



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."

4th Sunday OF Easter – Year B 24th/25th April, 2021

Get vaccinated for the common good: Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>



More information about this can be found on our noticeboard.

Reflection on this week's readings

Since each year the same image is used on this Sunday it could be nicknamed Good Shepherd Sunday. This particular expression is used only by John, though Christ is referred to as shepherd in 1 Peter 2:25 and 5:4, Hebrews 13:20, and obliquely in Matthew 26:31. Typical of John, this soliloquy cycles through repeating variant phrases indicating that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, that he lays down his life, and that he knows and loves the Father and vice versa. In the preceding element in this bipartite discourse (read in Year A) Jesus in fact declares himself to be not *the shepherd* but *the gate* to the sheepfold. The whole section emerges from the healing of the man born blind, and in that context we see it to be a criticism of the Pharisees in that encounter, exposing the falseness of their leadership: they are so wilfully blind to the grace of God manifested in someone being healed that they cannot be true shepherds; they do not care for the sheep and do nothing beneficial for them. But it also lays the groundwork for the next story, that of the raising of Lazarus who, like the good shepherd's sheep that listen to his voice, hears the voice of Jesus and comes forth from the tomb when he is called (John 11:1-45). Both stories of the healing of the man born blind and of the rising of Lazarus belong to section of John's gospel that is said to take place at Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles, and they are demonstrations that Jesus indeed saves, in accord with the *Hošānot* songs (from *hošiah na* [whence comes our *Hosanna*]: *save us*) including Psalm 118(117) that were

sung during the feast's processions. Moreover, the section concludes with the High Priest's prophesy that "it is better for one man to die for the sake of the nation" which John extends by saying that Jesus will die not only for that nation but will also gather all the scattered children of God. This corresponds to Sukkot being understood as the feast marking the end of the post-Exodus sojourn in Israel's ingathering to the Holy Land.

The first reading (Acts 4:8-12) and the Psalm reiterate the element of rejection of Jesus and his work. This time Peter, accompanied by John, testifies before the Sanhedrin, accusing the councillors of crucifying Jesus, the only one whose name has power to save. This plays on the meaning of the name Jesus, *God saves*. It is also a remarkable image, considering that it was Peter, who was silenced by fear when Jesus was before the Sanhedrin, who now speaks boldly before them. Peter invokes Psalm 118(117), the processional psalm for Sukkot, citing v.22 concerning the stone rejected by the builders. The image could nearly be applied to himself, the one who faulted and yet became a foundation stone, in accordance with the name Jesus gave him, Cephass/Petros, Rock.

Curiously, two verses prior in the Psalm is the line "This is the Lord's gate; the righteous enter through it", which appears to be a source for elements of John's shepherd passage, but it is omitted. Jesus is the Shepherd who tends to, guides and protects his flock; but he is also the Gate that both prevents robbers from entering to pilfer the flock and provides the entry way for the righteous.

Homily Help - Rev Dr Barry Craig - 4 Easter Year B



5th Sunday of Easter (Year B)

1st Reading: Acts of Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

2nd Reading: St John 4:7-10

Gospel: John 15:9-17



For Reflection

"...nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" (Isaiah 2: 4).

Anzac Day has come to be considered one of the most sacred days in the year for many Australians, honouring the sacrifice of those who gave their lives so that others could live in peace and freedom. We remember grieving families, cities in rubble, and fields turned to mud and ashes. We remember broken bodies, spirits, minds, and lives: the terrible cost of war. We remember children, women, and men killed or maimed in military operations. We remember all Australians who served, and who serve today. We continue to work wholeheartedly for justice and peace in our world so that war will be no more.



*"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."*

From For the Fallen by Laurence Binyon (1869-1943)

*"I am the good shepherd...and I lay down
my life for the sheep...and they will heed
my voice." - JOHN 10:14-16*



When you pray, do you only ask Jesus for the things that you want? Do you ever ask Him what He wants from you? How do you listen for His response? Many times Jesus responds in "quiet whispers" that are not so obvious. So, take time every day, in silence, to actively listen for His voice.

