



Our Lady Queen of Apostles Parish, Stafford

A Parish of the Brisbane North West Deanery

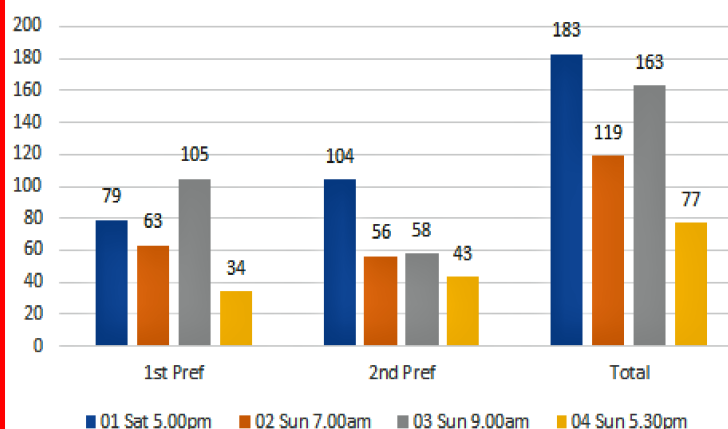
Vision: "To follow the example of Jesus by serving others."

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A 22nd/23rd February 2020

Voting results for Mass-Time Preferences:

Thank you to the almost **300** people who indicated their preferences last weekend and also to **Len Cavanagh** and **Debra Visser** for counting and sorting all those votes. The preferences indicated were pretty clear: **1st Preferences:** Saturday 5pm: 79; Sunday 7am: 63; 9am: 105; 5.30pm: 34. **Second Preferences:** Sat 5pm: 104; Sunday 7am: 56; 9am: 58; 5.30pm: 43. **Totals:** Saturday 5.30pm: 183; Sunday 7am: 119; 9am: 163; 5.30pm: 77. (see Chart).

Mass Time Preferences 8th/9th Feb 2020



Sadly, especially for the **Sunday 5.30pm** congregation, the **last 5.30pm Mass will be NEXT Sunday (23rd)**. I am sad for those who tried to encourage others to come, who served as ministers and who "volunteered" others to take up collections and the gifts etc. I am also very sorry that we may lose some of you to other parishes as this was the only Mass time you could worship with us. On behalf of the parish and your fellow 5.30pm people, I thank you for your dedication and generosity. For those who are Readers and Special Ministers at this Mass, Debra will be in contact this week inviting you to join the roster of another Mass time if you can. I hope you do as you all do a great job! - Denis

OUR Bushfire appeal. (LAST WEEKEND!) We will accept donations again this weekend too.

Once again our parish has shown they can "walk the talk" with regard to looking out for those who have suffered or are in need. So far the amount you have given to the Bushfire Appeal is **\$19425**. Our local Vinnies will transfer the money to the local **Narooma/Bermagui/Cobargo** Conference (one parish with three towns) to distribute according to needs.

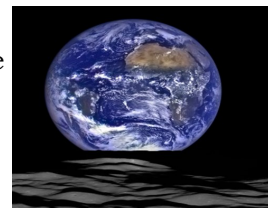


ASH WEDNESDAY is NEXT WEDNESDAY (26th)

(Mass at 7am). What's the reason for fasting in Lent? "A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn." Every major religion has a tradition of fasting as a means of preparing oneself for an important spiritual event. Fasting reminds us of our deepest hunger for God and a meaningful life. It reminds us of the difference between our true needs and our wants. Fasting allows us to empathize with those in our world who do without the most basic comforts we take for granted. It is a way to give thanks to God and to all those who have helped provide us with so much. Fasting helps us to become more aware of our faith, the promise it offers and the responsibilities it entails.

Thank you to Louise Scott, Robert Lennox and Helen Royan

for the brilliant effort in organizing our Forum on caring for the earth in the vision of Laudato Si last Saturday. We had about 60 people attend from all over. The input was really interesting with practical suggestions and insightful ideas. Thanks also to Di Hoiberg, Anne Gallagher, Espi Shuttleton and James Fitzsimon for their service of food and drinks!



For your Calendar... "Christmas in July" this year is on Thursday 16th July at 7pm. The topic: "Nativity: Fact or Fiction – a historical analysis of the nativity narratives in Luke and Matthew".

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.)

