



Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish—Stafford

A Parish of the Brisbane North West Deanery

Vision: "To follow the example of Jesus in word, deed and service."

The ASCENSION of the LORD 11th–12st May 2024

Fr Joe's Reflection - The Ascension of the Lord

The Ascension of the Lord and Us!

This Sunday we commemorate the feast of the Ascension of the Lord. We celebrate that Jesus assumed fully into his divine glory. For forty days after the Resurrection, the Risen Lord eat, drank and taught the Apostles, but his glory was veiled by his humanity. In the Ascension, Jesus enters fully into his Kingdom and is now seated at the right-hand of Father. Through Jesus all of humanity is invited into the heavenly realm.

The traditional site for the Ascension is on the Mount of Olives described in the by Prophet Zechariah (Zech 14) as the place where the Lord will stand, transforming the world, and be acknowledged as King of the earth.

The ancient view of heaven was that it was beyond the sphere of the stars and that heaven was up! What is expressed in the Bible is that Jesus has now taken up his role as King. He however, is not absent from this world. The veil between heaven and earth is very thin. *The Kingdom of God is near!*

The Ascension is part of a two way process. Not only is humanity beginning its journey of entering heaven, through Christ, but the divine transformation of the earthly world is to continue through the Holy Spirit. We are being invited to participate in the *theosis* (divinisation) of the created order, begun in Christ and continued through the action of the Holy Spirit. *Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as in heaven.*

In Eucharist we stand in the presence of Christ. Jesus is not absent. We are reminded he shares with us his Body and Blood. We are connected beyond the veil separating heaven and earth. We and all of creation are being perfected and formed into an image of Christ Crucified.

In the Ascension Christ places on us, his disciples, a renewed responsibility. We are not called to watch from the side-lines God's transformation of the world. We are called to be participants in Christ's work. To proclaim the Good News in word and service. This is not a political, economic or activist project but the work of faith, hope and love.

Fr Joe McKay OFM



To all mums, grandmas, aunts, sisters, friends, teachers and all other women mothering children in their own special ways,
Happy Mother's Day!

Life doesn't
come with
a manual it
comes with a
mother

SPECIAL Supper and Cuppa after each mass this weekend.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2024

"You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbour as yourself"
(Luke 10:27)

Children's Liturgy of The Word

CLOW

every third weekend
MASSES
5pm (Saturday)
9am (Sunday)

"Let the little children come to me ..."

Queen of Apostles Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) occurs during the third weekend masses of the month. Children from four years of age upwards are invited to reflect on the Gospel through prayer, song and age appropriate activities. Volunteer leaders are current blue card holders and have completed all Archdiocese safeguarding requirements and training. We welcome your children to come and be a part of this important ministry. **From the CLOW Q of A team**

USUAL Supper | Morning Tea

After Third Weekend Masses
(18th) Saturday 5pm Mass
(19th) Sunday 9am Mass

Cuppa Cake

Please email the parish office at stafford@bne.catholic.net.au



Next Week's Readings

Pentecost Sunday 18-19 May

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34

Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Second Reading: Galatians 5:16-25

The fruit of the Spirit Christ.

Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

The Spirit of truth will guide you into all the truth.



What's on in the coming week at QoA parish?

Mon 13 th	8.30am	Mass
Tues 14 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Thu 16 th	8.30am	Mass
Fri 17 th	9.00am 9.30am	Mass Laudato Si Chaplet
Sat 18 th	4.00pm 5.00pm	Reconciliation Pentecost Sunday Supper after Mass Bring and Buy Table
Sun 19 th	9.00am	Pentecost Sunday Anointing & Cuppa after Mass Bring and Buy Table



Care for Creation

Friday, 17th May 9.30am (following Mass)

Laudato Si' Chaplet in the Contemplation Garden followed by morning tea

Saturday/Sunday 18th - 19th May

Bring and Buy Table We invite you to bring along a small item to place on our table and to purchase a treasure. All funds will support the Australian Conservation Foundation.

Jewellery+Bric a Brac+Fresh garden produce+Books=Support WWF



Thursday, 23rd May

'Ecosophia' Explore the interrelation between energy, the economy, resources, population, psychology, spirituality, the biosphere and the limits to growth and climate change.

Watch the trailer here: [https://vimeo.com/ondemand/ecosophia/906135692?](https://vimeo.com/ondemand/ecosophia/906135692?autoplay=1)



autoplay=1

Registration link:

https://caritas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsdOysrzgtG9L6Hrvlkr0Z1upYS6muj_OW



Sunday, 26th May

Australia's Biggest Bushwalk Fundraiser

This year, our action in support of bio-diversity will be to participate in the Australian Conservation Foundation, Australia's Biggest Bushwalk fundraiser. We will gather on **Sunday 26th May, 10.30am Downfall Creek Reserve, Rode Road**. Bring a picnic morning tea and join in our walk. We are offering a wheelchair/pram friendly walk that will take you around a 500mt circuit, where you can take in the sights, sounds and smell of the bush. For those who would like to stretch their legs, we will take a 4km return walk following the bush paths to Huxtable Park.

