

# Surfers Paradise Catholic Parish

50 FAIRWAY DRIVE, CLEAR ISLAND WATERS, QLD 4226

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8.30am-5pm. Tuesday 8.30am-4.30pm

PHONE: (07) 5572 5433 MASS TIMES: (07) 5595 8466 FAX: (07) 5572 5262

EMAIL: surfers@bne.catholic.net.au WEB: www.surfersparadiseparish.com.au

**ONE PARISH  
three churches**

**Sacred Heart**  
50 Fairway Drive,  
Clear Island Waters

**St Vincent's**  
40 Hamilton Avenue,  
Surfers Paradise

**Stella Maris**  
254 Hedges Avenue,  
Broadbeach

## **PASTORAL**

**Very Reverend**  
**Fr Tim Harris**  
Parish Priest & Dean  
of South Coast Deanery

**Fr Nicholas Okafor**  
Associate Pastor

**Fr Regimon Gervasis**  
MCBS  
Associate Pastor

**Helen Goldsmith**  
Pastoral Ministry  
Coordinator

## **PARISH STAFF**

**Sonya Slater**  
Parish Manager

**Marylou Ayres**  
Parish Secretary

**Angela Williams**  
Atrium Coordinator

**Shannon Morrison**  
Atrium Assistant

## **SCHOOLS**

**St Vincent's School**  
Clear Island Waters  
Phone: 5572 1746  
P: Kerry Rowlands

**St Kevin's School**  
Benowa  
Phone: 5539 4522  
P: Peter Anderson

**St Michael's College**  
Merrimac  
Phone: 5530 2722  
P: Michael Nayler

## **1st SUNDAY IN LENT — YEAR C**

**13th / 14th FEBRUARY 2016**

**Dear Parishioners and Visitors,**

**This year's Lenten Season, a double period of God's mercy!**

The season of Lent is here again: a season of inward looking and spiritual stock taking. That grace-filled season when we make our own the question God asked Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden; "where are you"? (Gen 3: 9). The tone with which God asked Adam and Eve this question showcased that He was not only asking them of the whereabouts of their physical location, He was more interested in knowing where they were in their relationship with him. Lent becomes a time when we ask ourselves where we are not only in our relationship with God but, more importantly, where we are in our relationship with our neighbour because the way we are relating to our brothers and sisters is a paradigm for how we are relating to God. "Anyone who says 'I love God' and hates his brother (and sister) is a liar, since whoever does not love his brother (and sister) whom he can see cannot love God whom he has not seen" (1 Jn 4:20).

Lent is a time of *metanoia*, a time we Christians ask ourselves deep questions on how we are going in our spiritual journey. As pilgrims, our body can be muddy since we are continuously on a journey that is full of ups and downs. The Church provides us the time of Lent to cleanse ourselves and make a U-turn from any way we are not measuring up in our faith journey.

This year's Lenten Season is very special. I see it as a "double period" of God's mercy. Mercy has been central to Pope Francis' pontificate. In fact, I call him "the Pope of Mercy". His metaphors for the Church as a "mother" and a "field hospital" for sinners testify to this.

This central theme of Pope Francis was manifested when he called for an extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy: starting from the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception last year to the Feast of Christ the Universal King this year. In as much as we experience God's mercy everyday of our lives, in this year of "penitential journey" and "spiritual conversion" we are called upon to think deep on how we have been making use of the opportunities God through the Church, has offered to us to tap into his ocean of mercy.

An ocean of mercy that is so deep that we can neither exhaust nor say we have had enough of it. The mercy of God never ceases; it is constantly available for us. Through Jesus "the face of the Father's mercy", God reaches out to us and showers his mercy on us. Like Pope Francis says "Our sins never scare Him" because "God's mercy is always greater than any sin, and no one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive".

God forgives and forgets. God forgives all, and forgives always". He always says to us: "Come now, and let us reason together," "Though your sins are as scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool" (Is 1:18). God is never tired of showing us his mercy. Mercy is a sign of "God's omnipotence".