OUR LADY QUEEN OF APOSTLES PARISH

- STAFFORD -

PARISH COLLECTION

My share for the support of
Archbishop, Bishops, & Priests
of the Archdiocese of Brisbane

1st Sunday of Lent

(Year A)



1st Reading: Genesis 2;7-9, 3;1-7

2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Counters Roster Team Cents – Margaret McLean, Kemsley Kelly and Aileen Kyle..

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.

Be Opened, A journey to new life - Lenten Program for 2020 - begins 26th February!

The books have arrived! No need to order, just purchase a copy from the 'shop'. Books are \$7. Books can also be purchased through the week at the parish office.



If you are gathering as a group, **can you please let me know** as I usually have a couple of enquiries about groups that are available for others to join.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 26th February, so don't delay - purchase your copy from the 'shop' and form a group to journey through Lent!

COMING EVENT: We at Our Lady, Queen of Apostles are hosting **World Day of Prayer** this year. It is on 6th March with a cup of tea first at 9.45am and Prayer Service at 10.30am finishing

about an hour later. It would be great to see lots of us, women and men, attend. For more info contact Toni Evans 0431 705 456 or Cynthia Oxenham 33502742.



Focus on Human Rights — Human Rights Watch, an International Non-Governmental Organization conducts research and advocacy on human rights and publishes reviews on human rights practices in nearly 100 countries. The report notes Australia has a strong record of protecting civil and political rights, but serious human rights issues remain including: increasing threats to freedom of speech, and targeting of public servant whistle blowers and journalists; is critical of Australia's asylum-seeker and refugee policies, including the repeal of the Medevac Law in December; also condemns the high rate of Indigenous Australians in the criminal justice system,

especially Indigenous children.

From the positive point of view, the report commends: Australia's more vocal stance on key human rights issues including China's detention of one million Muslims in the Xinjiang region; the announcement of the royal commission into violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disabilities; the Queensland government's introduction of a human rights act in October, becoming the third jurisdiction in Australia to do so behind the ACT and Victoria. See <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019>

Love is the greatest force in the universe. It is the heartbeat of the moral cosmos. He who loves is a participant in the being of God.
Best Wishes
Martin L. King Jr.

PROJECT COMPASSION IS COMING!! Envelopes are available on the tables near the doors. Our (indirect) action for the good of the world: Did you know that last year we gave **\$7498.45** via Project Compassion to help people throughout our world enjoy a more dignified and self-sufficient life. – this is not bragging but a statement of fact about one way we as a community are fulfilling Jesus' command to proclaim the Gospel.

Good Friday Stations of the Cross is a devotion popular amongst many. Even though the **most important ceremony on Good Friday is the 3pm Veneration of the Cross** which is the second part of the "Triduum" (Holy Thursday, Good Friday Veneration, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday), it is still good to have the Stations. If you would like to help coordinate and lead this devotion at **10am on**

After Mass each Weekend, there will be a short Video to show how much good comes from the donations we give to Caritas. Learn how others live!

Good Friday, please let Fr Denis know by NEXT Sunday (1st March). (We may even use the same wording as Pope Francis used last year for the Stations led by him).

Stations of the Cross is a devotion and therefore open to all sorts of adaptations. Maybe you'd like to do your own reflection using this Scriptural version introduced by John Paul II and approved by Benedict XV: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scriptural_Way_of_the_Cross



THANK YOU KEMSLEY KELLY. Kemsley has just agreed to represent the Parish for a three-year term on the School Board. The School Board is the most important formal link between the Parish and the School. It is where school policies are formulated and reviewed. The Parish Representative brings a "Parish Perspective" to the discussions. Kemsley replaces Trish Vlug who has just finished a great term on the School Board. Thanks to both.



Morning Tea after 9am Mass on 1st and 3rd Sunday relies on volunteers. Please consider helping to keep this fellowship alive and well. Leave your name with Fr Denis or Debra.