LITURGICAL MUSICIANS' TRAINING DAY

The Archdiocesan Commission on the Liturgy is pleased to present a day of practical formation for liturgical musicians, run by people who are experts in the field. Several streams will be on offer including vocal, choral, organ, keyboard, guitar, composition, orchestral, and congregational singing.

Saturday 15 May at St Lawrence's College, South Brisbane from 9:00am–3:30pm. Register by scanning the code, or by phoning Liturgy Brisbane on 3324 3321.



Containers for Change have offered to promote us on their website, so we may attract donations from outside our parish community. This will change our scheme donor number. **Our new scheme ID number is C10446303.**



How do I record dates and times when I am not available? Sign in to **CHURCH-BOX** and from the 'Rotas' tab select 'Your Availability' and click 'Change' to update your availability for each mass. This weekend immediately after Mass the roster team will go through the availability and swap processes and answer any rostering questions.



Flores de Mayo is a flower festival in honour of the Virgin Mary, marked with the offering of flowers to her at the altar in the church, and the 'Santacruzán' Procession, which includes a parade of elaborately dressed women/children [called 'Reynas' for 'Queens' or 'Sagalas'], personifying significant women characters from the Old and New Testament, as well as some popular titles of Mary. The 'Santacruzán' commemorates the finding of the True Cross [in which Jesus Christ was crucified] by Queen Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, the first Christian Emperor of Rome. After the Holy Cross was found in Jerusalem and brought back to Rome, there was joyful celebration for thanksgiving. This custom and celebration started after the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception in 1854 and after the publication circa 1867 of Mariano Sevilla's translation of the devotional Flores de Maria or Flowers of Mary.

Flores de Mayo and Mother's Day on 9 May 2021 at St. Joseph and St. Anthony's Church, 30 Eldorado St. Bracken Ridge. 11:00am gathering; 11:15am procession/offering of flowers to Mama Mary; 11:30am Holy Rosary and 12 noon Holy Mass to be celebrated by Fr. Saldie Resolado, OSA. 1:00pm Honouring our Mothers.

Please bring flowers for offering. The celebration culminates with a 'Picnic in the Park' with games and lots of fun at 1:30pm, Hidden World Playground 411 Roghan Rd. Fitzgibbon, BYO food/drinks.

To attend we are using the Check in Qld app which you can install on your mobile phone before coming to church. Please come early for check in. For further info contact Jima 0432374239 or Edna 0468955897.

Have you pondered about your wishes for yourself after you have died? Have you been considering a spot in our **Columbarium Wall**? Is there someone special in your life or your heart that you would like to honour by way of a memorial plaque? We have many reserved places in both our memorial wall and our niche spaces.

At the time of its installation there was much excitement about having a dedicated space to remember



loved ones. If this is something that interests you, perhaps speak with Debra in the office about reserving a place for yourself or someone special. If you and your family would like to know more about our Columbarium Wall, contact Debra for more information.

Give the Gift of Faith. The dedication you have for Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish can go on forever when you make a gift to our parish endowment fund. With endowment funds, the principal is kept intact and the distributions to the parish come from growth and earnings. This provides a steady stream of income to our parish forever. For more information on naming Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Endowment in your Will, please call the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or call the parish office.

We have ordered more products from Who Gives A Crap. If you are interested in purchasing paper products ie toilet paper, tissues, hand towels, they are for sale in the parish office or contact Debra to make other arrangements.



We will be introducing the new Check In Qld app to our options for booking into mass. We will be fazing out the Safe Visit QR after this weekend.

Vinnie's SOS.... Our Vinnie's shops are desperate for volunteers. Why not ring your local Vinnie's and see if you can become a volunteer, you won't regret it?

