



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

PARISH OFFICE – Ph: 07 5430 9390 9am-1pm (After hours pastoral emergency 0431 099 854)

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2nd Sunday 26/27 April 2025- Year C

Seeing with Easter Eyes



We all experience doubt at some point in our lives. We might question whether the public transport will arrive on time or be sceptical about the details of an unlikely story. Sometimes, we even doubt our own abilities. Doubt brings a sense of uncertainty, but it can also be a powerful pathway to deeper growth and self-awareness, especially when we take time to explore where our doubts come from, or sometimes, simply when our doubts are honestly confronted and answered. Like when the disciple Thomas finally saw the risen Jesus, his earlier doubt gave way to one of the greatest declarations of faith in John's Gospel:

"My Lord and my God!"

It is only in Christ that we see with Easter Eyes – with eyes of faith. Like Thomas we are called to explore the mysteries of life through the lens of Christ. Inviting Christ's light into our doubts is valuable because it reveals our internal belief systems and illuminates what is important to us.

John's Gospel condenses the Resurrection and Pentecost into a single day, "the first day of the week". When Jesus breathed on his disciples and imparted the Holy Spirit on them it was to mirror the creation story in Genesis which breathed new life into humankind. This breath of life empowered Jesus' disciples back into mission and continues to strengthen us on our pilgrim way now. This is exactly what it means to be a Christian – to be continually equipped and enlivened by the Holy Spirit to follow in the footsteps of Jesus who challenges us to observe the world with Easter Eyes and to offer hope as the antidote to doubt.

We don't need to see Jesus physically to know He is real and risen. History, testimony, and transformed lives all bear witness to the truth. Jesus is the most written-about figure in all of history; even our calendar revolves around His birth. Millions have chosen (and still choose) to die for Him rather than renounce their faith. And in a culture where women's testimony held little legal weight, the Gospels' bold claim that women were the first witnesses to the empty tomb is unlikely to be fabricated unless it truly happened.

Easter Sunday is so large that it cannot be contained in one day, it goes for 8 days and is known as the Easter Octave whereby every single day within the octave is as if it were Easter Sunday! This Sunday, the final day of the octave is also Divine Mercy Sunday. In 1931, our Lord appeared in a vision to a Polish nun, St. Faustina Kowalska and instructed her to paint his image. Additionally, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, given through St Faustina's dialogue with Jesus, is a powerful devotional prayer traditionally prayed using rosary beads.

The two rays in the image denote blood and water; the substances which came out from Jesus' side after he was crucified and pierced with a lance. The red ray represents blood and symbolises the Eucharist which sustains us in our spiritual journey, and the pale ray represents water symbolising the merciful and cleansing nature of Baptism and Reconciliation where our souls are washed clean. The whole image is a symbol of charity, forgiveness and love of God, referred to as the "Fountain of Mercy" of Mercy" or the "Divine Mercy".

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, we behold with Easter Eyes that the tomb was found empty and with trust that Jesus rose from the dead – the greatest miracle of them all. May our faith in the God of infinite love and mercy, revealed through the Risen Lord, inspire us to echo St Faustina's words: *"Jesus, I trust in you."*

Enjoy your new Easter Eyes! May you observe well this week! Fr Gerard

We acknowledge the First Peoples of the land on which we celebrate our Eucharist and live out our faith.

Term 2 Sacrament of Confirmation - starts 6th May!

Have you registered? Please go to the website where you will find all the details. Under Sacraments/Confirmation.

Please join flocknote first, then complete the register form.

www.caloundracatholicparish.net



Flocknote

For any questions please contact the Parish office at

caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au



Registration form

Alpha Alpha Alpha

Who are you Inviting to Alpha?

Our Alpha course is starting next week. Have you considered if it's time for you or a friend to ask some questions and consider faith again, or for the first time.

The course will run :

Monday afternoon in Landsborough from 28th April 2-4pm, and Tuesday evening from 29th April in Caloundra 6-8pm.



*We remember Pope Francis,
a man of humility, pastor of mercy,
and pilgrim of hope.*

*Let us pray that he may now be caught up
in the promise of God's kingdom.*

Rest in Peace

Kingdom Kids Youth Group

Kingdom Kids Youth Group is a new initiative in the parish, aimed at actively accompanying kids in Grades 4-6 to encounter Jesus in their lives. The group will meet once a month on Tuesdays during school terms from 4pm - 5:30pm at Unity College.

These evenings are opportunities to hang out and explore the faith in an accessible way, participate in games and activities, engage with input that helps build understanding of who Jesus is in their lives, and build friendships with likeminded kids in the parish. Our youth nights are for all students, regardless of their faith background and school. If you're interested in coming along to our first session on **Tuesday 29th April**, make sure to register via the QR code here!



Parish Diary

Monday 28 April

Mass (OLR) 9am

Adoration (OLR) 9.30am

Tuesday 29 April

St Peter Chanel, priest, martyr

Adoration (Maleny) 8.30am

Rosary (Maleny) 9am

Mass (OLR) 9am

Rosary (OLR) 9.30am

Wednesday 30 April

St Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor

Liturgy (OLR School) 9am

Mass (Lt Mt) 9.30am

Thursday 1 May

Mass (OLR) 9am

Adoration for Vocations (Lands) 9am

Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am

Friday 2 May

St Athanasius, bishop, doctor

Mass (OLR) 9am

Mass (Beerwah) 9am

Saturday 3 May

Sts Philip and James, apostles

NO Morning Mass (OLR)

9-9.45am Caloundra – Reconciliation and Adoration

Vigil Masses

3rd Sunday of Easter

Mass (OLR) 5pm

Mass (Notre Dame College) 5pm

Sunday 4 May

3rd Sunday of Easter

Mass (OLR) 7.30am

Mass (Lands) 9am (1/3/5 Sunday)

Mass (Maleny) 9am (2/4 Sunday)

Mass (OLR) 9.30am

Mass (Unity) 5pm

Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am

Mass (Lt Mt) 10.30am

**Office closure - Labour Day
5th May**

Thank you

To every person who lent a hand in preparing our Easter Liturgies, a grateful parish says "thank you."

Thank you to those who began preparing the music and liturgy run-sheets several months ago.

To those who organised rosters and personnel, those who practiced, played, sang, served, decorated, and directed: **thank you.** We say cheers to the people who worked behind the scenes and we're grateful to those who proclaimed the Word, projected the words and prayed the words. And finally, **thank you** to those who simply turned up and added to the Body of Christ!

On the Journey We congratulate *Malia Cairns & Sophia Nijhuis* who will be baptised at Caloundra this weekend.

We pray for *Raymond Round & Sally Dowling* who have died and whose funerals are on Tuesday 29th April 11am at G&W and Thursday 1st May 11am at OLR respectively.

We also pray for the soul of Pope Francis. May their souls and the souls of our deceased priests, religious and parishioners **Rest in Peace.**



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