



# OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC PARISH

*Our Parish's Mission is to be a vibrant community that actively accompanies people to encounter Jesus.  
We acknowledge the First Peoples of the land on which we celebrate our Eucharist and live out our faith.*

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

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**5th Sunday of Lent - 21st / 22nd March Year A**

**Living Lent and Easter Every Day**

**What if Lent wasn't just a season... but a way of living?** Each year, the Liturgical season of Lent invites us into something deeper: **Prayer, Fasting, and Generosity** (almsgiving). For forty days, we try a little harder. We become more intentional. We make space for God in ways we might not at other times of the year. **But what if Lent is not just something we do... what if it's something we are meant to become?**

Our practice of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving are supposed to lead to transformation. It is about becoming people who pray not just occasionally, but regularly; people who give not just when asked, but generously as an act of worship; people who seek God not just in times of need, but daily. Ultimately, through these observances, Lent is about drawing us closer to God and His love for us.

Throughout the Scriptures, we see a God who loves His people so deeply that He does not want them to remain where they are, but **continually calls them to something more.**

Here at OLR, we are always striving to become who God created us to be through our parish vision. **We are called to be a vibrant community that actively accompanies people to encounter Jesus.** And that encounter, that 'mountaintop transfiguration moment' is meant to shape the whole of our lives.

This is an ongoing journey, a continual work in progress, because God's work in us is never finished. And so each of us is invited to play our role in the life and mission of our parish.

In a few weeks, Holy week will be upon us. Everything we believe as Christians centres on this week. Holy Week is so much more than remembering past events. **It is an invitation to walk with Jesus through an encounter of His suffering, death, and Resurrection.**

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday where we see the tension of the human heart. The same voices that cry "Hosanna!" can so quickly turn to "Crucify Him!". On Holy Thursday, we are given the gift of the Eucharist as we commemorate the Last Supper, and we are shown that love is expressed through humble service as Jesus washes the feet of His disciples. On Good Friday, we stand before the Cross and witness the depth of God's love poured out for us. Jesus is killed on the cross for our sins and he loves us anyway... how incredibly sobering and unfathomably beautiful. On Easter Saturday the church lays dormant in stillness. It is a day of sombre reflection as we await the promise of new life. And at the Easter Vigil, in the darkness of night, light breaks forth. Christ is risen, and death is defeated. Life wins, Love wins, God wins!

Holy Week is not just something we observe once a year. It reveals the pattern of the Christian life: dying and rising, letting go and receiving anew, turning back to God again and again.

**Lent is our spiritual training ground where we build our spiritual muscles.** Holy Week is the moment we enter most deeply into the mystery. And Easter is the joy-filled and hope-filled life we are called to live. May you use those spiritual muscles you have trained so vigorously during the 40 days of Lent to keep you spiritually fit throughout the rest of the year. (I'm reminded of the witty church noticeboard: "7 days without prayer makes one week/weak").

**As we journey through the last few weeks of Lent, ask yourself: "Who am I becoming?"** Because when someone truly encounters Jesus, something changes. Desire awakens. Joy begins to grow. And naturally, we begin to share that with others. The Church may plant and water the seeds through its many ministries, but ultimately **it is transformed lives and encounters with God, shaped through the rigours of spiritual training,** that bear the greatest witness.

Through our Lenten observances, may we become people of prayer, people of discipline, and people of generosity. God is not only preparing our hearts for Easter Sunday, He is preparing us to become an Easter people, not just changed for a day or a season, but transformed for a lifetime! And this is the kind of parish I pray that we may become.

Pilgrim well,  
**Fr Gerard**

## Service Outreach Ministry Update

### RAP Workshop:

Our Parish was pleased to welcome an enthusiastic group of parishioners who gathered last Saturday for the **Reconciliation Action Plan Workshop**. We were especially blessed by the presence of local elder **Kerry Jones, a Kabi Kabi man** from the Sunshine Coast and Director of the **Bunya Bunya Country Aboriginal Corporation**, who led our opening session. Kerry's inspiring presentation on Indigenous culture and the history of our local region was insightful, educational, and deeply rewarding. His reflections on the Indigenous understanding of Care for Creation - their close, reverent, and intricate relationship with the land - felt particularly fitting as the **Catholic Church celebrates the Jubilee Year of St Francis, the Patron Saint of Ecology**. He even shared a few local insights grounded in the Indigenous way of reading Country - how the flowering of certain plants in our region reveals when particular fish are running (which Fr Gerard is no doubt eager to test 🐟).



We were also grateful to welcome RAP team leaders from across the Archdiocese, with leaders from Cleveland, Stafford and Albany Creek parishes sharing their wisdom and practical insights from their own parish journeys. The day concluded with a session led by the wonderful **Joni Mitchell and Ravina Waldern**, leaders of the Archdiocesan RAP and Murri Ministry teams, who guided us through how to implement meaningful and achievable RAP actions within our parish context.

