



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."

5th Sunday of Lent Year B 16th-17th March 2024

Fr Joe's Reflection WHO DO WE LIVE FOR?

This Sunday's Gospel describes the moment that Jesus knows that his Passion is about to start, "the hour has come". He knows he is to die soon.

At this time, Jesus teaches his disciples not about death but life. If we live a life only for ourselves all that we do will die with us. If we live a life for others then it will generate an abundance of life.

Australia has a proud history of volunteering however the number of volunteers is rapidly falling. In 2002 nearly one third of Australians volunteered their time in support of the community, today that figure is closer to a quarter. Nearly a million people have stopped volunteering their time.

Reasons for not volunteering are commonly around family and work commitments. Today we have a very uncertain work environment and the feeling of always being connected to work via the computer and mobile phone. Many people are increasingly afraid to take long holidays because of the fear it will impact their jobs. People are feeling increasingly tired and just want to relax with their family.

This uncertainty is also affecting the nature of volunteering with more people likely to commit to an occasional event rather than a regular weekly or monthly commitment.

The other trend that is also occurring, particularly in the English speaking-world, is the growing individualism and consumerism.

These trends are affecting everything from finding coaches of sporting teams, to leaders of scout troops to Church. Yes at its heart, the Church is ultimately a community of volunteers! We come to celebrate, pray and care for each other and our broader community. To be the Body of Christ.

Community requires the sacrifice of people's time, effort and resources. When we build community everyone benefits. This is a challenge in today's world. It is counter cultural and a challenge to a world where everything is viewed as a commercial transaction. Volunteering ultimately is a free gift of one's self with no expectation of immediate personal gain. Yet the Gospel states that when we give of ourselves we will reap a harvest.

Jesus gave himself on the Cross and redeemed the world. What are we prepared to give? *Fr Joe McKay ofm*



TRUTH TELLING Where to from Now? RAP Networking Workshop

We are excited to host the first of our **RAP Networking workshops – Truth telling, Where to, From Now**, for Parishes and Communities across the Archdiocese. As we navigate post referendum, these workshops will provide an opportunity for Parishes and Communities to recommit to Reconciliation.

It is a chance to come together and work on a way forward to chart a path to deliver meaningful results through our RAP by:

- *Supporting RAP initiatives that promote truth-telling and reconciliation.
- *Engaging in actions that build bridges and true reconciliation, respect and unity.
- *Sharing ideas, resources, and tools to engage with parishes and communities to action the RAP deliverables and developing a support network.

With special guest, Brad Jarro - A Bidjara and Ghungalu man from Central QLD. Brad is the Centre Manager for Ngutana-Lui, Brisbane Catholic Education Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Studies Centre, based at Inala. This will be an opportunity to listen with an open heart, learn and engage in meaningful conversations, as we move forward on the shared journey of reconciliation and unity.

Date: Saturday 23rd March 2024 **Time:** 8:30am – 3:00pm
Location: Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Catholic Church
Cost: Gold coin donation on the day – all proceeds will go towards supporting Cherbourg Catholic Community.

Please bring a savoury or sweet plate of food to share for morning tea and afternoon tea. Please label food. Tea, coffee and light lunch will be supplied.

Registration via this link or call the Parish Office
<https://app.tickets.org.au/eb/>
Rap_Networking_TruthTelling_Mar2024
RSVP: Wednesday 20th March 2024

TAKE 60 MINUTES A DAY TO MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE

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.



Second Rite of Reconciliation Wednesday 20th March 7pm

"after having attained the age of discretion, each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year." (CCC 1457)

The rite of reconciliation is one of the healing sacraments of the Church. While we have the celebration of the first rite each week, individual confession in the confessional, the second rite is a communal celebration.

The second rite of reconciliation involves listening to God's word and together undertaking an examination of conscience. In the first rite a priest does not even need to know the identity of penitent who may choose to sit behind a screen. In the second rite confession is celebrated publically. Penitents, in full view of others, privately confess one or two their sins, receive individually a penance and then hear God's mercy in the prayer of absolution. The congregation then together completes the celebration of God's mercy with thanksgiving and a blessing.

The rite reflects the ancient form of the sacrament, when a penitent who had committed a mortal sin and had been expelled from the community, was publically embraced by the bishop and welcomed back into the life of the Church. Even today a priest does not automatically have a right to hear confession, they act on behalf of the bishop to welcome all into God's mercy.

Yes confession is confronting! We are invited to confront our sins and bring them into the Light.

In preparation ask – How could I have loved God and loved my neighbour better?

On Wednesday we will have Fr Joseph & Fr John from Kedron Parish and myself as confessors.



The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, March 29th. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing.

Parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Due to the ongoing war, the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling

with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world. In 2023 Australian Catholics were once again extremely generous and we were able to send to the Holy Land nearly \$1.4 million [\$1.4 million (2022), \$1,126,098 (2021), \$406,023 (2020) and \$1.3 million (2019)].

The reality for the Holy Land mission is that they will continue to face challenges financial and spiritual and so we again ask Catholics around the world again to be as generous as possible, with their financial support as well as the spiritual support. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday. Thank you.



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!



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



TIPS ON HOW TO HAVE AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE EASTER

Laudato Si, Chapter 4 (161)

The pace of consumption, waste and environmental change has so stretched the planet's capacity that our contemporary lifestyle, unsustainable as it is, can only precipitate catastrophes, such as those which even now periodically occur in different areas of the world. The effects of the present imbalance can only be reduced by our decisive action, here and now. We need to reflect on our accountability before those who will have to endure the dire consequences.

