



Our Lady Queen of Apostles Parish, Stafford

[A Parish of the Brisbane North West Deanery]

Vision: "To follow the example of Jesus by serving others."

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary time (Year B) 14th/15th July, 2018

CHRISTMAS IN JULY!! - IT'S **THIS TUESDAY (7pm)**

Don't forget to plan to come along to the ever-popular Christmas in July. Dr Ian Elmer from the Australian Catholic University (and one of our parishioners!) will be giving a talk on the relationship between **Pope Francis' document on the Environment, "Laudato Si"** and the **miracle of Christmas**. We will have a Christmas party half way though the night so please **BRING YOUR FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS TREATS** to share.



THIS SUNDAY (15th) at 9am Mass (the last day of NAIDOC week). The theme this year is to celebrate the invaluable contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have made – and continue to make – to our communities, our families, our rich history and to our nation. In our Parish besides the recognition of the original caretakers of this land, the Turrubul people, we will have a short ceremony before the 9am Mass to recognise and bless the following plaque. It will be led by two of our fellow parishioners: Christine Luck (of the Gureng Gureng people from North of Bundaberg) and Jemieka Bailey (of the Koinjmal people from Cape Palmerston to Maryborough.)



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.



"Country" as understood by Australia's First People:

Professor Mick Dodson explains *"For us, Country is a word for all the values, places, resources, stories and cultural obligations associated with that area and its features. It describes the entirety of our ancestral domains."*

Smoking Ceremonies are used extensively in Indigenous culture (and with us Catholics): For **Aboriginal culture** a smoking ceremony using gum leaves (lead by men or women) cleanses and heals the body and spirit. A smoking ceremony is used in the practice of warding



off unwanted spirits, eg cleansing a person, home or area. **For "Catholic Culture"** use of smoking through burning incense in wor-

ship appeals to the eye as well as the nose. The smoke of incense rising into the air symbolises our prayer ascending to God: "Let my prayer rise like incense before you" (Ps 141:2). Incense is used to emphasise the sacredness of a person or object. It is a symbol of prayer, an accompaniment to sacrifice, a means of purification, a sign of reverence and honour.



What is an Acknowledgment of Country? It's an opportunity to show respect for Traditional Owners and the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country. It can be given by both non-Indigenous people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. As part of our commitment to each other, this practice recognises the past and the exclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from their countries and participation in Australian society.

Embroidered "Lord's Prayers" — If you would like to take a digital photo of where you have mounted it? (perhaps, with members of family next to it). I don't need any names. It may be a morale boost for those ladies who made it to see how their work is appreciated from the other side of the world. If you can do this, please email me the photo sometime this week (pp.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au)



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

16th Sunday Ordinary Time (YEAR B)

1st : Jeremiah 23:1-6

2nd Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34



Counters Roster: Team C - Brian Davissen, Kev Haley, Peter Dove and John Dalton.

STAFFORD KEDRON CHURCHES TOGETHER: pray this week for the parishioners at St Clement's.

RELIGIOUS GOODS SHOP: EFTPOS has arrived!

Please be patient as our volunteers master a new skill! Do you have someone celebrating Confirmation or First Eucharist this year? We received a new catalogue this week for giftware for Confirmation and First Eucharist items. Come in and have a look. There is a great range of children's books which make great gifts. We would like to know what you would like us to stock - this is your shop. Please visit the shop if you would like to order something special.

Do you attend 5.30pm Mass? There is a need for more people to volunteer for liturgical ministries. Please consider - training is available.

Planned Giving Program

The Archdiocese encourages Parishes to hold a Planned Giving Campaign each year to develop a culture of generosity and support for the parish. We endeavour to do so on one weekend of each year and are blessed and truly grateful for the support of parishioners over many years. Having a brief campaign at the same time each year allows parishioners to reconsider or renew their commitment and this will occur on the weekend of 8/9 September 2018.

Several parishes are giving consideration to transitioning from Printed Envelopes to Electronic Debit or Credit Card payment as the advantages are many. Less cash handling, the ongoing need for volunteers to give up their time to account for cash received, the rising cost of envelopes (now at \$8.00 per set), the loss incurred by purchasing envelopes which are not collected (20 sets following our last campaign) are just some of the issues.

