



# SURFERS PARADISE CATHOLIC PARISH

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[www.surfersparadiseparish.com.au](http://www.surfersparadiseparish.com.au)

## **Sacred Heart**

50 Fairway Drive,  
Clear Island Waters

## **St Vincent's**

40 Hamilton Avenue,  
Surfers Paradise

## **Stella Maris**

254 Hedges Avenue,  
Broadbeach

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Fr Peter Dillon

**Parish Priest**

Fr Paul Kelly

**Associate Pastor**

Helen Goldsmith

**Pastoral Ministry  
Coordinator**

### **PARISH STAFF**

Sonya Slater

**Parish Manager**

Marylou Ayres

**Parish Secretary**

Pat Kelly

**Parish Assistant**

Stephanie Santos

**Youth Coordinator**

### **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 Kevin's Kindergarten**

Phone: 5564 5910

Director: Michelle Nelson

#### **St Michael's College**

Merrimac

Phone: 5530 2722

P: Michael Nayler

## **25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

### **23rd / 24th September 2017 – YEAR A**

#### **I Really Should, But . . . . .**

I think I could write a book, not a large book, just listing the reasons people tell me why they can't manage to get to Mass ( "as often as I should"). It has become something of an art form, often very creative and colourful, told with such intensity and earnestness that every so often, I actually believe that they believe what they are saying.

Unfortunately for these people, over the past 35 years I have heard nearly every explanation that can be thought up. From the simple and most popular, "I can't seem to find a Mass time that suits me" and "The weekend is the only time I get for a break" to "There is something in your Church that makes me sneeze" and "I haven't been able to understand Mass since they changed from Latin", these excuses seem more a defence of a position or a justification for not doing something that they know they really should be doing. What's the big deal? It's not like we are going to the dentist – and we have to pay for that.

What is so difficult about going to Mass on Sunday? What is it about the nine Masses in three varied locations in our local Catholic community that is such a demanding exercise that only about 12% of the baptised Catholics in our parish attend? Throw in the visitors from other parishes and localities on any given Sunday and it could well be around 8-9%. Sure, attending Mass requires some preparation. Warming up the vehicle and leaving the comfort of home, getting dressed in something a little bit special, finding a park, then finding the right seat among the hundreds on offer. It also means that we may have to be in the presence of other people and maybe even acknowledging their presence, but so does shopping and sport and the movies, all of which seem to have no trouble gathering a good crowd on a Sunday. So why is it that the acknowledged baptismal commitment to our faith is the first to go when choices have to be made?

I suspect one major reason is that we have all become victims of the need to be entertained and stimulated by every experience we have. If it doesn't excite me in the first five minutes it doesn't register in my "Must Do" list. We demand a myriad of choices when it comes to television channels, music options on radio and iPod's, 30 different forms of sport and innumerable shopping opportunities. We have created a formula for picking the experience that offers highest satisfaction for the least amount of effort, which can spell disastrous results for something as reflective and spiritual as responsive and committed as Sunday Eucharist. For some people the choices are just too hard, so they opt for that which is the least demanding. No points for guessing what the first to go is.

Before you say "Why is he writing this for us? We're already here." Just remember you are the Church's best advertisement. You are supposed to be the living example of why coming to church makes a difference. When others see how joyful and inspired and enthusiastic and content you are after coming home from Church, everyone will want some of what you're taking (Just kidding, but I wish I wasn't). Maybe a word from those who do make the effort and find the experience of Sunday mass fulfilling could throw out a challenge to those yet unconvinced. Our parish Churches are not just a shop front for baptisms, weddings and funerals. They are places where people encounter God, in fact and in Spirit.

**Fr. Peter Dillon PP**

## READINGS FOR THIS WEEKEND:

### 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time;

Isaiah 55: 6 - 9

Philippians 1: 20 - 24, 27

Matthew 20: 1 - 16

**FEASTS:** Wednesday 27th: St Vincent de Paul, priest.  
Friday 29th: Sts. Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels.  
Saturday 30th: St Jerome, priest, doctor.

## READINGS NEXT WEEK:

### 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time;

Ezekiel 18: 25 - 28

Philippians 2: 1 - 11

Matthew 21: 28 - 32

## STEWARDSHIP September 24, 2017

### 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"So the last will be first and the first last" - MATTHEW 20:16*

You've heard the saying "it's not where you start, but how you finish." This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our gratitude and generosity helps us live "God-centered" lives and not "self-centered" lives.