You may wish to ask for sponsors for your walk, or simply make a donation. We are aiming for a \$300 funds effort!

<https://www.australiasbiggestbushwalk.org.au/about>





The Society of Jesus in Australia
Care for our Common Home Committee



Ideas to Inspire **Laudato Si' Week** May 19-26 2024

Theme: **Seeds of Hope**

Quotes and reflections this week to inspire us to be Seeds of Hope in our world, rooted in faith and love.

Pope Francis in Laudato si' (LS)	Reflection to Action
 <p>Our food</p> <p>"There is a great variety of small-scale food production systems which feed the greater part of the world's peoples" LS #129</p>	<p>Food that is grown locally and that is 'in season' has a lower cost to the environment.</p> <p>Can you grow some of your food in pots, in your garden or at a local community garden?</p>
 <p>Our consumption</p> <p>"A world of exacerbated consumption is at the same time a world which mistreats life in all its forms" LS #230 Plastic waste is an especially serious symptom of over-consumption. How can you use citizens' power to spur governments and businesses to reduce plastics?</p>	<p>*In Australia, water must be treated as a scarce and precious resource.</p> <p>*How can you embed water-saving practices?</p>

Please pray for Earth:

Adapted from Joseph Carver's Ecological Examen

All creation reflects the beauty and blessing of God's image: in our climate, the weather that shapes our planet, the seasons that give a rhythm to our life, and our own internal fluctuations of these today?

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land on which we live, work and worship.

"EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED" by Rick Dalmau

The Ascension of Jesus and the Trinity's leadership of all creation in our Christian story. To quote Susana Moreira from the Laudato Si' Movement from her article, *Celebrating Ascension Sunday in the context of Laudato Si' Week*, "What does it mean to be Christ's witnesses to the earth's remotest ends? The disciples felt a bit lost and "were still staring into the sky as he went (Acts 1:10). Why are you Galileans standing here looking into the sky?" So a new challenge arises for the disciples (read 'us'): to look at the Earth again, but this time with a renewed gaze that will be empowered by the power of the Holy Spirit." <https://laudatosimovement.org/news/celebrating-ascension-sunday-in-the-context-of-laudato-si-week/> Looking at Laudato Si' week themes in the Australian context, we are encouraged by the Australian Bishops office of Justice, Ecology and Peace to renew our commitment to respond to the cries of the earth and the cries of the poor by tapping into the ecological wisdom of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Australia and Indigenous Peoples everywhere.

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2024/04/30/laudato-si-week-2/>

Focussing in even more locally on country we can listen to local Elders Stories from Moreton Bay Libraries: <https://ourstory.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/nodes/view/28514?keywords=>

NATIONWIDE ROSARY

Saturday 25th May 2024

To honour
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
Patroness of Australia



To be held at

Parish: Our Lady, Queen of Apostles

Address: 70 Appleby Road, Stafford 4053

From 2:00pm to 4:00pm EST

Come on Australia, let us stand together in strength and unity to pray the Rosary all as one and ask our Holy Mother for protection and guidance in these troubled times. You can invite family and friends from other countries to join on this day via **ZOOM LINK** and **MEETING ID** for logging in: <https://bit.ly/437MVsu> OR ENTER

Meeting ID: 443 363 1440 and Passcode: eucharist via the Zoom app

RSVP by signing up at the back of the church or call (3356 7155) or email (stafford@bne.catholic.net.au) for catering purposes, thanks:)

RCIA

Formation Day

A NEW WAY

Sunday 26 May | 1-4pm

Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre
Charlotte St, Brisbane City



In person and livestream options available

Scan code to register or visit www.tinyurl.com/RCIA-FD24

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Stafford parish offers a program called the RCIA, Right of Christian Initiation of Adults, that helps people learn about the Catholic faith and their relationship with God. The program is for newcomers to the Christian faith, members of other Christian churches that would like to become Catholic and baptized Catholics who have not received confirmation or holy communion but would like to become full members of the church. **If you or anyone you know would like more information, contact the parish office by telephone or email.**



Brisbane Cursillo Movement

Ladies, do you find it hard to live a Christian life in our evermore secular society? Can Christianity live and grow here in our world now? **The Cursillo Movement believes so.** What a Cursillo offers is an encounter with Christ, and it is through this encounter that you are offered a method to deepen your spirituality, so it can be lived and shared in any area of life in an ongoing manner. Cursillo is a movement of the Catholic Church that uses a three-day live-out experience to share its message and method with you.

We will be holding our weekend at **Our Lady of the Southern Cross Parish, Springfield Lakes, Qld**
Friday May 17 to Sunday May 19, 2024.

