



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC PARISH

Our Parish's Mission is to be a vibrant community that actively accompanies people to encounter Jesus

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1ST SUNDAY OF LENT - 21/22 FEBRUARY - YEAR A

Lenten Pastoral Letter - Archbishop Shane Mackinlay

There have been significant changes for us in the Archdiocese of Brisbane over the last year. Shortly after Easter last year, Pope Leo XIV succeeded Pope Francis, and then in September I took up my new ministry as Archbishop of Brisbane.

Last week, Pope Leo issued his first Message for Lent, in which he reflects on three themes: listening, fasting and our shared journey together. I was particularly struck by the first of these themes, as I feel like much of my focus over these early days as Archbishop has been on listening. I need to learn about the people of the Archdiocese, its parishes and communities, its schools, hospitals and aged care, its organisations and agencies. I need to hear about the joys and sorrows that people carry, as well as the hopes and fears that are part of looking to the future.

Pope Leo points out that listening is not just something we do when we enter a new situation. Rather, it is a critical ongoing part of healthy relationships with one another and with God. Lent is a time when we seek to open ourselves to conversion: acknowledging our failures and mistakes, so that we can turn again to God and renew our relationships with those around us. The journey of conversion always begins with listening. As Pope Leo says: 'Every path towards conversion begins by allowing the Word of God to touch our hearts.' That can only happen if we make space, stepping back from the noise around us, and from all that we want to say and convince others about, so that there is space to hear and to listen.

Making space for listening is an act of humility and generosity. It shows a deep commitment to the other. In Pope Leo's words, 'the willingness to listen is the first way we demonstrate our desire to enter into relationship with someone.' We know what a precious gift that is from our own experiences of another person really listening to us.

Pope Leo proposes that the best model we have for listening is God's relationship with his people. Again and again, God's first response in the scriptures is to assure us: 'I have heard my people's cry.' And Jesus' own ministry is shaped by listening to the needs and hopes of those he encounters. So, as Pope Leo says, 'we must allow God to teach us to listen as he does.'

In our own context, listening has been the starting point for our synodal journey, both in our contribution to the Synod for a Synodal Church and in our own celebration of the Archdiocese's Synod 24. We have experienced that a dialogue built on listening allows us to discern together where God is calling us. That experience allows us to recognise the importance of Pope Leo's observation that 'conversion refers not only to one's conscience, but to the quality of our relationships and dialogue.'

More broadly in our Australian community, listening with care, compassion and openness is desperately needed as we seek to respond to the division, shock and grief that we are carrying after the appalling attack at Bondi last December.

As we enter this Season of Lent, most of our parishes will be commencing the final stage of preparation for baptism of those who wish to become Christian and for reception of Christians baptised in other Churches who seek to enter full communion with the Catholic Church. It is a privilege to accompany these elect and candidates on their path to Easter, as they offer us a model of listening to God's Word in a way that has led them on a journey of conversion, discipleship and renewal. Let us pray for them and be inspired by them throughout this Season of Lent, as we all seek to be renewed in listening and responding to one another and to the Word of God.

Yours sincerely,

MOST REV. SHANE MACKINLAY
ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

Ministry Leadership Team Update - Children and Families

As we enter 2026, the Children and Families Team is overjoyed to jump back into the swing of things and create opportunities for both children and families to build relationships with one another and with Jesus.

A snapshot of 2025 and some victories:

We held an awesome **Family Fun Day** in June at Kings Beach Amphitheatre!

We held our first-ever **Junior Altar Servers Day** in March, with 10 Junior Altar Servers now actively serving across our parish Mass Centres.



We launched a parish **Mums & Bubs Group** for mums with children aged 0–4.

We introduced an **Infant Space/Kids Corner** at OLR, Notre Dame and Unity College Mass centres.

We held an epic **Encounter Day** for primary-aged children in April, alongside the Encounter Kids Team from the Archdiocese.

We have a successful weekly **Childrens Liturgy** at OLR Church, along with fortnightly at Sacred Heart Maleny and monthly at our Notre Dame Mass Centre.

A major highlight was the success of our **Sacramental Program**—both Confirmation and First Holy Communion. We revamped the program to make the evenings more engaging and inviting for participants and received great feedback.

We also launched our first-ever **Kingdom Kids Youth Group**—a group for children in Years 3–6 that met once a month on Tuesday afternoons to explore their faith and encounter Jesus in their own lives.

We welcomed between 6–14 participants each month, which is incredible!

A massive shout-out to the leadership team—**Amelia, Fr Gerard, Nadine, Julie and Mark**—for all their hard work in making these events possible.

Our goal for 2026 is to focus strongly on creating events and initiatives that invite and engage both parents and children, as well as building on our parish–school relationships with OLR, Unity College and Notre Dame College.

