



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."

The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ – Year B 5th/6th June, 2021

Our COMMUNION PROCESSION—Until we have another COVID crisis, you are invited to come own the **centre aisle in pairs.** (*Don't forget to sanitise your hands as you do please.*)

Euthanasia is a very current topic with lots of mis-information. It is a great tragedy that many do not realise the reality of **what Palliative Care can do** for a sick person AND their family and friends. Over the next couple of weeks, I'm re-printing an article by Archbishop Mark Coleridge in 2019. Here it is.:



FOR THE COMMON GOOD – LOVE IS STRONGER THAN DEATH

Thank you for this opportunity to discuss with you a matter of great concern to all Queenslanders, especially for a Church like ours, which has such a presence in health care and aged care.

I draw upon a long tradition of moral reflection, which reaches back to the Bible and beyond. The tradition has been enriched by philosophical and scientific advances through time, and it continues to grapple with new questions as life expectancy lengthens and medical technology develops.

Mine of course is not the only voice in the discussion, nor do I impute bad faith or evil intent to those who see things differently. We all want to be compassionate in difficult circumstances; we all value personal freedom. The difference is in the way we define what these mean in those circumstances; and in that task I am concerned to look beyond political expediency, economic myopia and ideological posturing. It's more a matter of helping to chart a wise and genuinely human course into the future in a way that learns from the past.

The Queensland Parliamentary Inquiry into aged care, end-of-life and palliative care, and voluntary assisted dying prompts reflection on the kind of society we want to be. And it should be self-evident from the outset that we should want to be a society that promotes and supports people's dignity and autonomy as far as possible as they age and approach the end of life. If we are not doing this, then we need to fix it.

On the issue of so-called 'voluntary assisted dying' (VAD), however, our reflection needs to be very deep and very careful. It cannot simply be about claim-

ing that this would respect free choice, or end suffering. Both human freedom and human suffering are deeply significant experiences. So, as a society, we need to tread lightly and carefully in making laws to ensure that our laws do not undermine freedom and dignity under the illusion that we are supporting them; we need to be careful not to cause more suffering, under the illusion that we are ending it.

First, however, it is worth being clear about what it is that we are considering. We are not talking about demanding that life be prolonged at all costs. Insisting that there is an obligation to preserve life at all costs is not consistent with a Catholic ethic. Life is a good, but it is neither absolute, nor the greatest good. Dying is part of life, and the ultimate good is God. The Catholic tradition has developed several important moral distinctions to help us to navigate this space over its history. For example, the Catholic tradition affirms that:

- ♦ a person can voluntarily stop treatment for a terminal illness that is judged to be overly burdensome or disproportionate.

- ♦ pain and suffering can be relieved, even if the medication intentionally administered for this purpose could have the foreseeable effect of hastening death.

- ♦ a person, together with their families and loved ones, should discuss their wishes in terms of care and their desire for potential lifeprolonging interventions should they become incompetent, and can document this in the form of an advanced care plan.

None of the above constitute so-called 'voluntary assisted dying', physician-assisted suicide or euthanasia,



and each of them is perfectly compatible with the Catholic faith. What's more, all of these scenarios should fit comfortably

within the spectrum of what should be provided in a properly funded Palliative Care system available on a state-wide basis. This is something Queensland has yet to achieve, and something that we should insist be made possible.

When we talk about so-called 'voluntary assisted dying', euthanasia, physician assisted suicide, or however else it's styled, we cannot avoid the fact that we are talking about the intentional killing of a person; nor can we avoid the fact that the supposed justification for this killing is because that person's life has been judged by themselves or by others to be not worth living.

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

1st Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

2nd Reading: Corinthians 5:6-10

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34



[Daily Mass Readings](#)

Against that background, we might consider questions such as these:

♦Is Queensland a community willing to allow our laws to declare some people's lives to be 'not worth living'?

♦Are we a community willing to abandon to a preventable situation those enduring extreme suffering so that they feel like their only way out is to actively end their lives?

♦Do we really expect those who are tasked with healing us, our doctors and nurses, to also engage in intentionally killing patients in their care?

