



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."

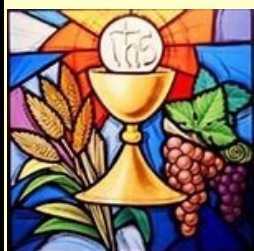
Christmas Eve/Christmas Day to Baptism of the Lord Year A
24th/25th Dec 2019 to 12th/13th Jan 2020

The Parish Office will be closed from Christmas Eve until Monday 13th January.

Fr Denis will be around during this time. However, he has many commitments that require him to be away from the office at times. Please email or leave a message on the answering machine. If your matter is urgent, follow the prompts on the phone to connect with Fr Denis.



New Year Mass Times



Mon 30th: 8.30am Mass

Tues 31st: 8.30am Morning Prayer and Communion

6pm Vigil Mass for New

Year/ Mary Mother of God

Thurs 2nd Jan: 8.30am Mass

Fri 3rd Jan: 9am Mass

Weekend Mass return to normal times from 4/5th Jan.

THANK YOU to all who have donated to our local Vinnies Conference to proclaim "Good News to the Poor." The following is what you have helped our Vinnies people do:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Number of deliveries to families | 54 |
| Number of bags delivered | 137 |
| Value of bags delivered | \$8,220 |
| \$50 Vouchers given | 26 |
| \$30 Vouchers given | 22 |
| Value of vouchers given | \$1,960 |

I suppose when we wake on January 1 the world will look the same. But there is a reminder of the Resurrection at the start of each new year, each new decade.

That's why I also like sunrises, Mondays, and new seasons. God seems to be saying, "With me you can always start afresh."

Ada Lum

Have a wonderful New Year.

Acknowledgement of Country – you will notice that we have replaced the "Turabul" people with a different name, the "Yugarabul" (pronounced "yug" like in sugar, "rah", "bul" like bull) nation. The reason is that the individual claim groups – Turabul and Jagera, did not get recognised under Native Title.



Therefore **out of respect** to all parties we need to acknowledge the whole nation according to their language group: ("Yugarabul"). This also maintains the protocol for coming onto and being on country.

Also, I have noticed a move to talk about our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, as "**first nations**" people recognising that they were many different nations with different languages and cultures rather than just one homogenous group when the Europeans landed on the east coast of Australia.

As "new" Australians, we have a long way to go in our understanding of the first 60000 years of our history and the first "Australians" who have been here. – Denis

Care For Our Common World — Living Laudato Si—Think Globally, Act Locally:

A FORUM hosted by our Parish. There will be Nationally famous people present, there will be **static displays** and **ideas** of how you can protect our planet at home and in our parish, there will be **informed** and wonderful **input** about how caring for our world is part of our Christian Faith. **ONCE AGAIN** our **parish** are **TRAILBLAZERS** in a new idea and format for our Archdiocese!!!



BOOK yourself in via the Parish Office (ring **33567155**) or email (stafford@bne.catholic.net.au) your name, contact details and how many you are bringing. (Bring your **teens** and **Young Adults** — let them see how relevant their faith is to a cleaner world!!!)

When?: Saturday February 15th 2020

Time?: 9.00am-1.45pm

Where?: School Hall

There is a limit to the number of people and **people** from **all over** the Brisbane and beyond are coming—they have heard how good it will be and how important it is to their and their young people's faith and our planet. So... **don't delay!!** Contact us soon!!

The Epiphany of the Lord (Year A)

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6
2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12



The Baptism of the Lord (Year A)

1st Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
2nd Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38
Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

1st Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
2nd Reading: Corinthians 1:1-3
Gospel: John 1:29-34



Counters Roster for the week of 30th December and 6th Jan - we are looking for a few volunteers for each of these days. The roster for 2020 begins on Monday 13th January Team Bank - Brian Davissen, Kev Haley, Peter Dove and John Dalton.

Religious Goods Shop: We have a large range of cards, religious icons, rosary beads and medallions. We have catalogues with a huge range of gift ideas for new babies, Baptism, birthdays and other special occasions.

Plenary Council 2020 Submission

This is the Parish response to the Listening & Discernment Experience for 4 of the Plenary Focus Themes.