Ethical Chocolate



The Chocolate Score Card <https://www.chocolatescorecard.com/resources>

Chocolate is a multi-billion dollar industry, with some of the wealthiest and most powerful companies in the world profiting from it. However, many cocoa farmers, who produce the essential ingredient of the industry, still live in poverty and struggle to earn a living income.

The Chocolate Scorecard ranks and grades chocolate companies on key sustainability issues. We estimate up to 95% of the chocolate industry is captured by the Chocolate Scorecard. The Chocolate Collective is coordinated by [Be Slavery Free](#), with universities, consultants, and civil society groups engaging in transforming the chocolate industry. Care for Creation

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DYED EGGS



Items required: boiled eggs, food colouring, bread bags or saved bags from food, cooling rack or plate.

1. Boil your eggs and let them cool
2. Take an egg, tap cracks in two sides of the egg (or go crazy and experiment with more!)
3. Pop the egg in a bag and put in a small amount of food dye (we recommend saving bread bags or food bags for this step)
4. Manipulate the bag so that the dye covers the whole egg, then gently put the egg out onto the drying rack.
5. Repeat for remaining eggs and colours
6. Leave to dry then gently peel off the shell to reveal your masterpiece!

Care for Creation



Next Sunday's Readings
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
23-24 March

First Gospel: Mark 11:1-10

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

I did not cover my face against insult
and I know I will not be ashamed.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 21:8-9,17-20,23-24

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

He humbled himself to become like us
and God raised him on high.

Gospel: Mark 14:1—15:47

The passion of the Lord according to Mark.



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

Mon 18 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Tues 19 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Wed 20 th	7.00pm	Second Rite of Reconciliation <i>*Fr Joe , Fr Joseph and Fr John will be at the celebration</i>
Thu 21 st	8.30am 9.00am	Mass Lenten Group
Fri 22 nd	9.00am 9.30am 5.30pm	Morning Prayer with Communion Stations of the Cross Stations of the Cross
Sat 23 rd	8.30am 4.00pm 5.00pm	RAP Networking Workshops Reconciliation Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Sun 24 th	9.00am	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Survey - Local Safeguarding Representative role

**** Distribute this message to your clergy, staff, Local Safeguarding Representative and congregation/community.****

The recent external safeguarding audit recommended that the Local Safeguarding Representative role be reviewed.

As part of that review, the Archdiocese is seeking the views of parishes, ministries and Local Safeguarding Representatives on the role.

Please take the time to answer the 5 question survey. It should take only 1 minute to complete. Your responses will be important to the review of the Local Safeguarding Representative role.

ALL RESPONSES ARE ANONYMOUS. Click on the below link or scan the QR code to access the survey.

<https://forms.office.com/r/5rs9fr7B4v?origin=lprLink>



Seniors HEALTH & TRAVEL EXPO
A FREE EVENT FOR THE OVER 55s

LUCKY DOOR PRIZES

FREE COFFEE & MORNING TEA



Come along for a fun filled day
Hear the latest from a range of local businesses
Travel - Physiotherapy - Optical - Hand & Foot Care - Audiology,
Pharmaceuticals, In home meals and much more

Wednesday 20th March 2024
10am to 2pm

Bernborough Ascot - 48 Hampden Street, Ascot

BERNBOROUGH
ASCOT



Fifth Sunday of Lent
16 & 17 March



Partnership in action

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground, working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities.

Caritas Australia partners with the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) to support communities living in urban slums in the Philippines. FCJ runs a number of programs that include house renovating, food processing, basic literacy skills, urban gardening, upcycling and income generating activities. They also have a clinic visited weekly by a doctor and community nurse.

Caritas Australia partners with Caritas Samoa to assist communities to have increased access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene to ensure human health and well-being by providing water tanks and sanitation facilities.

Caritas Australia partners with the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi through the A+ program. Since 2016, the A+ program has helped 7,397 families across Malawi improve their food security, access to basic water and sanitation, boost women's income generation and strengthen child protection.

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.

Photo: Richard Wainwright / Caritas Australia





ONLINE TENNIS COURT BOOKING

FOR CASUAL HIRE

Click link below:

www.tennisvenues.com.au/booking/stafford-parish-tennis-courts

or scan:



[Terms and Conditions](#)



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



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 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@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

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 Parish PIETY Shop

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

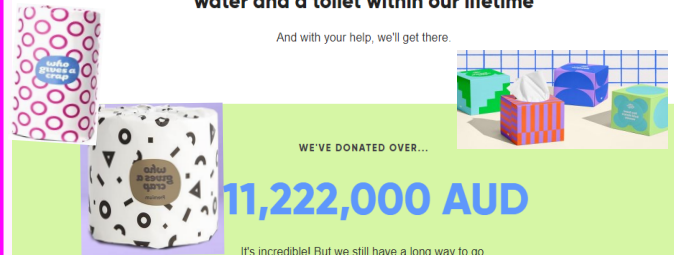


Please call the Parish office 3356 7155 if you would like to have a look on a Monday, Tuesday or Friday or after week-end Masses. Thank you.

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.



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:

Eileen Matthews, Madelynn Martin, Frank & Maria Pirrotina, Bob & Tim Willson, Bunny Vargas, Miguella 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.

We pray for those recently deceased:

Steven Gargano (brother of Truci) Barbara Anne Byrne, Joan Madden & Elaine Rutherford.

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Collette Horn & Anne Rowbotham 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.