♦Is it good that the terminally ill should feel as if they are a burden, or that they have some unexpressed obligation to choose death for the so-called 'greater good'?

♦Does the supposed cost of high-quality palliative care exempt us from the duty to offer it to everyone everywhere?

♦Or ... does this State want to be known for our love and care for the most vulnerable, which is the true measure of any society?

(Continued next week)

Congratulations to ALESSIA MURTAS who, at 9.00am Mass this weekend will be fully initiated into the Church through celebrating her first Communion! We the church thank her parents, David and Marta for their example and commitment to Alessia's faith.



We are hoping to restart our "cuppa", initially on the weekend the PPC makes its presentation and perhaps also to reintroduce our Christmas in July talks later this year. To do this, and to comply with regulations, we need a few people to complete a **TAFE Food Handling certificate**. There is no cost. It is done online and you can use a Parish Computer if you don't have your own. **If you are interested, give your name to one of the Parish Councillors or ring the office and tell Debra.** If you already have a **Covid safe work training for dining in certificate** and are interested in helping please let us know so we can add you to our food handlers register.



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<https://covidsafework.tafeqld.edu.au/course/126/covid-safe-work-training-for-dining-in>

National Reconciliation Week 27 May- 3 June 2021 <https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/>

This year marks twenty years of Reconciliation

Australia. *More than a word. Reconciliation takes action* urges all people to take up the challenge of brave and impactful action. The Reconciliation movement is 'at a tipping point', with Black Lives Matter protests and increasing numbers of Australians taking part in Invasion Day rallies nationwide, people are understanding the truth and voicing their call for action on issues affecting Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

More than a word. Reconciliation takes action calls on all Australians to take this awareness and knowledge and use it as a springboard to more substantive, brave and committed action.

The artwork commissioned by Reconciliation Australia was designed by Jessica Johnson.

The artist explains..." The artwork reflects our connection and mutual obligation to one another, community and Country. Through commonality and difference, we have the ability to come together and achieve real change.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples have been listening to the heart beat of the land and sea for generations. With their rainbow shaped souls the spirits ask for us to join and make reconciliation more than



a word, take action. We need to love one another and every aspect of the existing environment and community- we all have a role to play."

Elements of the Artwork

- Spirit souls= thinking/awareness
- The undulating landscape is shown through the contours at the base of the work
- Moons/planet= cycle and time
- Stars= navigation and knowing the way
- Boomerang= coming full circle. 20 boomerangs represent 20th anniversary of Reconciliation Australia
- Central river= the crying river represents the degradation/call for renewal.

BE CAREFUL OF FAKE EMAILS pretending to be from the parish and/or Denis Scanlan. Besides asking for gift cards or money, some are talking about "urgent tasks" and inviting you to reply.

“Your light must shine before all so that they may see goodness in your acts.” (Matthew 5:16) We should view our giving in gratitude to God by considering how blessed we are... using our gifts and talents for the good of others. A gift in any amount given through your Will benefits future generations of parishioners. For more information on naming Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish or our Endowment Fund in your Will, please call the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or call the parish office.



Discovering Sophia: God's Wisdom Within – A Quiet Weekend Retreat for Women

A Quiet Weekend with opportunity to explore our life story and our experiences of the wisdom growing within us since the moment of our birth...Sophia, the wisdom of God within. Come and experience a time of guided prayerful reflection.



Facilitated by Grace Harwood (Dragonfly Ministries)

Dates: Friday 18 June 6pm to Sunday 20 June 3pm

Place: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Wellington Street, Ormiston

Cost: \$370 (\$340 for pensioners, f/t students and unemployed) includes all accommodation, meals (an additional fee for special diets of any kind), resources, spiritual direction and facilitation.

To register or enquire contact:

grace@dragonflyministries.net.au or 0409 524 283

The Anna's Group is now open to ALL WIDOWS.

They meet on the **2nd Friday** of the month at the Coffee Club in Flockton Village at 12pm. Ladies will meet again at **12pm on 11th June** for lunch and be a support for each other. Good food and good conversation is guaranteed!!!



