



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."

Easter Vigil - Sunday of Resurrection 30th-31st March 2024

Fr Joe's Reflection

EASTER & THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

The word Paschal comes from the name for Jewish feast of Passover (pasha), the celebration of the God's people's escape from slavery in Egypt. The Book of Exodus describes how Moses is sent by God to rescue his people. Again and again, Moses warns Pharaoh that God will send plagues upon Egypt unless he sets God's people free. The last plague being the horror of the death of all of Egypt's first born sons.

God's people were told to slay a lamb and daub their doorways with the lamb's blood. When the Angel of Death passed over the land the Hebrew people were spared for the horror. Pharaoh grudgingly relented and God's people were free!

The Jewish people mark Passover with a meal of lamb, the eating of unleavened bread (matza) and the drinking of wine. They remember the lamb that saved them. They eat unleavened bread to remind them they were once slaves, having no time to let the yeast rise. They eat bitter herbs to remember the struggle of slavery and the desert wandering. They then drink wine to joyfully remember that God has freed them and lead them home.

Just like all the Jewish people of his time, Jesus and his disciples sat down to remember the Passover. At the Last Supper, Jesus adds new layer of meaning to the ancient feast. He becomes the Lamb of God whose blood saves the people. The unleavened bread and wine he now consecrates and they become his Body and Blood. He gives his very self to his disciples and all Christian for all ages.

At the Last Supper Jesus invited his disciples into his divine life and mission, to proclaim the Kingdom of God. We are invited to pick up the Cross and follow Jesus through word, deed and service.

In the bitterness of the Passion, Jesus enters the hurt, despair and hopelessness experienced by many in the world today. He is betrayed even by his closest friends. But even them, on the Cross, he forgives and shows compassion for the world.

Jesus' resurrection on the third day shows that he came for more than to free us from sin. Jesus came to lead us into a new life: into the family of God; into the Kingdom of God. Just as the people crossed the waters of the Red Sea and the Jordon into the Holy Land, we too pass through the water to the Kingdom of God.

In Baptism we enter Jesus' life. We live with Jesus, we die with Jesus and we are Resurrected with him into new life. We are Easter people!



ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

Safeguarding Commitment

The Archdiocese has **zero tolerance** for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries and services.

The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.

Most Rev Mark Coleridge

Archbishop of Brisbane

Anna's THURSDAY Group

4th April at Rosetta's at Stafford City at 12pm.

Any questions ring :

Dianne on 0407616637



Annual Leave for the Parish Secretary

I will be back on Monday, 8th April. For any urgent matter, please call the office and it will connect to Fr Joe. You may also send email to mckayj@bne.catholic.net.au. Thank You :

May God shower you all with blessings, love, and peace this Easter!



Seven words of the Risen Lord Michael McGirr 10 February 2024

What phrases of the Resurrected Jesus delight and move you?

There is a beautiful custom of pondering the seven phrases or sentences that Jesus said when he was on the cross. Each one of them is full of meaning. We could also take time to think quietly and deeply about the things Jesus said after he rose from the dead. They speak to us just as profoundly.

MATTHEW'S GOSPEL

Do not be afraid (Matthew 28:10)

How many times does Jesus tell people not to be afraid? The answer is many, many times. God knows that we are anxious and timid, that we hide behind things that may not matter as much as we think. The risen Lord calls us to a whole new perspective on life, one in which God will surprise and delight us.

Tell my brothers they must leave for Galilee (Matthew 28:10)

Why Galilee? It was where Jesus' friends first met him, where the dream began. Sometimes couples in the doldrums return to the place they went for their honeymoon. Others like to revisit their childhood home, a place where they had been happy. Jesus knows that the disciples have been traumatised. He wants to meet them in the place they first found love. A fresh start is calling.

MARK'S GOSPEL

Go into all the whole world and proclaim the Good News (Mark 16:15)

After all Jesus endured, the resurrection stories do not include the least suggestion of retribution or revenge. He doesn't even mention Pilate or Annas or Caiaphas. We believe that he would have welcomed reconciliation even with Judas, but Judas did not have the courage to believe that. Instead, Jesus focuses on the future. He is on the side of life and the adventure of faith. He wants the door open, not closed.

LUKE'S GOSPEL

What are you talking about? (Luke 24:17)

When Jesus first met the disciples on the road to Emmaus, he wanted to listen to their troubles. Then it was their turn to listen. Their lives were literally turned around. The same applies to us. God listens to us pour out our hearts and then asks us to listen. He asks us to recognise him when we least expect.

Have you anything here to eat? (Luke 24:41)

Many of the resurrection scenes involve food. This is partly to emphasise that the risen Lord is not a phantom, but a physical person. It is also about rebuilding community. Every table can be the table of the Lord. God shares our daily bread on both special occasions and also when we have a quick lunch at work or school.

JOHN'S GOSPEL

Do not cling to me (John 20:17)

Mary of Magdala clearly loved Jesus. At first, she didn't recognise the risen Lord. She does so when he asks why she is crying; she can't mistake the compassion in his voice. She hugs him, but Jesus tells her not to be clingy. He says, 'go and tell the brothers.' Love of Jesus means going somewhere and doing something.

