



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."

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A 14th/15th Nov 2020

NEW PARISH COUNCIL – WHY is it so important??

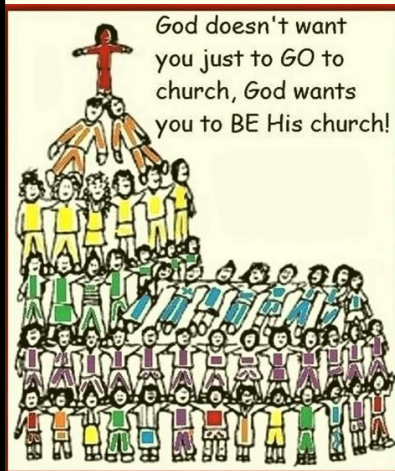
(Before you skip to the next article or cuppa or whatever, please read this because it is relevant to YOU as a parishioner.)

God has a mission that all God's children (all humanity, all creation) can live in communion with each other rejoicing in their different God-Given gifts. Jesus expressed this when he said "Peace be to you, My own peace I give you."



God's Mission has a Church (we, the Baptised) entrusted to carry it out. Our Vision statement puts it another way, **"To follow the example of Jesus by serving others."**

Simply put, Jesus showed us how to do this – Love God and Love your neighbour as yourself. He told us wonderful parables including the Good Samaritan whereby he challenged us to "be a neighbour" to others. This



love as demonstrated by him unto death is the power of God that defeats all Darkness, Evil and even Death. It removes ALL barriers/walls between ourselves and others and God's creation.

To be "a good neighbour" takes us out of our own self and directs us towards others in com-

munion.

We sometimes tend to busy ourselves with all sorts of activities and "holy" things that justify our avoidance of the core of our faith – "Love". Through history, it hasn't so much been fancy liturgies, or wise catechesis that has attracted people, it's their experience of our love for one another and for them that has attracted them. People flocked to Jesus because of his love and compassion for them regardless of what rules they kept or disregarded.

Over my holidays I've been reading, praying and thinking about this and the current state of our church, declining numbers, a dearth of young people, parents struggling to find faith-filled peers for their children, and, the terrible image the "institutional" church has amongst the wider population.

I have thought that maybe it's time to get back to the basics Jesus taught. Concentrating on supporting and helping people "be a good neighbour" in their family life, their work life, their political life, their use of money and goods – every aspect of their lives so that we can all more truly reflect the life of Christ. This is what Jesus called us to "Do in memory of me".

The Parish Pastoral Council has an important role in helping this eventuate because, comprising ordinary parishioners, it can reflect the feelings and faith of our community and in doing so, work with the wider parish in proposing actions whereby all are helped achieve this vision.

Here's my plea and my challenge to YOU. Please consider being on the new Parish Pastoral Council. What gifts do you need? Whatever God gave you (and God DID give you some!!). Regardless of the colour of skin, culture, age, and/or your language, if you are breathing, you have a role! A Council with a mixture of people who have different abilities e.g. to think "outside the square", to organise people/projects, can think deeply, prepared to commit as one of your most important roles (involves a monthly meeting at least), who try and listen to others, to work with others. – It's a pastoral role – We will spend time in prayer, discussion, and formulating actions that will help all of us to be better neighbours and so promulgate Christ's Peace.

Please let me know if you are interested – I need to know by November 30th. Or, if you like, tell one of the other current Parish Councillors. – Denis.

Share
your small
blessings

PARENTS – PLEASE TAKE NOTE (I received this call from a couple of parents this week):

"(We) have been talking recently about the difficulty of connecting our children into a network of other Christian children who come to church, and who have families that take their faith seriously. No one in ??'s class comes to Mass, and occasionally perhaps one or maybe two from yyyy's class.



As you'd appreciate, when children don't see others their age who come to church, then there's little incentive for them to keep coming. We've been finding it quite a lonely experience, especially this year (not helped by Covid of course), and the time is slipping by

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Year A)

1st Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

2nd Reading: Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46



when our children can be inspired by other families with children their age taking up their faith as a living reality, before the pulls of teenage-hood set in.

... What we were wondering though, was whether you might be aware of **any other families like ours who would be voicing a similar concern?** It would be **so supportive** to be able to join up with a few families with younger children, who feel comfortable sharing on a faith level - which gives the opportunity for the children to "catch" the faith. Who knows - perhaps something really good could come out of a small beginning.