Contact Dianne 0407616637 for further information.

CARITAS APPEAL Our collection last weekend raised \$770.00 for this worthy cause. If you missed out you can still give using the link below.

Caritas Australia, in partnership with Caritas India, is providing support to vulnerable communities as the nation is devastated by massive increases in COVID-19 infection rates. The communities which Caritas works with are among the most vulnerable to COVID-19, with poor access to clean water and Personal Protective Equipment. <https://caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/asia-emergency-appeal/>.

“Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them and they all drank from it.” - MARK 14:23



Stewardship
a way of life

Jesus, the perfect steward, gave thanks, just before He gave Himself up for us, completely for our salvation. He offers us the same chance to drink from His cup. In the bread and wine, we meet Christ personally. If we follow Him, drinking from His cup means our own self-sacrifice, using all of our gifts for the benefit of others and to do His work on earth.



The **LITURGICAL MUSICIANS' TRAINING DAY** was held on Saturday 15th May at St Laurence's College. We were fortunate to have four dedicated musicians from our parish attend the day. It was a day of practical formation for liturgical musicians, run by people who are experts in the field. Several streams were on offer including vocal, choral, organ, keyboard, guitar, composition, orchestral, and congregational singing. We look forward to seeing the fruits of their labour! Thank you for giving your time and energy to attend this workshop.

Latte Ladies is a longstanding group in our community. They meet at Mocha Bella Café in the North West Plaza on Flockton St on 2nd Thursday of the month. All welcome to come along for a chat. For more details phone Truce 0403 726 584.



Annual Leave for Debra for the coming week. The office will be open but may be unattended at times. Sometimes Fr Denis is away from the office due to the nature of his work. For urgent matters, please phone first. If you get the answering machine, listen for the prompts to be connected to Fr Denis. If you have business that is not urgent, perhaps wait until my return on 14th June. Debra

HOLIDAYS



What's on this week at Stafford

Mon 7th	8.30am	Mass
Tues 8th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
	9.30am	Funeral Service for Joan Goldby
	7.00pm	Sacramental meeting for parents
Wed 9th		
Thurs 10th	8.30am	Funeral Mass for Joan Goldby
	9.45am	Latte Ladies (see above)
Fri 11th	9:00am	Mass
	12.00pm	Anna's Group
Sat 12th	5.00pm	Mass with Livestream Zoom—see page 4 for details.
Sun 13th	9.00am	Mass with Livestream Zoom—see page 4 for details.

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: Ben Campbell
APA: Leanne Murray
APRE: Kym Waters
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 and OCTOBER).

For BAPTISM BOOKINGS please contact the Parish Office.



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.

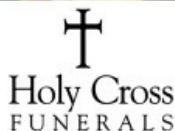


Let Us Pray

We pray for those who are unwell:

Crad Smith, Sr Dorothy, Glenda Honan, 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.

We pray for those recently deceased: Peter Rogers, Joan Goldby, John Dove, Maria Calini, S Khan, Dean Sarra, Nerida White, Faye Gundy, Laurence Rooney, Dorothy Jones, Gordon Jardine and **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Maud Menezes and all deceased parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.



The caring staff at Holy Cross Funerals assist families at the death of their loved ones, to ensure that the Funeral Services are conducted with dignity and compassion.

For however you choose to say goodbye.

*Burials *Cremations *Repatriations

*Pre-Arrangements *Funeral Bonds

Find us on 

www.holycrossfunerals.com

Phone: 07 3293 0555

Email: info@holycrossfunerals.com

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Dial by your location

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The Catholic Leader June issue is available now for \$4. Featured in this month's issue:

- Married couple of 31 years who faced extraordinary medical challenges talks faith and family
- Springfield sees eight parishioners step forward in public ministry including women acolytes and new deacon
- Meet the newest fully professed Sisters of St Paul de Chartres
- Focus on Marriage: resources and ministries in Brisbane for married couples
- Marlon Riley on Reconciliation