## GOD HELPS THOSE . . .

Given the cold and flu season has taken a strong hold in the community, as well as a spate of more serious illnesses placing heavy burdens on the suffers as well as family and friends, the following Blessing Prayer may be of some help

*May I desire to be healed.*

*May what is wounded in my life be restored to good health.*

*May I be receptive to the ways in which healing needs to happen.*

*May I take good care of myself.*

*May I extend compassion to all that hurts within my body, mind and spirit.*

*May I be patient with the time it takes to heal.*

*May the skills of those who are caring for me be used to the best of their ability in returning me to good health.*

*May I be open to receive from those who extend kindness, care and compassion to me.*

*May I rest peacefully under the sheltering wings of divine love, trusting in God's gracious presence.*

*May I find little moments of joy in each day to sustain me.*

*May I keep hope in my heart.*

## SPIRIT IN THE CITY CONFERENCE—7 OCTOBER 2017

**Spirit in the City Conference** - QUT's Gardens Point Campus, George Street, Brisbane, **Saturday, 7 October** at 8.30am.

The conference raises the question of whether faith simply is matter of the heart. Is it little more than private opinion with no bearing on the real world.

Fr Douglas Bazi, an Iraqi priest who was shot and imprisoned by ISIS and has now become the international face of the Iraqi genocide will be making a keynote presentation.

Other speakers/features will include: Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Ryan Messmore, Australian Sacred Music Association, and for a panel discussing revitalisation of parishes: Fr Adrian Sharp (liturgy), Fr Lam Vu (spirituality), Jan Heath (evangelisation), Teresa McGrath (youth) and Ora Duffley (mission with an emphasis on Iraq). Website: [www.spiritinthecity.com.au](http://www.spiritinthecity.com.au) Registrations are now open. Info: Deacon Russ Nelson **0427 743 534**

## GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS:

Couples celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary (or longer) and their family and friends, are invited to the annual Mass with Bishop Brian V. Finnigan at the Cathedral of St Stephen. The Mass will be celebrated on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October, commencing at 10.00am**. Light refreshments will be served in the Hanly Room, following Mass. For catering you are asked to RSVP to [cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au) or telephone **3324 3030** by Friday 29 Sept. The Cathedral car park will be available.

## ARE YOU A PLANNER?

Planned a trip? Planned a party? How many times in our lives have we planned for something important? **But have we planned to give to the Parish for its many needs?**

Planned Giving is a way to give full commitment to your parish. We have 58 envelopes packs available and now we are appealing for **58 new Planned Givers**. If you wish to join please fill in the details on the **bottom of page 4** and tick the planned giving option.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this appeal.

## CHOIR MEMBERS WANTED

Would you like to join a happy, enthusiastic group of people who bring beautiful music to our parish?

**Our choir needs you!!**

Choir practice is on Saturday 8.30am. For more information please contact Christeen on [christeenharth@gmail.com](mailto:christeenharth@gmail.com)

## PILGRIMAGE TO INDIA

Marie Fonseca is organising her 6<sup>th</sup> Christian spiritual pilgrimage to India "One Heart and One Soul" from **February 19 – March 10, 2018**. The highlight of this pilgrimage will be a four night meditation/yoga retreat with daily mass led by Fr. Joe Pereira (Mumbai), in Goa. The pilgrimage also includes attending a Mass at St. Teresa of Kolkata's Tomb and visits to some of her homes. For further information, please contact: **Marie Fonseca: 02 9344 0523 or 0418 265117.**

Email: [info@spiceodyssey.net.au](mailto:info@spiceodyssey.net.au)

Website: [www.spiceodyssey.net.au](http://www.spiceodyssey.net.au) (to download a flyer)

Andre Rasquinha: 0403 569 079 E: [andre@traveltalk.com.au](mailto:andre@traveltalk.com.au)

## THE COMMUNITY LEADER AWARDS

Know a Catholic who has changed lives, then why not nominate them for one of The Community Leader Awards 2017? You'll find a nomination form on Page 18 this week or nominate online at [www.theleaders.com.au](http://www.theleaders.com.au)

### CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD:

We are closed for the School Holidays and will re-open on Monday 9th October. Wishing you a blessed spring break.

