating a clean and green Brisbane

Valid from 1st March 2023 to 31 August 2024
Conditions listed overleaf.

Waste Voucher 2023-24

100 kg for general and green waste
Creating a clean and green Brisbane

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



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*Next Sunday's Readings
Fifth Sunday of Lent
16-17 March*

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 50:3-4, 12-15

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

He learnt to obey

and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel: John 12:20-33

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.



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

Please note that for next week, Fr Joe will be away on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Thursday mass is on as usual.

Mon 11 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Tues 12 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Thu 14 th	8.30am 9.00am 9.45am	Mass Lenten Group Latte Ladies
Fri 15 th	9.00am 9.30am 12.00pm 5.30pm	Morning Prayer with Communion Stations of the Cross Men's group Stations of the Cross
Sat 16 th	4.00pm 5.00pm	Reconciliation 5 th Sunday of Lent
Sun 17 th	9.00am	5 th Sunday of Lent

Sunday 23rd March is **International EarthHour**. Traditionally we turn off our lights for 1 hour from 8.30pm to show our solidarity with the call to action for climate justice.

This year, EarthHour is inviting people to do more by participating in **Challenge 60**. From 1 March until 23rd March, you are invited to walk, run, cycle or swim for 60 minutes a day. You are encouraged to switch off and get active in nature, whilst taking time to be more mindful of your responsibilities towards a sustainable future. The funds you raise from your action support Australia's unique biodiversity through World Wildlife Fund, whose shared mission is to Regenerate Nature by 2030. Here's the link for all the details.

<https://www.earthhour.org.au>

Join the world's biggest movement to protect our planet - and get your body moving. From 1 March until Earth Hour on 23 March, challenge yourself to walk, run, cycle or swim for 60 minutes a day. Switch off and get active in nature to power-up your commitment to a sustainable future for the Earth.

*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.)?



**Fourth Sunday of Lent
9 & 10 March**



Memory is 26 years old and lives in rural Malawi. As the eldest child in a low-income farming family, Memory had to take on many household chores and farming activities to support her parents. They struggled to pay for Memory's school fees and school supplies, and Memory often had to walk to school barefooted.

With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM), Memory was able to enrol at a technical college where she learnt technical skills in carpentry. She undertook a three-year carpentry course, with CADECOM supporting part of her tuition and boarding fees.

Memory became the first female carpenter from her village. Today, she works as a carpenter at one of Malawi's largest hydroelectric power stations. With the income from her job, she can provide financial support to her family and inspire other young women in her community so that they may have the opportunity to succeed in a male-dominated industry.

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.





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!

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 Parish PIETY Shop

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

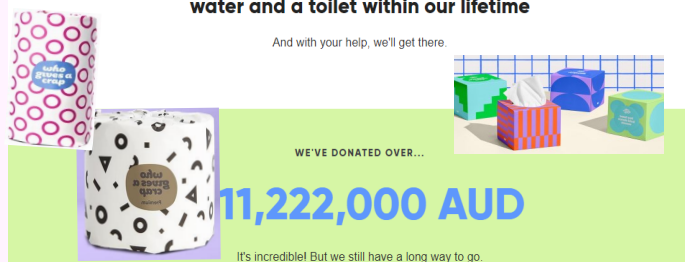


Please call the Parish office 3356 7155 if you would like to have a look on a Monday, Tuesday or Friday or after week-end Masses. Thank you.

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.



Available at the parish office:

*Toilet paper roll; \$2 Paper Towel; \$3.5 Tissue;\$2

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Office

Address: 70 Appleby Road, Stafford

Parish email: stafford@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish WEBSITE: www.staffordcatholicparish.org.au

Parish Administrator: Fr Joseph McKay OFM

Parish Priest's E-mail: mckayj@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Missionary Council: ppcstafford@gmail.com

Parish 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

(Archdiocese Office for Safeguarding Services: 07 3324 3752)

STOpline Service: 1300 304 550 or

AOB@stopline.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

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>



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.

We pray for those recently deceased:

Steven Gargano (brother of Truci) Barbara Anne 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.