(If you are a family similar to this looking for more support for your children – and yourselves – please contact the Parish Office as soon as you can and we'll set up a gathering of those interested in being in contact with each other.) -- Denis

COVID changes in our parish.

With the onset of the Virus, **everything in our parish was turned upside down** – rosters decimated, new activities such as church cleaning and marshals started, new technologies like Zoom were introduced and so on.

It's **time to formalise some of our changes** so that we are more organised and the workload does not rest on the shoulders of a few.

FIRSTLY – for those WHO ARE ROSTERED

as Special Minister or Readers at each Mass, this weekend, we will restore the tradition of **meeting for prayer in "Mary's Room" 10 minutes before Mass.**

SECONDLY: Please **ask yourselves** where you can be a **"good neighbour"** to your parish community in these areas:

Marshals (to help confirm who is present at a particular Mass) – something we need to know while the Covid regulations persist). All it asks is that you be at the Church about 25 minutes before Mass, get three people to hand out the tickets, and then give people a tick as they enter the church. –My hope is that we have enough people so you can be rostered every two or three weeks.

Cleaners (to spray and wipe down the Church after each Sunday Mass – it takes about 25 minutes. Will **you** with one or two others (your family??) volunteer. Hopefully it'll be for every two or three weeks. We'll train you - it is easy and quick.



FINALLY

I am very conscious that in these times of Covid, there are **some sick and/or elderly people** who always used to come to mass and **can no longer do so**. To ensure that they continue to really feel a part of our worshipping community, we are installing **new AV equipment** (a new **screen** that is clearer in all lighting, **Cameras** to broadcast our Mass into the homes, and **technology** whereby those in the church and at home will be able to see each other. It'll cost about **\$35000** – if you'd like to donate to help defray that cost you can do so with money in an envelope, Eftpos/ Credit Card (at the office) or bank transfer using this link [Make a Donation to our Parish](#)

Date Claimer: In preparation for Christmas, we'll be celebrating a **Second Rite of Reconciliation** (using our written notes as per previous times!). It will be on **Monday night 14th December, 6.30pm – 7.30pm**. As we get closer, an opportunity to book via "Eventbrite" will be provided as the same Covid rules apply here as they do to Sunday Masses.

ACRATH* Calendars are here again! But, this year with a difference! They are being given to us for free! (Although if you wish to leave a donation for ACRATH to continue their work - thank you!).

Calendars will be available **after each Mass this weekend 14/15**. Anyone **on Zoom please phone** and collect from parish office. (Or, we could arrange delivery) These calendars are so worthwhile as **ACRATH continues it's fight against slavery in our modern world. In this year's calendar we read the story of modern slavery right here and now in Queensland!** The mistreatment of 22 men from Vanuatu hired under the Australian governments aid program to work on farms in Queensland. The labour contractor promised them a good wage. Instead they were paid little or nothing and fed little, often relying on the food they picked. (Read the full story in our parish Webpage) ACRATH is perusing justice for these men who are owed \$77,000! It is a slow fight but one that will continue through the courts until these men receive compensation. How can we help? (***Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans.**)

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 will meet on **Friday 20th November** at Café 63, **Stafford City** 10.30am. All welcome Catholics and friends come join us for a chat, drink and nibble. Good to see Father's miracle last Saturday night now see the Mighty Ma-rooms do it again on Wednesday. **Phone Gary McLean (ph 3863 4149) for more**



RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan)

The Archdiocese of Brisbane is proud to launch its first RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan) on **Tuesday 17 November** with a Mass and reception at St Stephen's Cathedral. The five pilot parishes (Beenleigh, Bracken Ridge, Cleveland, Inala, Zillmere) will be in attendance, along with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representatives, the RAP artist, Reconciliation QLD, and local members of parliament. To find out more about the RAP please visit: <https://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/inclusion/reconciliation-action-plan/>

Due to COVID restrictions, the RAP launch is invitation-only, however you are **most welcome to join the joyous celebration online from 1:45pm on Tuesday November 17th** at: www.archbne.org/bzw



National Recycling Week 2020 — National Recycling Week will be celebrated in Australia **from November 11th -17th, 2020**. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness about important environmental issues amongst Australians. . The theme of the 2020 National Recycling Week is 'Recovery - A future beyond the bin'. Here at Stafford Parish we have already introduced many initiatives around recycling and environmental impacts. Thanks for all who are donating to the parish through Containers for Change.