At the present time there are 107 families giving by direct debit which is greatly appreciated. Payment by direct debit can be easily arranged as can changes to those arrangements once in place. More information will be provided during the next campaign. Please contact the Parish Office for further information and advice in setting up direct debit payments.

Our Parish exists in our world and our economy.

We are **like** a SMALL BUSINESS—our Gross Expenses for 2017 were \$268,504.83 (we pay wages, electricity and water costs, we pay for everything we use e.g. paper, fans, Audio visual supplies, maintenance of musical equipment, Bread, Wine, Internet, Maintenance of grounds, buildings, repair of the church seats (\$210 a time) etc, Coffee, Tea & biscuits for cuppas, resources for various training and ministries, a levy to cover Archdiocesan support (18% of collections) etc.) **We do not seek to make a profit but need to at least cover costs.** Over 70% of our INCOME is from what people put **on the plate** (physically or through Credit Card or Direct Debit.)

DID YOU KNOW that it **costs \$10.50 per week per person** (man, woman and child who worship) to cover the costs of our parish?

A RCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE - SAFEGUARDING STRATEGY 2018-2020—'Safeguarding is EVERYONE'S responsibility" : Safe PEOPLE, Safe PRACTICES, Safe PLACES.

Safeguarding Training is being held in August.

Please note, this face-to-face training is only applicable to those registered volunteers who are:

- providing services for children & vulnerable adults
- engaging in activities mainly with children & vulnerable adults
- in a leadership/council/finance position
- also employed by their parish, faith community or the Archdiocese

Date: Monday, August 6th

Time: 10am – 12pm

Location: O'Shea Centre – 19 Lovedale St, Wilston Qld 4051

Website Link: <https://www.trybooking.com/402325>

Invitation Code: osheasafe

This training session has 100 places available, with entry by prebooked ticket (no charge). Bookings are processed online. If you need to attend and would like Debra to book on your behalf, please contact her at the office by phone or email.

The Lord's Prayer Embroidery—We have one yet to be collected by Mr & Mrs Payne. Please make contact with Fr Denis or the parish office to collect your order.

Let God Be God (Fr Richard Rohr)

It takes a long time for us to allow God to be who God really is. Our natural egocentricity wants to make God into who we want God to be. The role of prophets and good theology is to *keep people free for God* and to *keep God free for people*. While there are some “pure of heart” people (see Matthew 5:8) who come to “see God” naturally and easily, most of us need lots of help.

If God is always Mystery, then God is always in some way the unfamiliar, beyond what we’re used to, beyond our comfort zone, beyond what we can explain or understand. In the fourth century, St. Augustine said, “If you comprehend it, it is not God.” [1] Would you respect a God you could comprehend? And yet, very often we want a God who reflects and even confirms our culture, our biases, our economic, political, and security systems.

The First Commandment (Exodus 20:2-5) says that we’re not supposed to make any graven images of God or worship them. At first glance, we may think this means only handmade likenesses of God. But it mostly refers to rigid images of God that we hold in our heads. God created human beings in God’s own image, and we’ve returned the compliment, so to speak, by creating God in our image. In the end, we produced what was typically a small, clannish God. In America, God looks like Uncle Sam or Santa Claus, an exacting judge, or a win/lose business man—in each case, a white male, even though “God created humankind in God’s own image; male and female God created them” (see Genesis 1:27). Clearly God cannot be exclusively masculine. The Trinitarian God is anything but a ruling monarch or a solitary figurehead. [2]

Normally we find it very difficult to let God be greater than our culture, our immediate needs, and our



projections. The human ego wants to keep things firmly in its grasp; so, we’ve created a God who fits into our small systems and our understanding of God. Thus, we’ve produced a God who requires expensive churches and robes, a God who likes to go to war just as much as we do, and a domineering God because we like to dominate. We’ve almost completely forgotten and ignored what Jesus revealed about the nature of the God he knew. If Jesus is the “image of the invisible God” (see Colossians 1:15) then God is nothing like we expected. Jesus is in no sense a potentate or a patriarch, but the very opposite, one whom John the Baptist calls “a lamb of a God” (see John 1:29). We seem to prefer a lion.

