



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."

Sixth Sunday of Easter - Year A 16th/17th May 2020

REMEMBER donating to the Vinnies conferences down at Narooma/ Bermagui/Cobargo? We donated about \$20000 through our BUSHFIRE APPEAL and the kids from our school sent lots of letters and cards to their peers down there. See a story about it from their local newspaper at this link: <https://www.naroomanewsonline.com.au/story/6728777/parish-raises-20k-children-send-love-to-south-coast-families-after-bushfires/?cs=13784>

Here is an extract from a recent email we got from their local Vinnies (to our Vinnies):

It looks like May will be the month to trial the easing gently of some restrictions.

We are doing the best we can via the telephone and a roster of volunteers to deliver food parcels etc (stacked in our houses) to doorsteps. We have also been doing 'welfare type' calls to those affected by the fires who we have contact details for, which let's people know they haven't been pushed aside by the Covid-19 virus. We are still unable to make trips to the Cobargo area yet but we are getting an idea of the needs where the Stafford funding will come into it's own. Indeed we have already commenced some distribution. Naturally your parish will receive a full report into the future and I will be in touch every now and again.

All the best and thank you again for such great support!

Narooma St Vincent de Paul



Counsellors tell us that the bushfire victims are suffering badly, not only because of the time elapsed since the fire but also because of the (understandable) impression that they have been forgotten because of COVID-19.

PROPOSAL: The kids from our school, Q of A are going to write more letters and cards to their peers for some moral support. When we have them, we will forward them down to the local Vinnies for distribution.

WOULD YOU like to send a letter/ email a letter to me for the Mums and Dads, the Grandparents, the Single people down there just offering some moral support and maybe a prayer?? If you'd like to do that, could you please send it to me/ drop it into the office/ post it to the office (Put "Bushfire" on the front of the envelope). (RSVP Monday 18th May - next Monday). Once we have received them all, we will print out the emails (without identifying information unless you SPECIFICALLY tell us that it's OK for your name and email address to be included), and then we will include them in a package to be sent south.

The Queen Of Apostles Men's Group meets on the third Friday of the month. It is open to any senior gents in the parish - married, widowed, single, clergy, retired or working. They are currently meeting on Zoom. Last month there were four regulars catching up using Zoom. They are planning another Zoom meeting on Friday 22nd May. The meeting ID is 798-9934-1004. There is a password for the meeting which we don't want to advertise here. (The newsletter goes up on our website which is available to the public. You can email the parish office for the password or watch out for it in Fr Denis' weekday emails. There are plans to meet again at Café 63 at Stafford in June, providing the COVID-19 restrictions have eased to allow a group get together in a public space—with coffee! **Phone Gary McLean (ph 3863 4149) for more information.**



Ignite Youth Live - Join us on Friday nights when we gather online and connect with each other. Each week we hear from an inspirational speaker, experience dynamic worship from Ignite Conference followed up with our high schoolers online youth group.

Friday Nights from 7pm

Download the Handout

On [facebook](#) and [youtube](#).

The Ascension of the Lord (Year A)

1st Reading: Acts 1:1-11

2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20



The Small Blessings campaign

The Archdiocese of Brisbane has developed a campaign aimed at encouraging people to take care of one another, especially the vulnerable, during this challenging time, in line with the principles of solidarity and stewardship of the community.

As Catholics we are all called, especially during difficult times, to make a difference for others and to give thanks for the small things. We have coined these small blessings, and we are asking the community to share, create and as often as possible be small blessings for others.

Through parishes we can take care of one another and be or create small blessings by:

- supporting people to continue to practice their faith
- making sure people can embody their faith, by supporting others in the broader community
- keeping people connected.

Parishes can also play a role in sharing small blessings with the broader community to inspire and remind people of what they could be doing for others.

Be or create small blessings – Connection

Here are some ways you can stay connected from home

Reaching out

Let the parish know how you would like to stay connected. Email addresses have never been more important as a way of staying in touch with the parish.

Regular Newsletter

Receiving our regular newsletter each week to keep up to date the what's going on is a great way to stay connected. We send out an email advice when the newsletter is uploaded to our website. We are also continuing to print a small number of copies which are made available outside the church door on Thursday's. via email or print copy is still Set up a prayer table in a quiet area of your home where you can gather together to watch Mass, celebrate a Liturgy of the Word (using the resources circulated by Litur-



gy Brisbane each week) or for your own prayers.