Monday and Friday sessions run from 9:30am to 11:00am. To learn more, please email [atrium.surfers@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:atrium.surfers@bne.catholic.net.au)

### FROM THE GOLD COAST CATHOLIC LIBRARY:

"God is wonderful in his Saints", Psalm 67:36 and Catholics have a rich tradition of veneration of these people and of seeking their prayer of intercession. Among the earliest are the legends associated with **The Fourteen Holy Helpers**. We have a new book which re-tells these stories and includes prayers for Novenas to the Saints.

Also check the new **HOT READS** noticeboard by our "donations for a book deal" shelf at the vack of Sacred Heart Church. Here we feature the covers of special books for your attention. "**Rebuilt**" is an inspiring story of how a Parish was "brought back to life". It has impressed Father Peter and other Parish staff - and you can borrow it from the Library too.

### PRAYING THE ROSARY:

The statue of Our Lady will be at the home of *Ildi and Les Molnar of Broadbeach Waters* for the week of Monday 25th September. If you wish to take part please contact Maxine or Pat Sela on 5539 9539 to discuss this.

### MARIAN VALLEY:

Please come to the Marian Valley on **Saturday the 30th of September** and help the Filipino Community celebrate the re-dedication of the Shrine of Our Lady. The bus will pickup at 7 Lind Ave, Palm Beach, at 7.45am and then pickup again at Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters, at 8.15am. The cost for the bus is \$20 return. Please book your seat early with **Paula on 0402 930918 or 5582 7950 or Madeline on 0405 252 367 or 5529 1573.**

### AN INVITATION

to attend a Special Mass of Thanksgiving for the **St Ita's Church Centenary Mass Celebrations, Pope St, Dutton Park**. Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge on **15th October 2017 at 10am**. No RSVP required.

**COFFEE CULTURE CAFÉ: Open during School Holidays between 8:00am and 12noon Monday to Friday. Come and enjoy a Coffee in a peaceful setting.**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Paul Damian Wyatt, Roel Holsheimer, Kazimierz Ziobrowski, Andre Lenz, Michaela Miano, Maris Cassar.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** John Alfred Hanna, Francesco & Assunta Danieli, Catherine Ryan, Winifred Robertson, Jaroslaw Bilski, Hubert Talmage Horne, Melba Schofield, James & Mary Edstein, Alan Taranto, Rita McCarthy.

**THOSE WHO ARE SICK:** Marianne Kennedy, Sarah Clancy, Rosa Maria Santos, James Daly, Charlotte Wienand (Capetown), Shaun Van de Reede, Murray Downes (NZ), Bob Francis, Michelle Krijnen (NZ), Fr John Milliken, Anne Zappa, Jooy & Madison, Tony Bui, Betty Hillesheim, Michael Dwyer, James and Helen Lindsay, Brian Tyrrell (Melb.), Joan Maher, Michelle Macdonald, MaryAnn Boehme, Angelina Elsey, Bernadette Lewis, Gerald Theron (Capetown), David Conway, Janora Senders, Francee Beckman, Imelda Rundell, Joanne Mooney, Julie Stapleton, Baby Savannah Mary Ayoub, Margaret Borg, Peter Borg, Edwin Ware, Nalin Sena, Kevin McCormack, Rachel Raines, John Ashby, Paul Kiely, David Weldon, Dr Michael Tracey, Joyce & Daniel Farrugia, Ray Balkin.

### VENIRE

Join us for a school holiday outing on Thursday the **28th of September** as we go to Go Ashmore Bowling! \$21 for 2 games, shoe hire and a pizza, from 6 – 9pm. Please RSVP by the 19th of September to Steph at [hello@venireyouth.com](mailto:hello@venireyouth.com)

### YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY

Next Bible Study: **Monday 2nd October 2017**  
Fortnightly Bible Study and connect group for those who are 16-25.

**Meet in the youth office on Monday night from 6-8pm.**  
Bring along your bible, journals and snacks.  
**Please RSVP your interest to Steph on 0411 669 876**

### THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP GROUP:

Will be meeting for lunch at the Italo-Australian Club, Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters on **Thursday 28th September at 12noon**. All Welcome. Phone Leona **5630 8206**.

### MENALIVE CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES:

Tattersalls Club, 215 Queen St, Brisbane, Thurs 5 October, 7am-9am. **Guest Speaker** Mr Richard Rymarz who is a leader in Catholic Education. **Cost** is \$45 per person (\$450 per table of ten). **Transport:-** Walking distance from Central Station or \$10 parking at Queen St Parking or Wintergarden (Tickets validated at Tattersalls). **Bookings to:** [des@menalive.org.au](mailto:des@menalive.org.au) or phone 0407744790.