Q. What questions do you have about the future of the Church for the Plenary Council to consider in 2020?

Missionary & Evangelising.

- We need to lay more informed foundations related to today in our Catholic School system and with young adults.
- Decision makers need to be Community centred.
- Greater focus on Joseph as a role model for step-fathers.

Humble, Healing & Merciful.

- Jesus came to look after the marginalized. We should show the same respect to the LGBT, single or remarried divorcees and other cultures.
- Making the Church aware of their parishioners with a welcome like Jesus, by listening to individuals and accepting people as they are.
- Better communication of good news items in the Church system.

Inclusive, Participatory & Synodal.

- Affordable adult faith formation education courses.
- Hierarchy to listen to the laity.
- Modernise the Church teachings.

Prayerful & Eucharistic.

- Greater emphasis on prayer & Sacraments.
- Mass to be appealing to youth and children.

The Parish Council discussed the issue of reducing the number of Weekend Masses. A few issues were considered:

- 1) Sadly, some people, because of work commitments, can only attend one particular Mass time each weekend and if “their” Mass was cancelled, we could lose them to another Parish
- 2) Our older parishioners have moved (to heaven or another suburb) and are replaced by younger people (with fewer children) who don’t go to Mass
- 3) These days, only about 10% Catholics go to Mass and so on the weekend, there are fewer than many years ago when the four Mass times were established.
- 4) Maybe we could combine 7am and 9am Masses??
- 5) If a Mass time has the church not even 25% full, it is almost impossible to create a spirit of community, have supportive singing and responding and therefore “Good Liturgy”. (Cont’d page 3...)
- 6) There have been attempts asking people to personally encourage others to come to “their” Mass but this has not worked on the whole.
- 7) If anything, the numbers coming to some Masses have declined over the last ten years.
- 8) KNOWN CONSEQUENCES of cancelling a Mass Time: Experience from other parishes indicate:

- Importance of Communion services in rural Parishes.
- Sadly, some Catholics will change parishes to find “their” Mass time e.g. we lost many parishioners when West Chermiside started its Sat Arvo Mass. (Especially Sad is it that some have to do this out of necessity e.g. Work or other important commitments.)
- Others will accept the change and readjust to fit into their Parish’s change.
- Surprisingly and worryingly—some Catholics will give up going to Mass altogether!!!
- Another Consequence—a challenge to our Parish—we could lose around \$20000 in much-needed income

Positive Consequences include:

- A. Our limited roster of Instrumentalists and Vocalists will not have to “double-up” on extra Masses so often — we have few volunteers joining these.
- B. More people at any one of the remaining masses, hopefully will foster a better spirit and encourage better singing and responding (some thing essential to make Mass more “attractive” to Adults and especially children—and help faith grow.)

If the statement from ‘Music in Catholic Worship’ is true, we cannot NOT try to improve our celebrations—(para 6: *Faith grows when it is well expressed in celebration. Good celebrations foster and*

A. *nourish faith. Poor celebrations weaken and destroy faith.*")

What can be done to avoid losing a Mass time?? Increase dramatically the attendance at all Masses and the level of responses and singing and involvement of the congregations in various ministries would be a great start. This is the responsibility of EVERYONE. There will be a vote for your preferred TWO mass times on the weekend Feb 8th/9th for those present at Mass that weekend.

NEW INFORMATION:

People have been asking "which Mass will be dropped?" The answer depends on the following:

- 1) There will be a vote and people will be asked to nominate their First and Second preferred Mass time. Whichever mass time is the least preferred over all will be dropped.
- 2) If two masses have roughly the same number of "preferences" (give or take 10%), then the quality of congregational singing, responding, the numbers of liturgical ministers rostered, and the number of people who normally stay for cuppas will be considered.
- 3) Depending on what happens with the vote, the new Mass Times will start on the First Sunday of Lent (1st/2nd March).



Welcome to all visitors and new comers to our Parish during the festive season. For any new

parishioners to Stafford, please take home our Welcome Pack. They can be found in the brochure holders at the rear of the church in a large white envelope.

Inside you will find a letter

of introduction from Fr Denis along with a census form and some other brochures about various topics of interest.