Your light must shine before all so that they may see goodness in your acts. (Matthew 5:16) We should view our giving in gratitude to God by considering how blessed we are... using our gifts and talents for the good of others. A gift in any amount given through your Will benefits future generations of parishioners. For more information about our Endowment Fund please call the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or call the parish office.

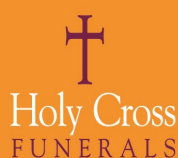
COLLECTIONS

Date	1st July	8th July
1st Collection	\$453.00	\$403.20
2nd Collection	\$811.00	\$737.50
Loose	\$933.25	\$1180.00
DD 1st (June)	\$3249.50	
DD 2nd (June)	\$6773.50	

Tennis Courts for Hire with lights

CHEAP RATES!

Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday



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the Catholic Church*

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PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Office

Address: 70 Appleby Road, Stafford 4053

Parish E-mail: stafford@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish WEBSITE: www.staffordcatholicparish.org.au

Parish Administrator: Fr Denis Scanlan

Fr Denis' E-mail: pp.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Pastoral Council: ppcstafford@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Debra Visser

Office Hrs: Mon, Tues, Thur: 9.00am—3.30pm

Office Telephone: 3356 7155

Parish Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

Representative :Cath D'Hage

Parish School "Queen of Apostles"

Address: 10 Thuruna Street, Stafford 4053

School email: pstafford@bne.catholic.edu.au

School Team: Principal: Nigel Bird

APA: Anne-Marie Maw

APRE: Kirsten Karey

School Secretaries: Thuruna St: Vera Fitzgerald

Chuter St: (Mon) Jacqui Collett

Chuter St: (Tues-Fri) Mary-Anne Coppolecchia

School Office Hrs: 8.00am - 4.00pm

Telephone (Thuruna St:) 3352 9200

Telephone (Chuter St:) 3326 0400

FUTURE WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Mon	16th	8.30am	Mass
Tues	17th	8.30am 7.00pm	Prayer of the Church and Communion Christmas in July
Wed	18th	9.30am	Indoor Bowls
Thurs	19th	8.30am 6.00pm	Mass Liturgy Team meeting
Fri	20th	9.00am	Mass
Sat	21st	4.00pm 5.00pm	Reconciliation (until no one is waiting) Mass
Sun	22nd	7.00am 9.00am 2.30pm 5.30pm	Mass Mass MMP Rosary Mass

BAPTISMS in this Parish occur at

10.30am on the Third Sunday of each Month (except during Lent).

For BAPTISM PREPARATION please contact the Parish Office (3356 7155).



ANointing of the Sick - immediately

after Mass : 3rd Sun of Month (ex Oct).



You may add a **sick person's name** to the list by phoning the Parish Office (3356 7155). **To keep the list 'fresh'** the last four names each week will be deleted. If their illness continues, let's know and we'll add them to the start of the list.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES

Our Sick: Sr Madonna Fmm, Mary Law, Kev & Marie Wildermuth, Michelle Armstrong, Matteo Di Pasquantonio, John Burton, Jim Graham, Pam Ward, Robert Stimson, Carmel Remphrey, Toni Pilz, Bev Lofgren and John Blumke.

Our Recently Deceased: Sr Geraldine McGowan RSC, David Paxton, Fr John Egan, Brenda Kimber, Ian Cox, Janice Crowe, Mark Fleming, David French, Margaret Cahill, Rosario (Ross) Caruso, Lucien Hoogen, Fr Brian Cooper and James Malip.

Those We Remember: Desmond O'Brien, Terry O'Brien, Joyce Davis, Mary Scanlan, Joseph Bayliss and all deceased Parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.

The Catholic Leader is available from the Religious Good Shop for \$2. Articles in this week's edition include:

- * Pope Francis tells young Catholics he'll see them in Panama
- * Former Brisbane Catholic sails solo across the Pacific to raise money for Indigenous literacy
- * Australia's priests stand firm on seal of confession
- * ACU opening new centre in response to rising demand for theological courses
- * German cardinal to speak in Brisbane
- * Brisbane parishes invited to hold listening and dialogue sessions in preparation for Plenary Council 2020
- * Vatican conference hears teenage explorer's pleas over climate change on behalf of her generation
- * Toowoomba Catholic school claims prestigious rugby league crown
- * Leading pharmacist chats with Donna Lynch about life, family and business success