Upcoming events - save the dates for 2026:

Junior Altar Servers Day (Years 3–7): Saturday 7 March

Encounter Kids Day (Prep–Year 6): Friday 17 April

Family Fun Day (all are welcome!): Saturday 13 June

Kingdom Kids Youth Group (Years 3–6): Relaunching March 2026

Sacramental Program – Confirmation: Beginning Tuesday 21 April

Sacramental Program – First Holy Communion: Beginning Tuesday 14 July

More information about all these events will be available shortly. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, or would like to join the team and help with these initiatives, please don't hesitate to reach out to **Amelia at willmera@bne.catholic.net.au**.



Stay up to date with all our upcoming events by visiting our Linktree via the QR code below. You can also access upcoming events and dates on our parish website under **Ministry Areas > Children and Families**.

God bless,

The Children and Families Team

Amelia, Fr Gerard, Nadine, Julie and Mark



Parish Encounter Night - Who Is Your 7?

On **Friday 6 March**, our parish is hosting an Encounter Night centred on the theme “Who Is Your 7?” – a powerful invitation to reflect on the people God has placed around us to support and strengthen our faith.

The concept of “**Your Seven**” in a faith journey refers to a framework of seven types of individuals—mentors, peers, and friends—who help a person grow in their relationship with God and sustain them in their spiritual walk. This model suggests that relying on a community of believers is essential for spiritual maturity and perseverance, rather than attempting the journey alone. This night will help us recognise who those people are in our own lives – and how we might be part of someone else’s Seven.

The evening will also include **worship, a keynote reflection, personal testimony, and time for prayer and adoration, with space to listen, reflect, and respond to God’s call.**

We are blessed to welcome **Deacon Peter Pelicaan** as our speaker. Deacon Peter is the Executive Director of Archdiocesan Ministries, with a heart for evangelisation and helping people encounter Christ in a personal and practical way. With warmth, honesty, and deep faith, he invites others to reflect on how God works through relationships and community to draw us closer to Him.

All are welcome. Come for a drink, stay for worship, and be open to what God might be inviting you into this Lent.

Drinks from 5:30pm | Program begins 6:05pm | Register by scanning the QR code above

OLR Seniors’ February Outing to the New Caloundra Library!

We warmly invite all seniors to join us for our next OLR Seniors’ Event

Thursday, February 26

Please arrive at 9:45am for a 10:00am start

Caloundra Library, meet at the café by the main entrance: 1 Omrah Avenue, Caloundra

Enjoy a guided tour led by the library staff, prepared specially for our group. Whether you love books, local history, or simply good company, this promises to be a relaxed and enjoyable morning together.

✓ RSVP’s essential! Please register by **Monday, February 23** via the QR code, or phone the parish office on 5430 9390, or email chilcottj@bne.catholic.net.au. Please let us know if you require transport.

Project Compassion Week 1

Project Compassion 2026 shares four stories from around the world, each showing determination to overcome adversity and build a hopeful future for their community.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code (to the right)

UNITE 
AGAINST
POVERTY
this Lent



ON THE JOURNEY...



We pray for **Aoife Mary Bowles, Dylan Clemen and Bodhi Jordan Bengtsen** who will be baptised this weekend at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Caloundra.

We also pray for the souls of our deceased priests, religious and parishioners.

May they **Rest in Peace.**



Parish Diary

Monday 23rd February

Mass (OLR) 9am
Adoration (OLR) 9.30am

Tuesday 24th February

Adoration, Rosary & Stations of the Cross (Maleny) beginning 8:30am
Mass (OLR) 9am
Rosary (OLR) 9.30am

Wednesday 25th February

School Liturgy (OLR) 9am
Mass (Lt Mt) 9.30am

Thursday 26th February

Mass (OLR) 9am
Rosary (OLR) 9.30am
Adoration for Vocations & Stations of the Cross (Lands) beginning 9:30am
Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am

Friday 27th February

Mass & Stations of the Cross (OLR) beginning 9am
Mass & Stations of the Cross (Beerwah) beginning 9am

Saturday 28th February

Reconciliation & Adoration (OLR) 9am - 9:45am

Vigil Masses

2nd Sunday in Lent

Mass (OLR) 5pm

Mass (Notre Dame - **at Unity College Chapel**) 5pm

Sunday 1st March

2nd Sunday in Lent

Mass (OLR) 7.30am

Mass (Lands) 9am

Mass (OLR) 9:30am

Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am

Mass (Lt Mt) 10.30am

Mass (Unity) 5pm



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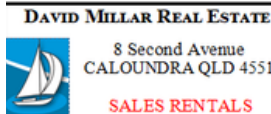
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