In Lent, God's mercy is made more tangible and visible. Lent assures us of a God who "welcomes every one of us and goes out personally to encounter us": a Father who can sacrifice anything to better the life of His children. "He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him?" (Rom. 8:32).

The mercy of God reached its culmination on Cavalry when Jesus said *Consummatum est* (it is finished) and breathed his last. That is a practical way of expressing mercy. "Jesus never gives up until he forgives the wrong and overcomes rejection with compassion and mercy". "With how much love Jesus looks at us! With how much love He heals our sinful heart!"

**May we make maximum use of this wonderful opportunity offered us by this double period of God's mercy!**

**Fr Nicholas Okafor, Associate Pastor**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT  
YEAR C**

**READINGS:** Deuteronomy 26: 4-10; Romans 10: 8-13; Luke 4: 1-13

**FEASTS:** n/a

**NEXT WEEK:** 2nd Sunday of Lent: Gen 15: 5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 9:28-36

**REFLECTION**

*Today's readings focus on the mystery of God who partakes in our humanity. The first reading is considered one of the most important passages of the Pentateuch, a credal statement that recalls God's special favour and the people's acknowledgement of that favour as the very centre of their existence.*

*The second reading from Romans, also an early confession of faith, emphasises that Jesus and his resurrection stand at the centre of our faith and our identity. Jesus through his incarnation represents all humanity and he experienced in his life the effects of sin. Paul tells us that faith plays a central role in overcoming this.*

*These reverberations of sin are exemplified in the temptations Jesus experiences in the desert. The temptations are subtle compromises so that Jesus' mission will be less burdensome. The choices offered to Jesus could draw him into different directions but he shows himself God's faithful son and does not divert from God's mission by love of pleasure, riches or power. By choosing to humbly rely on God alone he exemplifies the right response of a person of faith, acknowledging God's special favour.*

**PRAYER: Be with me Lord when I am in trouble.**



**EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY  
SEAT OF MERCY FOR SOUTH COAST DEANERY  
SACRED HEART CHURCH,  
50 FAIRWAY DRIVE, CLEAR ISLAND WATERS.**

Archbishop Mark Coleridge has designated Sacred Heart Church as a pilgrimage church of mercy. The Holy Door was opened on 12 February and anyone who passes through the Holy Door is able to obtain special graces by: celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation; Holy Eucharist with a reflection on mercy; profession of faith (Creed); a prayer for the intentions of the Pope (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be).

**Additional Reconciliation times have been made available at Sacred Heart:  
Friday from 10.00am to 11.30am and from 5.00pm to 6.30pm  
Commencing Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> February**

*It is encouraged that all the faithful take this opportunity to deepen their spiritual lives in the Jubilee of Mercy.*

**SEASON OF LENT:** Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised. Other celebrations in Lent (e.g. marriage) must take account of the spirit of penance: musical instruments are only used to sustain singing and floral decorations are very simple. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year. (CCL 97, 1251-52).

**FULL SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA OVER 30 WEEKS IN DAILY LIFE**

Discover God's unique love and desire for you through a journey of scripturally based prayer and individual direction. Applications are now being received for commencement in March 2015. [www.faberspirituality.org.au](http://www.faberspirituality.org.au) Helen Goldsmith PH: 0412 894 356.

**RITE OF ELECTION:** This Sunday 14 February, all people who are preparing for full initiation into the Catholic Church at the Easter ceremonies will gather with their godparents, catechists and families at the Cathedral of St Stephen for the Rite of Election. At this ritual, the Church acknowledges the readiness of the catechumens for the sacraments of initiation and the catechumens, who now become 'the elect', declare their commitment to enter into a period of intense spiritual preparation for initiation at Easter. Our thoughts and prayers are with our elect Claudine, Grant & Kayla and our candidates Tracey, Terri, Nicole, Diahann and Sue during this special time in their journey of faith.