Do you love me? (John 21:15)

The reconciliation of Peter and Jesus is surely one of the most emotional scenes in the entire Bible. In Jesus' darkest hour, Peter had denied three times that he even knew his friend. With great generosity, Jesus wants to put this behind them. He asks three times if Peter loves him. Of course, he does; he just stuffed up. We all do. Jesus asks us every day if we love him, not because he needs to hear it but because we need to say it.

[Families blog – Seven words of the risen Lord
\(australiancatholics.com.au\)](https://australiancatholics.com.au)

Divine Mercy



Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gift of mercy and love given through Christ's death, burial and resurrection.

As Pope John Paul II stated, "Divine Mercy reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified".

Please join us as we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday in prayer and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at:

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Church, Stafford
70 Appleby Road, Stafford

on
Sunday, 7 April 2024
from 2.30pm to 3.30pm

Why not invite a friend?

For more info:

Di 0407616637 or John 3356 6038

**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO
HAVE ALREADY DONATED :)**

Valid from 10 April 2024 to 31 August 2024
Conditions listed overleaf.

DONATION NEEDED!
**You may leave
vouchers at the parish**



ONLINE TENNIS COURT BOOKING

FOR CASUAL HIRE Click link below:

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)

Do you contribute to the Parish using **DIRECT DEBIT** or **CREDIT CARD**? Thank you. Do you know that at the



doorways there is a laminated card that looks like our usual "envelope". Please take one and place it on the plate. Why?? A couple of reasons: 1) the symbol in our liturgy of putting this on the plate represents your life proclaiming the Gospel given back to God in thanksgiving represented by the bread and wine brought forth; 2) Little ones eyes are watching and it's a great example

to them. While they may not understand that you already give via DD/CC, they will still see you put "something" on the plate (Otherwise, they may get the impression that adults around them put nothing there and so they don't need to either.)



*Next Sunday's Readings
Second Sunday of Easter
6-7 April*

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:2-4,15-18,23,24

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

Anyone begotten by God
has already overcome the world.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

After eight days,
Jesus came in and stood among them.



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

Mon 1 st	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Tues 2 nd	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Thu 4 th	8.30am 12nn	Mass <i>Anna's Group</i>
Fri 5 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Sat 6 th	4.00pm 5.00pm	Reconciliation 2 nd Sunday of Easter Vigil Mass
Sun 7 th	9.00am 2.30pm	2 nd Sunday of Easter Mass <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>

THANK YOU, Sister Carmel Coyle



You make the world better for everyone, and you never fail to express God's love in whatever you do. We feel incredibly fortunate to have you in our lives. You encourage us to look at the big picture and be grateful for every beautiful thing that happens, no matter how insignificant. People like you remind us of how much God cares about us. You're welcome! That's probably all we have to say to express our heartfelt appreciation. May God's blessings and protection continue to be with you.

Sr Carmel has moved to join her sister in aged care.

Mission: Transform Live - theirs...and yours

Have you been considering whether an overseas professional placement with Palms is for you? Wanting to share your skills with communities in the Pacific, Asia or Africa to help develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty? Come to Palms' [Discovery information session](#) at Garden City Library 27 April. Meet our director Soraya and former Palms participants to find out more about [Assignments Aboard](#).

Venue: Garden City Library Mtg Room **Address:** Level R4 Garden City Shopping Centre Cnr Logan & Kessels Rd, Upper Mt Gravatt
Date: Saturday 27th April 2024 **Time:** 2:00pm to 3:00pm **Call:** 02 9560 5333 **Email:** palms@palms.org.au



**Easter Sunday
31 March**



Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for your continued support through Project Compassion. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, **for all future generations**.

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2024 Lenten appeal.

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.





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 - 5pm

QR code to access



site:



05 Lent.ppt

Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR):

Helen Royan - Email: lrs.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.

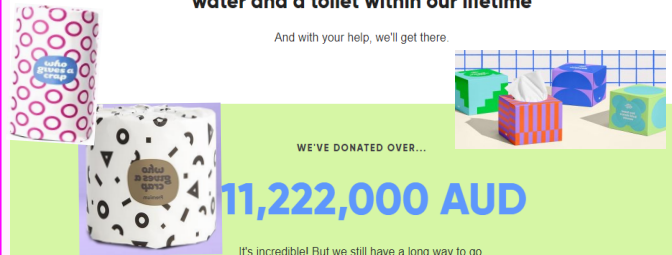


Please call the Parish office 3356 7155 if you would like to have a look on a Monday, Tuesday or Friday or after week-end Masses. Thank you.

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:

Felicisima Medrano, Sr Madonna F.M.M, Eileen Matthews, Madelynn Martin, Frank & Maria Pirrotina, Bob & Tim Willson, 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.

We pray for those recently deceased:

Denis Horton (eldest brother of Trish) & Steven Gargano (brother of Truci).

And those whose anniversaries occur

at this time: Michael and Gloria O'Donnell, John Davis and our other deceased parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed,



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.