For more information or an application form contact

IGNITE CONFERENCE 24

RISE UP!



A BOLD VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH

A NATIONAL CATHOLIC CONFERENCE WITH SOMETHING EVERYONE

BRISBANE
19-22 SEPTEMBER

igniteconference.com.au

IGNITE HIGH PROGRAM

Stafford Parish and Franciscans will help subsidise a group of young people from our parish to attend the Conference. The Early Bird full price is \$305pp.

If interested please contact Fr Joe McKay by 9th June

See igniteconference.com.au for further details

SACRAMENTS of CONFIRMATION and FIRST COMMUNION



QR code

or

link below for Enrolment

[Stafford Parish Sacramental Program Enrolment Form](#)

Closing date to register:

THURSDAY, 13th June

For more info, pls email:

qoasacs@hotmail.com

OUR LADY, QUEEN OF APOSTLES INTERNATIONAL

FOOD FEST

save the date

Saturday 8th June – 6pm

PLEASE BRING FOOD FROM YOUR CULTURE TO SHARE

Diversity is a night of food and fun!
Your dish can be savoury or sweet. Places are limited so register early on the provided clipboards.

STAMPS FOR MARIST MISSIONS:

ALL STAMPS -used or unused, Australian or Overseas. They can be left in the specially marked wooden box to the left of the main Church entry. Thank you & God bless!



ONLINE TENNIS COURT BOOKING FOR CASUAL HIRE

Click link below:

www.tennisvenues.com.au/booking/stafford-parish-tennis-courts

or scan:



[Terms and Conditions](#)

You may have heard the exciting news that from 1 November 2023 we will be accepting glass wine and spirit bottles for a 10c refund. How good!



Stafford Parish Scheme ID:

C10195625



Our Parish PIETY Shop



Please call the Parish office 3356 7155 if you would like to have a look on a Monday, Tuesday or Friday or after weekend Masses. Thank you.

Are you a VISITOR or do not carry cash? You can help our Parish's Good works. A "Smart Terminal" is at the front door. CHOOSE ONE of the pre determined amounts OR your own preferred Amount and THEN "tap and go"



OUR MISSION
We donate 50% of our profits to ensure everyone has access to clean water and a toilet within our lifetime

And with your help, we'll get there.



WE'VE DONATED OVER...

\$11,222,000 AUD

It's incredible! But we still have a long way to go.

Available at the parish office:

*Toilet paper roll: \$2 Paper Towel: \$3.5 Tissue: \$2

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 Joseph McKay OFM
Parish Priest's E-mail: mckayj@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish Secretary: Tisha King Office Telephone: 3356 7155
Office Hours: Mon, Tues & Fri: 9am-3pm

QR code to access   site:



Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR):

Helen Royan - Email: lsr.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au
(Archdiocese Office for Safeguarding Services: 07 3324 3752)

STOpline Service: 1300 304 550 or

AOB@stopline.com.au

SAFEGUARDING INCIDENT REPORT FORMS may be accessed from the brochure table which is at the left front corner of the church.

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles School Contacts

Address: 10 Thuruna Street, Stafford
School email: pstafford@bne.catholic.edu.au
School Principal: Troy Parsons
APRE: Megan Conroy
APLE: Leonie McCormack
Phone (Thuruna St): 3352 9200 Phone (Chuter St): 3326 0400

BAPTISMS are celebrated at 10.30am on the **Third Sunday of each Month.**

For **BAPTISM BOOKINGS**, contact the Parish Office.

Further information on our website:

<https://bit.ly/3VHHQ62>



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you are **going to the hospital unexpectedly** for an op OR develop a **serious illness**, let Fr Joe know and we can celebrate this Sacrament beforehand. Celebrations of this Sacrament are on the **THIRD WEEKEND** of each Month. You may add a sick person's name to the list by phoning the Parish Office (3356 7155).



NOTE: To keep our "unwell 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. Thank you.

Let Us Pray

We pray for those who are unwell:

Diane Stevens, Esther Decklam, Nicki Goodman, Celestino Garcia, Felicisima Medrano, Brian Scanlan, Sr Madonna F.M.M, Eileen Matthews, Madelynn Martin, Frank & Maria Pirrotina, Bob & Tim Willson, Bunny Vargas, Miguella Savellon, Sr Patricia Coyle, Zina Di Mauro, Sr Catherine Hefferan rsc, Bev Lofgren, Gerard McGrory, Sr Dorothy Bayliss, & Rachel Oxenham.



We pray for those recently deceased:

Ted Cavanagh, Bob Devine, & Edward Taylor.

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Gloria O'Donnell, Shirley Fay Robertson, Margaret O'Kane and our other deceased parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.



Weekend Masses are **streamed live on Zoom**. Click

[Link to Zoomed Stafford Weekend](#) OR enter

Meeting ID: 443 363 1440 and Passcode: *eucharist*

via the Zoom app.