**AVAILABILITY FOR EASTER SERVICES:** Please let me or any of the roster co-ordinators know if you are available for the Easter ceremonies. **Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper and the Easter Vigil, Saturday night, are full parish celebrations.** Those on the Sacred Heart, St Vincent's and Stella Maris rosters are invited, and encouraged, to assist at these ceremonies. Ph. Helen 5572 5433 or you can email to [helenpastoral@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:helenpastoral@bne.catholic.net.au)

**IN THE RELIGIOUS GOODS SHOPS:** The **LITTLE BLACK BOOK** is your companion for Lent. Each page contains a short reflection on the Gospel of the day while the other has a variety of quotes, information and timely thoughts. **Available now \$4 each.**

**PRAYING THE ROSARY:** The statue of Our Lady will be at the home of **Nini Inze of Labrador** commencing Monday **15th of February 2016**. Please phone Maxine or Patrick Sela on 55399539 and invite Our Lady to your home for a week. If you are unable to collect the statue due to transport problems we can deliver the statue to you. **Thank you, Pat & Maxine**

The monthly meeting of the **Gold Coast Lay Carmelites** is held on the 3rd Sunday at **Sacred Heart Parish Hospitality Centre, Clear Island Waters** at 10.30am. **Our next meeting will be Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2016.** The theme for this meeting is 'The Lay Carmelite Statutes'. All are welcome. There is no fee but please bring a plate to share a light lunch. Contact Norm Harding **0421125575** ([ave.olmc@outlook.com](mailto:ave.olmc@outlook.com)) to confirm your attendance or to make further inquiries.

## What's happening in the Parish

### CAR-PARKING AT ALL CHURCHES

You are reminded to observe and comply with road and parking rules within the Church grounds. Particularly, parking in disabled bays and ensuring access to exits is unobstructed. Please ensure you are not obstructing another cars ability to exit as sometimes people need to leave early during a service or in case of an emergency or health-related issue. Your attendance to this serious issue is appreciated.

### Receiving Communion in Our Parish

We welcome our visitors and ask all to respect the Universal Church practice of receiving the Lord's Body and Blood. The Body of Christ is received on the hand or the tongue and the Blood of Christ is received by drinking from the chalice. We kindly ask you to refrain from dipping the host into the chalice if this is your custom.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2015-2016:** A reminder to families enrolled in the **CURRENT** Sacramental Process. Parent Information sessions on the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist are scheduled for **Wednesday 17th February** in Sacred Heart Church, either 9.30am, 1.30pm or 6.30pm. Children are welcome, but it is not essential for them to be present as the sessions are aimed at the parents.

### MORNING TEA after 8.30AM MASS AT STELLA MARIS CHURCH

For a great opportunity to meet other Parishioners of Stella Maris Church please join us **after the 8.30am Mass this Sunday** for a cup of Tea or Coffee. It will be served in the Meeting Room just to the rear of the Reconciliation Room.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD:** Fortnightly at 8.30am Mass at Stella Maris Church, Broadbeach commencing this Sunday 14th February and at the 9.00am Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters every Sunday during School Term.

### COMMUNION MINISTRY TO OUR NURSING HOMES

We are currently looking for a Minister of Communion who would like to become a volunteer to take Communion to the Catholic residents at BUPA Nursing Home, at Glenhaven Court, Merrimac. The current need is for someone who would be available on the **1st Thursday of each month from 9.30am for approximately 1-1.5 hours**. If you would like to become involved in this wonderful Ministry would you give the Parish Office a call on 5572 5433 and we will put you in contact with the Ministry Coordinator.



All high-schoolers and young adults are welcome! Come along to Venire for a fun and faith filled night. We meet on Thursdays from 6:30-8:30pm at the Parish Hospitality Centre.

As we make our way through Lent and our Mercy series, we will touch base this week on the Biblical understanding of Mercy. Join us this Thursday as we explore this theme, discuss and reflect through talks, small groups and engaging activities. We hope to see you there! Please RSVP to Steph via 0411669876, or through [facebook.com/venireyouth](https://www.facebook.com/venireyouth)



### CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE FRIENDSHIP DAY

10am to 2.00pm

Thursday 18th February in the

Parish Hospitality Centre, Clear Island Waters

Usual Fun and Cards of your choice

\$5 entrance, Raffle and Lucky Door Prizes

**All Welcome**

Contact Irene Ross 5562 1260 for more information



### PREP ENROLMENTS 2017

2017 Prep enrolment applications are now being accepted for St Vincent's Primary School at Clear Island Waters. Any existing or new family who has a child ready for Prep in 2017 should ensure their enrolment form is submitted by **Friday 26 February**.