A key reflection from the day came from one participant, who shared:

*“What struck me most from today's workshop was the call to look past the political noise and disagreements that can overshadow Reconciliation. Instead, we were invited to focus on a much simpler and more human question - How can we deliberately*

*make our parish a place where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people feel genuinely safe, welcomed, and included when they enter our Church and community? How can we be a community that loves them better and become better allies and friends?”*

**Our parish is now forming a Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group**, which will help guide and implement meaningful steps forward. If you would like to be part of this team and contribute to shaping our parish's commitment to Reconciliation, we would love to hear from you.



Please email [cp.serviceandoutreach@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cp.serviceandoutreach@bne.catholic.net.au)

### Community Cooking:

Our Parish Community Cooking team has also been hard at work and was excited to launch our **first cook-ups for 2026** this week in partnership with Unity College. Students, teachers, and parishioners joined together to prepare another round of delicious meals for our Parish Community Cooking stocks. It was a joyful and collaborative start to the year, strengthening our shared commitment to practical service and hospitality for those in need. Additionally, our Parish Outreach BBQ continues to operate on Friday evenings, providing food and connection to those in our community who need it most. The Share-a-Meal Thursday night outreach is also preparing to restart after a short pause. We are always looking for additional volunteers to support these initiatives, **so please reach out if you would like to join the team.**

## Kingdom Kids Group Re-Launch



Our first Kingdom Kids Youth Group for 2026 will be held **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March at Unity College Chapel from 4pm-5:30pm!**

This Youth group is aimed at children in **Grade 3-6**. 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.

If you would like to register your child, please scan the QR code here for the registration form!

Any other questions, please contact Amelia - [willmera@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:willmera@bne.catholic.net.au)

We hope to see you there!



## Second Rite of Reconciliation

The Second Rite of Reconciliation is a **communal celebration** of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in which the faithful gather together for prayer, Scripture, and reflection before individually confessing their sins to a priest and receiving absolution. The Second Rite of Reconciliation will take place at **OLR Caloundra from 9am on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March.**

## Eucharistic Adoration



When Catholics speak of “going to Adoration,” they are referring to Eucharistic Adoration, **the prayerful worship of Jesus Christ truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.** Outside of Mass, the consecrated Host is placed in a monstrance on the altar, allowing the faithful to pray quietly in the presence of Our Lord. This time of prayer offers an opportunity for silence, reflection, thanksgiving and deeper union with Christ.

Adoration is held weekly across the parish. **Please visit our website or check the Parish Diary for dates and times.**

## Palm Cross Folding

Come along, meet other parishioners and fold palm crosses for the upcoming Palm Sunday, all are welcome. **This is at 2 locations:** OLR Egan Room (Cal) / OLW Ron Hickey Center (Lands) on **Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> at 10am.**



## Holy Oils - Annual Chrism Mass

**Archbishop Shane Mackinlay** invites everyone to the annual Chrism Mass, an important Holy Week liturgy where the Bishop blesses the holy oils used for sacraments throughout the year – the Oil of Chrism, the Oil of the Sick, and the Oil of Catechumens.

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7:00pm at the **Cathedral of St Stephen, Brisbane.**

## Holy Land Collection

The annual collection for the support of the Church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, April 3. This collection supports local Christians through welfare assistance, education, healthcare, housing and employment, and helps maintain churches and shrines connected with the life of Jesus. Due to the effects of the pandemic and ongoing conflicts, support is needed more than ever. Please be as generous as you can and keep the Christians of the Holy Land in your prayers.

## Project Compassion - Week 5



Since October 2023, Caritas Jerusalem staff in Gaza have **endured displacement, personal loss, and and danger alongside the communities they serve.** Despite these challenges, they remain committed to providing lifesaving support, standing in solidarity with families enduring this conflict.

**Please consider donating** by using the QR code, or going to the website:

[www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate)



## ON THE JOURNEY...

We pray for those who have been recently baptised into the Church, that the grace of their baptism may guide them throughout their lives.

### Funerals:

Timothy McCormick | 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 | 10am | Our Lady of the Rosary

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



## Parish Diary

### **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Mass (OLR) 9am  
Adoration (OLR) 9:30am

### **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

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

### **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

*The Annunciation of the Lord*  
School Liturgy (OLR) 9am  
Mass (Lt Mt) 9.30am  
Mass (OLR) 6pm

### **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Mass (OLR) 9am  
Rosary (OLR) 9.30am  
Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am  
Adoration for Vocations (Lands) 10am

### **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

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

### **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Second Rite Reconciliation (OLR) 9am - 10am  
**No Adoration at OLR**

### **Vigil Masses**

#### **Palm Sunday**

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

### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

#### **Palm Sunday**

Mass (OLR) 7.30am  
Mass (Lands) 9am  
Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am  
Mass (OLR) 9:30am  
Mass (Lt Mt) 10.30am  
Mass (Unity) 5pm



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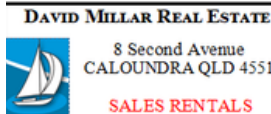
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