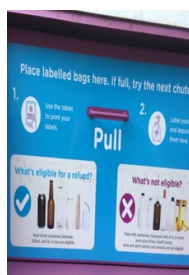
Containers for Change

Log on to containersforchange.com.au to register your personal code or use the

Parish Code and donate the funds to Our Lady Queen of Apostles Parish

Parish Identification Code is C10195625

Stafford State School Collection Point, enter from Webster Rd, Stafford



1. Bottles must have the lids removed.
2. Label the bag with your registration number or our Q of A code C10195625
3. Labels are provided for you if you have not taped your own onto the bag.
4. Deposit your bags into the bin.

"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities." - Matthew 25:21



God calls us to nurture and develop the gifts He has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts He has given us. He expects us to grow our gifts, use them wisely and be generous with them. Unfortunately, many of us are not generous in proportion to all that God has given us.

Break Open The Word has arrived this week. If you have paid for your copy, it will be in the church this weekend for collection. Payment for the books can be made via the 'plate' on the weekend using an envelope clearly marked BOTW and your name or in person at the office—cash or Eftpos or direct deposit using this link. [Break Open the Word Payment](#)

I'm expecting the **Adore Advent books** to arrive next week in readiness for the Advent season. Keep an eye for more advice in next week's newsletter about their arrival.

Contact Tracing Sheets (CTS) are a government regulation of our COVID-19 industry plan which we need to abide by. For all those who register for mass online, your registration process covers all aspects of the our obligations.

For those who manually fill CTS before mass - scant details or illegible handwriting are leaving us vulnerable and this needs to be addressed immediately! We need a contact phone or email address or full street address. If you have any concerns, please contact Debra in the office.

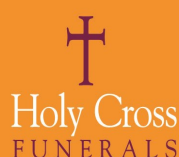
What's on this week at Stafford

Mon 16th	8.30am	Mass
Tues 17th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Wed 18th		
Thurs 19th	8.30am	Mass
	9.00am	Mass
Fri 20th	10.30am	Men's Group
Sat 21st	5.00pm	Mass (Booking required)
Sun 22nd	7.00am	Zoom Liturgy
	9.00am	Mass (Booking required)

Tennis Courts for Hire with Lights

CHEAP RATES!

Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday



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

We remember those whose anniversary of death occur about this time including Collette Horn, Katter, Matthews and Rowbotham families, Gloria Patalinghug, Aludia Tolentino, Francesca and Domenico Antonaglia, Angelo Di Mauro, Laurie Fischer and all deceased Parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.

This is a shortcut to our mass booking links. I hope this makes things a little easier for you. This is also on our home page of our website. You no longer need to open the newsletter online to book a seat at mass. This should work for all devices including phone and tablets.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84970615252>

Meeting ID: 849 7061 5252

Passcode: talents

One tap mobile

+61861193900,,84970615252#,,,,,0#,,4642613# Australia

+61871501149,,84970615252#,,,,,0#,,4642613# Australia

Dial by your location

+61 8 6119 3900 Australia

Meeting ID: 849 7061 5252

Passcode: 4642613

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcmfK2r0i1>



AN OINTING 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.



BAPTISMS in this Parish occur at 10.30am on the Third Sunday of each Month (**except** during Lent and OCTOBER).



For BAPTISM BOOKINGS please contact the Parish Office.

We pray for those who are unwell

Peter O'Donnell	Norm Ward
Paul Glynn	Kate Sigtenhorst
Tom Tartan	Dianne Stevens
Sonia Officer	Glenn Stevens
Noel Hall	
Pam Ward	



We pray for those recently deceased including:

Mr E Blackman
Maria Nohora
Pataquiva

Gemma Debattista

Kerri Lanfranchi
Yvonne Graham

Ronald Harriss

Terry McGlone

Pauline Clayton

Helen Maria

Eluwa

Carmel Remphrey

Fr Joe McGeehan



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There is a link from our website. You can subscribe to a free digital copy on this link. Click on "Stay Connected" you will be able to read the current Catholic Leader online. You can also register to receive a digital copy each week until print copies are reintroduced.

