



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."

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B 6th/7th November, 2021

Let the dead have November

The days immediately following Halloween bring with them a common complaint. Overnight, Christmas music starts playing on the radio stations and Christmas-themed displays appear in stores. Christmas creep, it seems, reaches further and further into autumn every year, leaving no time at all for Advent.

The thrust of most of these complaints is that by extending the Christmas season backward in this way, we lose the season of Advent — the fruits of joyful anticipation and preparation for the coming of the Christmas season.

This is certainly true, but there is another, less frequently noticed loser when Christmas starts on Nov. 1: the dead.

Today, Nov. 2, has been designated by the church as the feast of All Souls. The feast composes the second part of Allhallowtide, although, unlike the feast of All Saints, it is not a holy day of obligation.

In the West, the tradition of setting aside a day of prayer and commemoration for the dead dates back to St. Odilo of Cluny, who established it at his abbey in France in the 10th century. From there, the practice spread until it was officially adopted in the 14th century.

Traditions associated with the feast include placing the names of those to be remembered on the altar at Mass, and visiting the cemeteries where dead loved ones lie.

In time, the entire month of November became informally known as the month of the dead.

Twenty-first-century America is not especially comfortable with death. From the hospital to the mortuary, people make their passage out of this world through a series of specialized rooms: clean, spare, sterile and discreetly hidden from the living whom they might discomfit.

In *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes*, her memoir of working at a crematory, [Caitlin Doughty writes](#), "Dying in the sanitary environment of a hospital is a relatively new concept. In the late 19th century, dying at a hospital was reserved for people who had nothing and no one. Given the choice, a person wanted to die at home in their bed, surrounded by friends and family. But times have changed, and these days, of the half a million people who die each year in the UK, only 18 per cent do so in their home (although 60 per cent say they would like to, given the choice)."

The dying are hidden away, and death is made an alien, an abnormal occurrence, a pathogen to be contained. There is nothing familiar or intimate about death in our current approach.

This view of death is not without precedent, of course. The Bible refers to the "angel of death" who visits the houses of the Egyptians and passes over those of the Israelites. Death is truly otherworldly here — not merely a natural process, but an irruption of the judgment of God, destructive and implacable. The separation of the body and soul recalls original sin, and is the pinnacle of all its

consequent losses and griefs. It is not something we simply come to terms with; it is violent; it is a curse.

But all the clean, bright, clinical efficiency of our methods of managing death seems to suggest that it is a curse we can escape, an unfortunate accident for which there exists a specialized industry.

Nor is the funeral industry the only one dedicated to containing death. A rapidly burgeoning cohort of lifestyle experts like Amanda Chantal Bacon and Gwyneth Paltrow expounds to an eager audience on all the ways to remove impurities from food, the home, the body; how to purge and cleanse the taint of decay wherever it appears. If you spend enough money, if you try hard enough, says the promise implicit in the latest crop of wellness literature, you will live forever.

The obsession with clean living and clean eating echoes Levitical purity codes, but has no power to save. It was Christ's willingness to undergo death — Christ who alone of all humanity had the right to avoid it — that grafted us into his perpetual life. All of us were dead, until, like Lazarus, he called us and we rose up.



It's easy to see why we should pray for the souls of the dead. It's less obvious why we should bathe their bodies tenderly and sing over them, why we should sit up with them in the night, why we should inter them with ceremony and visit their graves bearing flowers that they cannot smell.

All human civilizations have their own careful prescriptions regarding the dead — how to honor or pacify them, how to be kept apart from their physical corruption. For Christians, though, extending charity beyond the grave is an imitation of Christ's mercy, which reached out to us even we were spiritually dead.

Burying the dead is one of the seven corporal works of mercy, but it is also a sign of hope in Christ's promise. The bodies of the dead are not discarded vessels, but integral parts of a human being that will be reunited on the last day. The separation is temporary, and they are still worthy of our respect and our love.

It may be tempting, during the month of November, to yield prematurely to the flashier and cozier charms of Christmas — to the jingle bells and stars in the east and merry gentlemen. But let the dead have November. Let them have this somber, chilly month, with its purple-gray skies and bare, windy trees. Say a prayer for all the departed during this month, and if you can, visit the resting places of your beloved dead.

We will be reunited in the world to come but, until then, it is good to grieve for the separation. It is good to hold those who have gone before both as objects of mercy and of reverence. To mourn as a Christian is to hold both the fullness of loss and the promise of restoration at once. And the promise will be fulfilled: "Blessed are those who mourn," says Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount, "for they shall be comforted."

[Clare Coffey lives in the Philadelphia area. She teaches kindergarten at a small Catholic school.] Article from Liturgy Brisbane.