**LIBRARY NEWS:** LENT is the big news this week. Readers can be specially blessed in this Jubilee Year of Mercy. Our display includes, "Day by Day through Lent" books; reflections by Pope Francis; books on Reconciliation, the Mass and the big ticket - MERCY!

**BOOK CLUB** members are reminded of our meeting TUESDAY 16TH FEBRUARY at 12 noon. We will be discussing the popular classic "Breakfast at Tiffany's".

THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP GROUP WILL MEET FOR LUNCH AT THE KAMPUNG MALAY RESTAURANT, CNR MARKERI ST AND ROBINA PARKWAY, ROBINA QUAYS. LUNCH WILL BE AT 12 NOON ON THURSDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2016.

ALL WELCOME. LEONA 5538 7070

Monday to Friday 7.30am  
to 3.30pm at Sacred  
Heart Church  
PH: 0435 721 258  
Catering Options available



RELIABLE PARISHIONER AVAILABLE IN BROADBEACH WATERS FOR IRONING. PLEASE CALL MRS BLANCHARD ON 0426 236 107

**Children's IRISH DANCING CLASS Mondays 3.30pm to 4.30pm Casey Hall, Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters. Ages 3+ For info call LINDA 0407370047**





MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7am ST VINCENT'S	9.00am SACRED HEART	9.00am STELLA MARIS	9.00am STELLA MARIS	7am ST VINCENT'S 9am SACRED HEART	<u>RECONCILIATION</u> 4.15pm STELLA MARIS 5.00pm SACRED HEART 5.15pm ST VINCENT'S
<b>NORMAL SUNDAY MASS TIMES</b>	<b>STELLA MARIS CHURCH</b> Saturday evening 5.00pm AND Sunday 7.00am & 8.30am <b>SACRED HEART CHURCH</b> Saturday evening 6.00pm AND Sunday 9.00am & 6.00pm <b>ST VINCENT'S CHURCH</b> Saturday evening 6.00pm AND Sunday 8.00am & 10.00am				

**MIGRANT CHAPLAINS / COMMUNITIES:**

**Polish:** Sunday 11.30am Sacred Heart Church  
Fr Bernard Bednarz 5504 6297

**Italian:** Sunday 4.00pm Sacred Heart Church  
Fr Michele Cagna CS 0432110468—Pastoral Support  
Felicia 5571 0858 — General Info.

**Filipino:** Mass on 2nd October at 12noon in Casey Hall  
Fr Terence Nueva 3277 2252

**Hispanic:** 1st & 3rd Sundays 5—7pm St Vincent's Church  
Fr Ignacio Gutierrez 0481 118 521  
Email: [paterignacio@yahoo.com](mailto:paterignacio@yahoo.com)

**Maronite Rite:** Saturday 7.15pm Sacred Heart  
Phone: 3394 4994 St Maroun's Church, Brisbane.

**Art & Craft:** Wed 9am-12.30pm Parish Hospitality Centre

**Book Club:** 3rd Tues 12noon. Parish Hospitality Centre

**Bridge:** Monday 12.30pm. Parish Hospitality Centre.

**SPCL:** Meeting 1.00pm 1st Tue. Hospitality Centre  
Friendship Day 3rd Thurs 10am-1.30pm PH: 5562 1260

**Parish Choir Practice:** 8.30am 1st and last Saturdays  
Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters.

**Playgroup:** Wednesdays 9.30am Casey Hall, Fairway Drive,  
Clear Island Waters - Sarah 0410 701 515

**Playgroup is Volunteer Based— Each parent needs to sign an attendee sheet at each session.**

**Yoga:** Tuesday 10.45am \$10/Session. Resumes 2/2/16

**Zumba Gold:** Friday 9.15am Casey Hall. Beginners and Intermediate Levels. Susana Pozzi 0421 607 397

**FOR MORE PARISH GROUPS, PLEASE REFER TO OUR WEBSITE**

**Baptisms:** Please contact the Parish Office 5572 5433

**Benediction:** 1st Friday 7.30am St Vincent's Church, Surfers Paradise

**Children's Liturgy of the Word: Weekly at 9am Mass** Sacred Heart Church.  
**Sunday 7th February 2016. At Stella Maris Church, Children's Liturgy is held 2nd Sunday of each Month AT 8.30 Mass. Next date 14th February**