### divinaQ YOGA:

Join Divina for 60 minutes of hatha vinyasa style flow. Classes are to start on **THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER** and will be held outdoors each Thursday **at 6AM** on the Atrium Lawn at Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters.  
\$10 per session. For more details: [divinaQ@wixsite.com/yoga](mailto:divinaQ@wixsite.com/yoga) or find us on Facebook.com/divinaQyoga.

### TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:

**A VOCATION VIEW:** We can never be called "generous". All that we possess we have received from God. It is our vocation to return to God all the talents God has entrusted to us.

### LOST AND FOUND:

Found in the grounds of Sacred Heart Church last Sunday morning, a square grey cushion with a purple ribbon handle. Can be claimed from the Parish Office. 5572 5433

## PARISH MASSES and RECONCILIATION TIMES

MONDAY 25th September	TUESDAY 26th September	WEDNESDAY 27th September	THURSDAY 28th September	FRIDAY 29th September	SATURDAY 30th September
7am ST VINCENT'S	9.00am SACRED HEART  10am Anointing Mass 3rd October	9am STELLA MARIS	9am STELLA MARIS	7am ST VINCENT'S 9am SACRED HEART	RECONCILIATION 4.15pm STELLA MARIS 5.00pm SACRED HEART 5.15pm ST VINCENT'S
<b>NORMAL SUNDAY MASS TIMES</b>	STELLA MARIS CHURCH SACRED HEART ST VINCENT'S CHURCH		Saturday Evening 5pm Saturday Evening 6pm Saturday Evening 6pm	AND AND AND	Sunday 7am & 8.30am Sunday 9am & 6pm Sunday 8am & 10am

### MIGRANT CHAPLAINS / COMMUNITIES:

**Polish:** Sunday 12noon Sacred Heart Church

Fr Bernard Bednarz C/- 3252 2200

**Italian:** Sunday 4.00pm Sacred Heart Church

Fr Michele Cagna CS 0432110468—Pastoral Support and General Information - Connie 5575 8882

**Filipino:** Next Mass in our Parish is on 1st October 2017 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

**Maronite Rite:** Saturday 7.15pm Sacred Heart

Phone: 3394 4994 St Maroun's Church, Brisbane.

### GROUPS:

**ART & CRAFT:** Each Wednesday 9am to 12noon in PHC

**BOOK CLUB:** 3rd Tuesday of Month at 12 noon in PHC

Bridge: Mondays at 12noon Parish Hospitality Centre

**SPCL:** Tuesday 3rd October 2017

**FRIENDSHIP DAY** Thursday 19th October 2017

**PARISH CHOIR PRACTICE:** 8.30am Saturdays SH

**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.

**ZUMBA GOLD:** Friday 9.15am Casey Hall. Beginners and Intermediate. Susana Pozzi 0421 607 397

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

**Baptisms:** Contact Parish Office 5572 5433 to register your interest.

**Marriages:** (Min 6mths notice required). Phone 5572 5433

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

#### Children's Liturgy:

Sacred Heart Church: Sunday 9am Mass (during School Term only - Final this term Sunday 10th September).

Stella Maris Church: 8.30am Mass every 2nd Sunday of the Month.

**Christian Meditation:** Tuesday 10am & 6pm (Youth Room)  
Pam Egtberts 0428 090 703

**Couples For Christ FFL:** Please phone Butch and Mini  
0424 583 1689

#### Exposition:

St Vincent's Church: Monday & Friday 6am, Thurs 9.45am

Sacred Heart Church: Tues 9.30am, Friday 7pm-9pm

1st Friday - 8pm Friday 6th October to Sat 7th October .

**Carmelite Spirituality:** 3rd Sunday of each month 10.30am  
PHC, CIW Contact: Norm Harding 0421 125 575. Meeting  
Sunday 15th October 2017

**Rosary:** St Vincent's Church: Sunday 7.15am and Monday & Friday 6.25am

Sacred Heart Church: Tuesday & Friday 8.25am before Mass

Stella Maris Church: Wednesday 8.25am, before Mass

**Venire Youth Mass:** 6.00pm Sunday 22nd October 2017

### CONTACT FORM FOR ALL PARISH MINISTRIES

FAMILY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PH: \_\_\_\_\_ 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.**