Divine Mercy Prayer Meetings will recommence on Monday 13th January at 6pm in the church.

**Tennis Courts for Hire
with lights**

CHEAP RATES!

Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION POLICY



*...for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.
Mark 10.14*

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm.

They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.

This means that everyone in the church must ensure that the fundamental rights of children, young people and vulnerable adults are respected. This will be achieved through the development of respectful relationships and a commitment to safety embracing appropriate boundaries, behaviours and practices, in accordance with the Archdiocesan Code of Ethical Behaviour and adherence to legislative imperatives of the State.


This policy applies to Clergy, Religious, Staff, Parishioners, Volunteers, students on placement and Visitors to our sites.

In order to support this policy it is mandatory that all Parishes and Agencies of the Archdiocese engage in the following four strategies:

1. *safe recruitment and selection practices – helping prevent those who pose a risk to children from holding positions of trust;*
 2. *adhering to the code of ethical behaviour – having clear guidelines that set out what is and is not acceptable behaviour as an essential part of keeping children safe;*
 3. *operating safe activities for children – can help ensure a safe environment for children;*
 4. *mandatory reporting of harm or suspected harm.*
- The Archdiocese is committed to safeguarding children through vigilant prevention and protection practices as prescribed by the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference and legislation.*

**Most Rev Mark Coleridge
Archbishop of Brisbane**




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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 Denis Scanlan
Fr Denis' E-mail: pp.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish Pastoral Council: ppcstafford@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Debra Visser
Office Hours: Mon/Tues 9 - 3.30pm Thurs 9-1
Office Telephone: 3356 7155
Parish Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Representative: Cath D'Hage
STOPline Service: 1300 304 550 or
AOB@stopline.com.au or
www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

Queen of Apostles School Contacts

Address: 10 Thuruna Street, Stafford
School email: pstafford@bne.catholic.edu.au
School Principal: Nigel Bird
APA: Leanne Murray (2020)
APRE: Ben Campbell
School Office Hours: 8.00am - 4.00pm (Mon-Fri)
Phone (Thuruna St:) 3352 9200
Phone (Chuter St:) 3326 0400

BAPTISMS in this Parish occur at 10.30am on the Third Sunday of each Month (except during Lent). **For BAPTISM BOOKINGS** please contact the Parish Office.



What's happening this week?

| | | | |
|-------|------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Mon | 30th | 8.30am 6.00pm | Mass Divine Mercy Prayer Meeting |
| Tues | 31st | 8.30am 6.00pm | Morning Prayer and Communion Vigil Mass for NY/ Mary Mother of God |
| Wed | 1st | | |
| Thurs | 2nd | 8.30am | Mass |
| Fri | 3rd | 9.00am | Mass |
| Sat | 4th | 4.00pm 5.00pm | Reconciliation <i>(until no one is waiting)</i> Mass |
| Sun | 5th | 7.00am 9.00am 2.30pm 5.30pm | Mass Mass Rosary Mass |

We pray for those recently deceased including:



Leon Morel, Jozef Drewniak, John Morahan,
Nora Stevens, Peggy Ellaway, Dennis Dower,
Trevor Jewell and Collette Horn.

We pray for those who are unwell

White Island
Volcano Victims
Viv Layzelle
Pam & Norm Ward
Irene Johnson
John Blumke
Bernadeen Hodby
Ado Padayhag
Miguela Savellon
Brian Turner
Vincent Jenner
Mary Law
Nerida Versace
Eadie Curry
Sonia Officer



ANointing of the Sick



immediately after Mass on the 3rd Sun of the month (ex Oct). IF you are **going to hospital unex-**

pectedly for an op, let Fr Denis know and we can celebrate this Sacrament beforehand

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 names will be removed. If their illness continues, let us know and we'll add them to the start of the list.

The Catholic Leader: Keeping faith with you

The Catholic Leader wishes all readers a joyful, holy Christmas and a happy New Year. Our office will close from December 20 until January 6, and our first edition next year is dated January 12.

THE
CATHOLIC
LEADER

We remember those whose anniversary of death occur about this time including

Michael O'Donnell, Molly Vlug and all deceased Parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.