Involve the children in decorating it with things from the garden.

Assistance with technology

We are very fortunate to have one of the most tech savvy priests in the Archdiocese. We have been managing to do a Sunday liturgy each weekend at 8.30 am. We have readers and leaders and musicians to enhance our liturgies too. Fr Denis sends out the invite to the Zoom meeting (liturgy) and a password on the Saturday or early Sunday to access the Zoom meeting. He has personally walked people through any tech problems they have encountered with Zoom.

We have also had many other uses for Zoom including pastoral council and finance council meetings. Some social groups within the parish have also used Zoom to continue their social gatherings, including Latte Ladies and The Men's Group.

Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive
You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive
You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually
into my heart.
I embrace You as if You
were already there
and unite myself wholly to You. Never
permit me to be separated from You.

Connecting with each other

While many ministries in our community involve visits to homes and aged care facilities, we have had to adapt this way of connecting to a phone call. Many of you have started phone call chains. These phone calls can be the only contact some people have each day. **"If you'd like a call please phone the parish office on 3356 7155 or email stafford@bne.catholic.net.au and someone will call you for a chat!"**

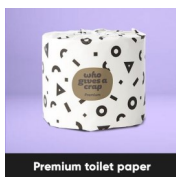
The parish has a Facebook page which has regular updates and interesting links too.

Give yourself a pat on the bum

Because of your order, more communities will have access to proper sanitation and clean water. We donate 50% of profits to help build toilets for the 2.3 billion people who don't have access to a loo. Nice one!



Who Gives A Crap delivered to us this week after a long break due to insufficient supply. We are selling rolls of Toilet paper for \$1.20 and rolls of Paper Towel for \$3 each. They are made from 100% recycled paper, or Bamboo—all environmentally friendly and as you buy them (cost is average for what you pay at Woolies) **50% of any profit supports the building of toilets in impoverished countries** thus providing protection and dignity for women, avoiding diseases such as cholera. Go on line to "who gives a crap" at <https://au.whogivesacrap.org/> and investigate for yourself. **We will have them for available sale in the parish office. (Cash or Eftpos)**



Tennis Courts for Hire with lights

CHEAP RATES!

Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday



"For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be God's will, than for doing evil." (1 Peter 3:17)

Stewardship *a way of life*

The old line says "if you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." Many of us are diligent in our planning and making sure things are progressing smoothly. Then disaster strikes, we don't get the result that was intended or an unforeseen problem arises. Many times we may respond negatively and ask, "Why me? I did everything right!" Here's the thing – adversity humbles us and reminds us of our dependence on God and not on our own self-reliance. Rest assured, God has a better plan in store for you.

Catholic Leader—Do you **miss your weekly copy** of the "Leader". Do you know that if you go to the Homepage of our website (<https://www.staffordcatholicparish.org.au/>), click on the "picture-button" called "**Stay Connected**" you will be able to read the current Catholic Leader online.

Vinnies still operates and is available. Ring 1800VINNIE (1800 846 643) if you are in need of food or other help.

Thank you to everyone who has continued to give towards our Planned Giving Campaign for this year. If you usually give by envelope and are unable to visit the parish, contributions can be made through direct deposit into our bank account. For more information about this, phone or email Debra in the office. There are forms on the parish website to begin contributions through your bank account or credit card. Forms may be completed and emailed to the office for processing.

Soon in cooperation with other local churches and community groups, I'll be asking you to volunteer to do some "Letterbox drops". WHAT for?? The "social isolation" time has reminded us of the importance of neighbourhoods.