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

1st Reading: Daniel 12:1-3

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14, 18

Gospel: Mark 13:24-32



Daily Mass Readings

GO ON AN INTENTIONAL ADVENT THIS YEAR

Looking for a way to engage with the Advent season? Get in early and order your \$5 copy of *New Life in Christ*, a new 28-day reflection resource. Written for busy individuals but easily adapted for groups, each day will include a scripture reading and a reflection. Place your order with Debra by phone or email.



QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC VIEW ON VACCINATION?

You can learn more about Pope Francis's recent encouragement to all to get vaccinated with approved

Covid-19 vaccines in the link below. Pope Francis referred to it as 'an act of love.' <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-08/pope-francis-appeal-covid-19-vaccines-act-of-love.html>

The Archdiocese of Brisbane supports COVID-19 vaccination except for those people with a valid medical exemption from their health professional.

For our vulnerable parishioners, rest assured that Fr Denis, Debra and Mark are all fully vaccinated for COVID-19.

Do you like a cuppa after Mass?

To make this happen on a regular basis we need more volunteers to complete the COVID SAFE TRAINING COURSE produced by TAFE QLD. This

is a free course and is done online. The course will take around 30 minutes to complete. A certificate is issued at the completion of the course.

Send the certificate to me, for our records and you will be able to assist in the preparation and service of morning tea and supper. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me and I will endeavour to assist you. The link to the course is here. Debra

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

Parish archive will begin again next Wednesday

Every one is most welcome to join in the working bee of sorting our parish archives of photos and other relics. I'd like to hear from any and all who are keen to join in the fun—which day is best for you? Tuesday or Wednesday?? Please give me a call or email. Debra



How Do I Live My Christianity From Day To Day?

Are you looking for an opportunity to deepen your ongoing spirituality? Were you baptised at birth? Have you been through the RCIA programme? Have you always been a churchgoer or have you at some stage in your life turned away from your faith? Whatever your age or background, the Cursillo Movement offers such an opportunity.

"The Cursillo Movement...." you may ask! For those of you who have never heard of Cursillo, it is a worldwide lay movement supported by the Church. Begun in Spain, Cursillo de Christianidad, means "a short course in Christianity" which offers a way to develop in our love, knowledge and experience of faith.

To learn more about Cursillo, keep reading future newsletters.

Passing on the flame Women's Gathering

All Catholic women in the Archdiocese of Brisbane are invited to 'Passing on the Flame' by Spirited Women, an evening of conversation as Catholic women

share their experience of church, their call to discipleship, phases of life, and challenges and their hopes for the Church of the future.

The night will include a networking opportunity and a multigenerational guest panel of Catholic women who will inspire us with their stories (Jan Heath, Natalie Lindler, and Olivia Brown).

Details:

Time: 5:45pm – 8pm

Date: Thursday 25th November (this is a new date due to previous COVID postponement)

Location: Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre (249 Elizabeth Street Brisbane City)

Cost: \$20 (\$15 for concession)

For more information or to register, head to <https://app.tickets.org.au/eb/spiritedwomen>

Sistine Chapel Exhibition October 27—January 2, 2022

Take a life-size up-close perspective of Michaelangelo's Sistine Chapel. With special expertise and care, the ceiling paintings from the Chapel have been reproduced in a truly unique way using high-definition photos. Visitors are given a way to engage with the artwork in ways that were never before possible; seeing every detail, every brushstroke, and every colour of the artists 34 frescoes.

Tickets: Adults for \$22 per person;

VIP Adult \$28 per person;

Seniors or students \$17.60 per person,

VIP Senior or Student \$23;

Children for \$15.50 per person

Venue: The Ice Cream Factory, Level 2, West Village, 97 Boundary Road, West End 4101

PASSING ON
THE FLAME



MICHELANGELO'S
SISTINE
CHAPEL
EXHIBITION

Latte Ladies are a group of parishioners who gather for coffee and conversation on a regular basis. They will meet again this Thursday 11th November at 9.45am at Mocha Bella Café, North West Plaza, Flockton Street, Everton Park. All Welcome.

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 12th November for lunch and be a support for each other. Good food and good conversation is guaranteed!!! Contact Dianne 0407616637 for further information.



Information Day for potential Cathedral Guides and Welcomers

The guides and welcomers' group at The Cathedral of St. Stephen warmly invite you to attend an Information Day on becoming a tour guide and/or a welcomer at the Cathedral.

When: Saturday 27th November 2021 from 10 am to 2pm. Refreshments provided

Where: Hanly room, Francis Rush Centre, Cathedral of St. Stephen, Elizabeth St.

The Information day is open to anyone, eg: retired people who may be missing the sense of community and camaraderie which working life brings, teachers perhaps who may be retiring at the end of the year, or anyone with some spare time on their hands who desires becoming part of a friendly and supportive team of Cathedral guides and welcomers.

