



SURFERS PARADISE CATHOLIC PARISH

Phone: (07) 5572 5433

Mass Times: (07) 5595 8466

Fax: (07) 5572 5262

50 Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters, QLD 4226

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30am - 5pm

Email: surfers@bne.catholic.net.au

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

PARISH STAFF

Sonya Slater

Parish Manager

Marylou Ayres

Parish Secretary

Pat Kelly

Parish Assistant

Cathy Anderson

Sacramental Coordinator

Auceli Blanchard

Atrium 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: Anthony Elmore

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - Year C 12th / 13th January 2019

COMMUNITY OF FAITH:

When we use the word "Church" the first thing we naturally think of is a building consecrated to God. And certainly a church building is the focal point of a Christian community's prayer and worship. We believe the Church is God's house. In a church we regularly gather together to pray, worship God and gain spiritual support from God and each other. The word "church" comes from the Greek word *kyriakón* (of which the Latin equivalent is *dôma*). So Church literally means "Lord's (house)". However, there is a much more ancient term that sums up the reality even better: *Ecclesia*. (It is from this Greek word that we get the English word "ecclesiastical"). *Ecclesia* is a Greek word for "an assembly of people." So the Church is really the People of God gathered together by God.

"For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them." (Gospel According to Matthew 18:20)

The church is present whenever we gather together in Jesus' name. Jesus promises to be with us, amongst us and within us.

This means that, if for some reason we were unable to gather in the church building because of repairs or some other event, if we were to set up a tent in a park and gather together there, then the Church is present there in that tent in the park. Where God's people gather, there God's church is present. Naturally, every church building is a beautiful, permanent, public, focal-point for the gathering of God's people, (who are the church). The building is a symbol of the presence of God in the midst of his people. And this is even more so, as it houses the Blessed Sacrament, the real presence of Christ, and is where the Word of God is regularly proclaimed through the Scriptures.

And also:

"As it says in the new testament: "Come as living stones, and let yourselves be used in building the spiritual temple, where you will serve as holy priests to offer spiritual and acceptable sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 3-6).

We are delighted to be the "People of God," and not just a group of individuals who happen to be gathering at the same time to worship God. We are ONE people, called together to be members of God's family. We share a common faith.

We believe that God created all things. And we believe in God who reaches out in love to humans and invites them to become part of God's life. We also believe that God has been with people as they travelled through their life history. (That history has been passed on in word and later written down by generations of people into many books that later were gathered into one big book known as the Bible). This history is filled with examples of grace and joy and sadly also sin and rejection on the part of humans, but also forgiveness and love on the part of God.

God has been ever-faithful to God's beloved people in good times and bad. Even in times of exile and suffering, we believe in God who does not turn away from the pain, but is constantly at work bringing hope and working to bring healing and freedom where there is suffering and enmeshment. We believe that God is able to be "related to" in a personal way: This is why we can pray to God like a person talks to a friend or parent.

Fr Paul Kelly

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES: Monday 7am St Vincent's: Tuesday 9am Sacred Heart:
Wednesday/Thursday 9am Stella Maris; Friday 7am St Vincent's & 9am Sacred Heart**



CELEBRATING AUSTRALIA DAY: There will be a **9am Mass** on **Saturday 26th January 2019** at **Sacred Heart Church** to celebrate Australia Day. You are invited to join in the celebration after Mass by bringing a plate of Lamingtons, Iced VoVo's or Anzac Biscuits to share at morning tea!

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: Our Children's Sacramental Team provide workshops to assist in the preparation of children who, with the support of their parents, have discerned that they are ready to receive the sacraments of Confirmation, Holy Communion and Reconciliation (Penance). **Please note that in the Archdiocese of Brisbane Confirmation is celebrated before Holy Communion and that candidates must be 8 years of age or older (in Year 3 or greater) and have previously received the Sacrament of Baptism.**

The journey begins with an introductory parent information session. Preparation for each sacrament includes a number of compulsory and combined, child and parent sessions. It is also expected that children and their families attend weekly mass during the preparation program. The dates for the preparation sessions will be included in our parish newsletters (and our schools' newsletters) in the coming weeks or they can be accessed by contacting our parish office on 5572 5433.