The "letterbox drop" will be a first step in breaking down anonymity in our area. I'll be asking that you (and the kids or a next-door neighbour) volunteer to drop a leaflet in peoples' letterboxes in your street or even your block. It'll be good exercise and will help to break down walls and make our world a better place. Have a think about it, overcome any initial shyness, reluctance, and be prepared to have a go. **Imagine what a difference we could make if all of the parishioners get involved!**



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. **SUSPENDED**



We pray for those who are unwell

Barbara Jones
Carmel Remphrey
Sr Elizabeth
Chris Stevens
Jack Charalambous
Maria Rosa Arregu-
ci Zuzarte
Fr Ron Mollison
Brian Becker
Pam & Norm Ward
Irene Johnson
Mary Law



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

John Winkle, Gloria Patalinghug, Bienvinido Tolentino and all deceased Parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK



If you are **going to hospital unexpectedly** for an op, let Fr Denis know and we can celebrate this Sacrament beforehand

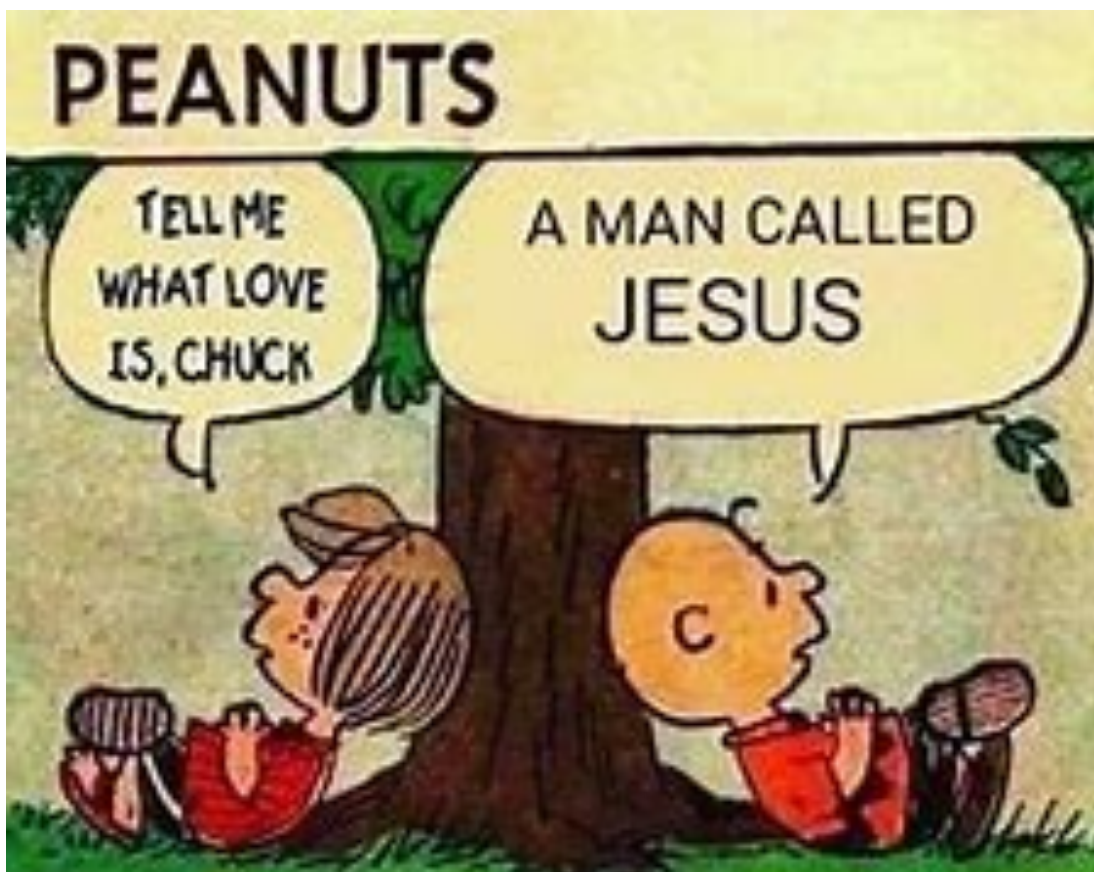
You may add a **sick person's name to the list by phoning the Parish Office** (3356 7155).



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.

"If you'd like a call please phone the parish office on 3356 7155 or email stafford@bne.catholic.net.au and someone will call you for a chat! "

See page 3 for more details



We pray for those recently deceased including:

Noel Wood
Jack Jones
Patrick McKewin
Alex Pipe
Fr Peter Conroy
Archbishop John Bathersby
Marjorie Moroney
John Blumke
Aunty Joan Hendricks
Jack Hamilton