Preparation for the Sacrament of Penance (for Children): Parents of children who turn TEN in 2020 are welcome to enrol their child for this preparation which will begin in March (see below). Please go to the link below to **complete the enrolment form on or before NEXT Tuesday (25th February)**. (You may find it easier to email Fr Denis at pp.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au and he will send this link to you.) If you cannot enrol via the internet, please ring/email the Parish Office and other arrangements will be made. (Contact details are on the back of the Parish newsletter.) The Parish Team will help Parents prepare their children over three meetings. For PARENTS AND CHILDREN: Tuesday 3rd March 7pm, Tuesday 17th March 7pm; Tuesday 31st March 7pm. Here's the link: <http://bit.ly/2NX4Opz>



Ash Wednesday is 26th February. We are looking for ministers to assist at the Mass at 7am. There is a sheet at the rear of the church to nominate yourself for a 'job'. We are needing Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Prayer Leader and a Co-ordinator/sacristan. In a few weeks we will be calling for assistance to fill the roster for the Triduum liturgies.



Tennis Courts for Hire
with lights

CHEAP RATES!

Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday



PARISH COUNCIL 2020: Here is our new Parish Council who share responsibility for Pastoring our Parish with Fr Denis. They are (LtoR, Top to Bottom): **Anne**



Thomas, Zara Savellon, Nick Forster, Saju Mathew, Grace Cortes, Denis Scanlan, Yaw Han, Christine Lindsay, Barbara Winkle, Jules Tisdall, Ben Campbell—School Rep). Talk to them about any ways you think we can be a better "Light to the World" or "Salt of the Earth" as Jesus calls us to be.

"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..." (Matthew 5:44)



Stewardship
a way of life

Love your enemies, easier said than done, no doubt. But, remember, the foundation of stewardship is prayer. When we are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it turns our attention away from "me" and moves it towards God and others. It allows us to have a little more empathy for "our enemy." When we pray for others, even "our enemies," maybe it softens their hearts as well.

Seniors Social Club Bus Trip 18th March a to Highfields near Toowoomba. Highfields is a short drive north of Toowoomba. We will visit the Pioneer Village, Spring Bluff Railway Station and other attractions as time permits. We have chosen this town as a way of giving back to the community, because of the fires and drought.



The bus will leave at 7.30am from the car park of the Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, Appleby Road, Stafford. Cost is \$55 which includes morning tea, lunch and tour. For bookings and enquires contact Julia 33556560 or mobile 0467680551 or Carolyn on 33568223.

I SHARE THE Dignity

Share the Dignity Drive is being held during the month of March. There will be a box in the foyer of the parish office for donations. More information about this is on our noticeboard.

Holy Cross
FUNERALS

The only funeral service owned and operated by the Catholic Church

Ph: (07) 3293 0555 Web: www.holycrossfunerals.com

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
 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	24th	8.30am 6.00pm	Mass Divine Mercy Prayer Meeting
Tues	25th	8.30am	Morning Prayer and Communion
Wed	26th	7.00am 7.00pm	Ash Wednesday Mass Plenary Council Meeting
Thurs	27th	8.30am	Mass
Fri	28th	9.00am	Mass
Sat	29th	4.00pm 5.00pm	Reconciliation (until no one is waiting) Mass
Sun	1st	7.00am 9.00am 2.30pm	Mass Mass Rosary

We pray for those recently deceased including:



Rita Butt, Patricia Trudgian, Vincent Jenner,
 Athol Henderson, Claude Rossi, Leon Morel,
 Jozef Drewniak and John Morahan

We pray for those who are unwell

Michael Donaldson
 Auntie Joan Hendricks
 Jack Charalambous
 Maurice Drake
 Maria Rosa Arreguci Zuzarte
 Fr Ron Mollison
 Bushfire Victims
 Brian Becker
 Pam & Norm Ward
 Irene Johnson
 John Blumke
 Ado Padayhag
 Mary Law



ANOINTING OF THE SICK



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

- Brisbane Archbishop Mark Coleridge heads to Rome for high-level Vatican talks on the Plenary Council 2020, Cardinal George Pell and the Holy See's response to Australia's Royal Commission.
- Four young men cast their nets out into the deep, entering Brisbane's vocational discernment house this year.
- Laws in Victoria requiring priests to report child abuse to authorities even if heard in the confessional will affect the seal of confession – the Queensland Government planning a similar legislation.
- St Therese of Lisieux and her saintly parents impart lessons in holiness and faith during their 'visit from Heaven' in Brisbane last week.
- Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation on the pan-Amazonian synod surprised many church workers who live in the region, and elicited a range of reactions.
- Vincentian from Albany Creek parish Don Gore is determined to break the cycle of violence, offering Vinnies housing and special-works programs to support vulnerable people.

Still only \$2



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

Geraldine Garcia, Greg Curry and all deceased Parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.