We look forward to welcoming you. Please register your interest with Carmel Devery at the Cathedral Office on 07 3324 3006 or by emailing deveryc@bne.catholic.net.au

Is God's will in your Will?

Including the church in your Will teaches others about giving back to God for the blessings He has given you. With your wishes expressed in a Will, the ministries of Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish can be blessed. Your gift can also impact our parish in perpetuity by supporting our parish endowment fund. Contact the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 for more information or call the parish office.



"I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they all contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, her whole living." (Mark 12:43-44)

Jesus gets right to the point – we are all called to give money to support the mission of the Church, regardless of our circumstance. No gift is too small or insignificant! Giving money to support the mission of our local parish is a matter of our faith, just like praying and participating in parish ministries. When you make a financial offering, is it from your "first fruits" or from what is "left over"?



Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Prevention and Protection Policy

Children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God

with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security

from physical and emotional harm.

They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded.

This means that everyone in the church must ensure that the fundamental rights of children, young people and vulnerable adults are respected. This will be achieved through the development of respectful relationships and a commitment to safety, embracing appropriate boundaries, behaviours and practices, in accordance with the Archdiocese of Brisbane's Code of Ethical Behaviour for employees and volunteers who work in service of the Church, as well as adherence to the legislative imperatives of the State.

Safeguarding Principles

- ♦ Safeguarding is a shared responsibility.
- ♦ Treat everyone with dignity and respect.
- ♦ Prioritise the protection and best interests of children and adults-at-risk.
- ♦ Provide safe physical and online environments.
- ♦ Actively identify and manage safeguarding and abuse risks.
- ♦ Monitor compliance with safeguarding standards, policies, and procedures.
- ♦ Respond promptly and effectively to abuse concerns, suspicions, disclosures, complaints, reports, and incidents.
- ♦ Comply with all legal obligations to report suspected abuse and harm.



What's in the diary this week at Stafford?

Mon 8th	8.30am	Mass
Tues 9th	8.30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Wed 10th	10.00am	Parish Archive Gathering
Thurs 11th	8.30am	Mass
Fri 12th	9.00am	Mass
Sat 13th	5.00pm	Mass with Livestream Zoom
Sun 14th	9.00am	Mass with Livestream Zoom

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 Local Safeguarding Representative:

Helen Royan Phone 0407 372 540

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

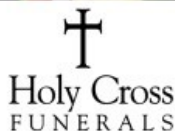
We pray for those who are unwell:

Carolyn Bohl, Noel Cavanagh, Margaret Blumke, Timothy Wilson, Graham Evans, Fr Paul Glynn, Bruce Willson, Veronica Nicholson, Don Al-lerta, Maurice & Alison Drake, Bob Devine, Jose Pitts, Brian Wellman, Luca de Pascalis de Moraes, Rose Ann Takas, Nicki Goodman, Caitlyn Lengkeek, Fay Barrett, Norm Ward,

We pray for those recently deceased: Joan Low, Glen Stevens, David Connors, Marcelle Zarrouk, Mary 'Monica' Harland, Peter Glasby, Francisco Ali-viano, May Smith, Patrick Sommerville, Peter O'Donnell, Jim Henry, Tom Lynch,

And those whose anniversaries occur at this

time: Bienvenido Tolentino, Colette Horn, Harriet Ketter 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

An Outreach of the Catholic Church

Funerals with Faith

Live Stream Mass via Zoom

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

[https://zoom.us/j/93315882077?](https://zoom.us/j/93315882077?pwd=Vko3TIQ0TnFUUHRva2xnRTlmY2tWUT09)

[pwd=Vko3TIQ0TnFUUHRva2xnRTlmY2tWUT09](https://zoom.us/j/93315882077?pwd=Vko3TIQ0TnFUUHRva2xnRTlmY2tWUT09)

Meeting ID: 933 1588 2077 **Passcode:** eucharist7

One tap mobile

+61370182005,,93315882077#,,,,*5210026787# Australia

Dial by your location

+61 3 7018 2005 Australia

+61 8 7150 1149 Australia

Meeting ID: 933 1588 2077 Passcode: 5210026787 Find your local number: [https://zoom.us/j/93315882077?](https://zoom.us/j/93315882077?pwd=Vko3TIQ0TnFUUHRva2xnRTlmY2tWUT09)



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

- ♦ Ipswich teenagers stepping up to make faith in God part of their lives
- ♦ Brisbane-based online evangelisation platform tackles key questions of faith
- ♦ Brisbane couples share joys, blessings of long, loving marriages
- ♦ Eucharistic revival is the key to Church's future
- ♦ Shanelle Bennett knows the privilege of loving others to the hour of death
- ♦ Opening up day by day to the counsel of the saints
- ♦ Catholic women to "tune in to the voice of God" for "Something Beautiful".
- ♦ All Saints and All Souls – praying for those in heaven and commemorating and praying for the dead.