Position Vacant – Pastoral Carer

Applications are open for the above position at the Queensland Children's Hospital located in South Brisbane. The position is part-time, offering 8 hours per week. For additional information, please feel free to contact Judy Norris (Director – Pastoral Ministries) on 07 3324 3198. For a copy of the Position Description, please ask Seamus Baldwin at baldwins@bne.catholic.net.au

The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for workers to maintain a safe and healthy environment for children. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct working with children checks and background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children and young people (0 - 18 years) and/or vulnerable adults. The organisation is fully committed to child safety and has a 0 tolerance to abuse of children or vulnerable adults.

A simple click can make all the difference!

Did you see the recent 7.30 Report explaining the devastating effect of rising sea levels on the people of the Torres Strait Islands?

[https://www.abc.net.au/7.30/climate-change-part-1:-how-climate-change-is/13309038?](https://www.abc.net.au/7.30/climate-change-part-1:-how-climate-change-is/13309038?utm_medium=email&utm_source=actionkit)
[utm_medium=email&utm_source=actionkit](https://www.abc.net.au/7.30/climate-change-part-1:-how-climate-change-is/13309038?utm_medium=email&utm_source=actionkit)

Zenadth Kes (the Torres Strait Islands and surrounding seas) is home to Traditional Owners who have lived with a deep connection to land, sea, sky and culture for over 60,000 years. Right not, Torres Strait Islanders are on the frontlines on the climate crisis and urgent action is needed to ensure they can remain on their homelands. Advancing seas are already threatening homes as well as damaging fresh water supplies, crops, burial grounds and sacred sites.

Our Island Our Home is a campaign led by Torres Strait Islanders to protect their homes. As part of this, eight Torres Strait Islanders have taken a complaint against the Australian Government to the United Nations for, for failing to reduce our emissions and immediately resource adaptation needs. This is the world's first case of its kind.

You can help these people save their homes and their precious heritage from drowning, simply by writing a letter. Go to <https://ourislandsourhome.com.au/about-the-campaign/> and follow the links. You can send an e-letter to Warren Entsch, the local Member of Parliament, advocating for action against global warming. All it takes is a click of the mouse.

Scam emails are circulating again! Please disregard any emails from Fr Denis that may be asking for money or gift cards. Fr Denis will never email requesting money or 'favours' or any kind.

What's on this week at Stafford

Mon 26th	8.30am	Mass
Tues 27th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Wed 28th		
Thurs 29th	8.30am	Mass
Fri 30th	9:00am	Mass
Sat 1st	5.00pm	Mass with Livestream Zoom—see page 4 for details.
Sun 2nd	9.00am	Mass with Livestream Zoom—see page 4 for details.

Tennis Courts for Hire with lights

CHEAP RATES!

Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday



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

Margaret Roberts, Jim Corley, and all deceased Parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.

We pray for those recently deceased including:

Gordon Jardine, John Duncan, John Davis, Pina Padayhag, Barbara Tofoni, Janice Smith, Noel Davis, Shirley Coe, Barry Thompson, Michael Daley, Maria Vieira and Irene Johnson.

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

Doris Gant (Doris has had a fall, broken a bone and is recovering), Fay Barrett, Pam & Norm Ward, Isaac and Brendan Camille, Bob Devine, Nicole Dyer, Caitlyn Lengkeek, Rupert Officer Jnr, Brian Officer, Mary Axisa, Beryl Cowie nee Officer, Sonia & Fernando(snr) Palmer, Peter O'Donnell, Paul Glynn and Sonia Officer.

Live Stream Mass via Zoom

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81808532313>

Meeting ID: 818 0853 2313

Passcode: eucharist

One tap mobile

+61731853730,,81808532313#,,,*,698241838# Australia

+61861193900,,81808532313#,,,*,698241838# Australia

Dial by your location

+61 7 3185 3730 Australia

+61 8 6119 3900 Australia

Meeting ID: 818 0853 2313

Passcode: 698241838



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