**Christian Meditation:** Tuesday 10am (Youth Room) Pam Egberts 0428090703 and on Tuesday 6pm (Youth Room) Contact Parish Office

**CFC Australia:** 1st Sunday—Phone Butch & Mini 0424 583 168/9

**Exposition:** Monday & Friday 6am St Vincent's Church, Surfers Paradise  
Tuesday 9.30am Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters  
Thursday 9.45am St Vincent's Church, Surfers Paradise  
Friday 7pm Sacred Heart Church, (1st Friday 7pm to 7am)

**Carmelite Spirituality:** 3rd Sunday of each month 10.30am PHC, CIW  
Contact: Norm Harding 0421 125 575.

**Marriages:** Please contact Parish Office 5572 5433 (6mths notice required)

**Rosary:** Sunday 7.15am St Vincent's Church  
Monday & Friday 6.25am St Vincent's Church  
Tuesday & Friday 8.25am Sacred Heart Church, before Mass  
Wednesday 8.25am Stella Maris Church, before 9.00am Mass

**Spiritual Direction:** Bernadette Kavanagh-Stewart 5520 7242

**St Joseph's Prayer Group:** 1st Wednesday 9.30am Sacred Heart Church

**Youth Led Mass:** 4th Sunday 6pm Sacred Heart. **February 14th and 28th**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Jose Portes, Dr Peter Ryan, Jackie Rivet, Rolando Raganas, Jocelyn Gallardo.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** George McLeod, Margaret Mary Perkins, Mollie & Colman O'Byrne, Len Heffernan, Maureen Clare Geard, Gregory Lewis Geard, Vincent Torpy, Marie Olive Brown, Fr Bryan Lee.

**THOSE WHO ARE SICK:** Marian Komorowski, Ron Cadd (Vic), Janice Jensen, Alexia, Hannah Bain, Jegvan, Sofia Rubio, Edwin Ware, Shirley Heath, Helen, Greg Cook, David Weldon, Neville Jensen, Dorelle Muller, Rachel Raines, Joseph Robinson, Jim & Shirley Harris, Debra Leanne Harbour, Linda Bodey (Melb), Michael Buesel, Susie Khahil, Sammy (NZ), Jeff Doyle, Angela Ferguson, Denise Tracey, Michelle Pritchard, Rosaria Zammitt, Ron Perry, Patrick Cannard, Paul Kiely, Rose Crane, Mary Carniel, Baby Charlie Francis, Pat Lazaro, Kaylene Swan, Peter Verhaze, Ricardo Pereira, Warren Potter, Sheryl Abrahams, Susan Richmond, Eleanor B Nascimento, Mary Coy, Mary Fraser, Danny Osmund, Marlise England, Stephen Zannett, Baby Eva Cassidy Abad, G. Nicholas, Bruno Andreetta, Julieta Alvero, Margie Savage, Joanne Burge, Shirley Day, Leo Domingo, Bernie Wall, Rosalia Roque, Josephine Maybury, Monica Clifford, Clare Martin, Gerrard Theron, Mary Kerr, William Sheehan, Kate Needham, Barbara & Mike Farrell, Justin King, Anna Wheeler, Emma Winks, Una Parkinson, Nathan Clarke, Pat Burton, Gus Reeves.

**CONTACT FORM:**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHAT ARE YOU INTERESTED IN RIGHT NOW?**

- REGISTERING IN PARISH       SACRAMENT ENQUIRY       YOUTH
- PRAYER REQUEST       ROSTER AVAILABILITY
- OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_
- to commence Parish Planned Giving Program

**Please place this completed form on the collection plate, or contact the Parish Office on 5572 5433 for further information.**