LIBRARY NEWS: Welcome to 2019 to our readers and friends! A small change in Library **opening hours** for 2019. Jean, our Library Administrator, will have the Library open on the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays** from 9am to 3pm. Our Library Team opens for all weekend Masses. And of course, you can 'borrow the key' from the Parish Office **during office hours** or **order by email**. These ways, we trust, make the Library accessible to you all.

BOOK CLUB members: see you on Tuesday 15th January for our 1st Meeting.

PRAYING THE ROSARY: The statue of Our Lady will be at the home of Eva Malinowski of Palm Beach for week commencing 14th January. To host Our Lady please contact Pat & Maxine Sela on **55399539** or **0412519404**

A VOCATION VIEW: The literal meaning of the word Vocation is a "call". The Universal call to holiness is rooted in our baptism. Today we remember our own baptism, and our call to love and serve the Lord through a specific vocation God calls us to. Priest, Religious, Consecrated Single or Married, Where are you going?

RECENTLY DECEASED: Rex Joseph McShane, Carmeline Yvette Forbes OAM, Maurice McGree, Neil Davey Lawrence, Rae Porter, Margaret Wotherspoon, Vera McCormick, Nora Carroll, Zbystaw Cieslak, Eileen Ryan, Jack Conway.

ANNIVERSARIES: Imelda Rundell, Carmen Callus, Luciano Freda, Joan Enright, Brian Miller.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Joanne Mooney, Frank Lyons, Michelle MacDonald, Julianne Conway, Carl Serafini, John Stowers, Desmond John L'Huillier, Frank Lyons (Syd), Clive Wright, Gareth Aucock, Grazyna Palac, Gus Reeves, James Goodwin, Maria Trosic, Paul Kiely, Savannah Mary Ayoub, Mark Miller, Cherie Parsons, John & Molly Robinson, Brian Pinard, Terry King, Claire Keefe, Yvonne Lofthouse, Eileen McCarthy, Mary Kerr.

We ask that you review all names on our Sick List and advise us if we can remove any names.

This list will be reduced by half on a monthly basis. If you wish to remain on the list please advise the Parish Office.

VOLUNTEER ROLES IN THE PARISH

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Do you have a young child and attend Sacred Heart Church for **9am Mass** on Sunday's? If yes, would you be interested in **becoming a volunteer on roster** to assist with the Children's Liturgy of the Word from 9am to 9.30am in the Parish Hospitality Centre. The children gather in the Church, just after the Entrance Hymn and are taken to the PHC to hear the Word of God broken open so they can understand. We always like to have two adults supervising the children, who return to Mass for the Prayer of the Faithful. Please call the Parish Office if you would like to assist. **5572 5433.**

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER to help set-up the Parish Hospitality Centre twice a month; once on the **1st Monday evening** in preparation for the Anointing Mass Morning Tea and once on the **3rd Wednesday evening** in preparation for the Friendship Day gathering. This would suit a young person looking for some extra pocket money!! We could also consider a very early set-up on the day of each gathering. Please call the Parish Office on **5572 5433.**

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION TO NURSING HOMES: We need a few people to assist in the distribution of Communion to the six Nursing Homes in our Parish. Communion is distributed at the Nursing Homes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. The average time for a visit is between two to three hours. While giving out communion you do speak to the residents and for some of them it is their only communication in the week with someone other than the nursing staff.

Can you find three hours a month to assist in this Ministry? We find it a most satisfying experience taking communion and speaking to the elderly. If you can assist us we will be most grateful. Please call **Pat & Maxine 55399539** or **0412519404** alternatively contact Marylou at the Parish office 5572 5433.

LOST IN SACRED HEART CHURCH: Sun **6th January**, after 9am Mass, a child's purple Garmin watch. Contact Parish office on **55725433.**

WHAT DO YOU THINK GOD IS ASKING OF US IN AUSTRALIA? In October 2020 the Catholic Church is gathering to make plans and decisions for the future. Your voice is needed to help create the agenda. What are your experiences of God in your life, your faith and the Church? Visit www.share-the-story.com for more information and to share your story.