



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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3rd Sunday of Lent - 7 / 8 March Year A Choosing to Trust at the Well

Last weekend, I began speaking about sacrificial giving as an expression of trust in God. Because only half of our parish communities heard that homily, I want to continue and deepen that invitation in this written piece. At the heart of both weeks is a simple spiritual question: **Do we really trust God?**

This Sunday's Gospel gives us one of the most personal encounters in all of Scripture: Jesus meeting the Samaritan woman at the well. She arrives carrying an ordinary human need—thirst—but Jesus quickly reveals a deeper reality. **“Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water that I shall give will never thirst.”** He's not speaking about physical water, but about the deep human search for security and peace—the places we instinctively turn to satisfy our thirst for control and safety. For many of us, money quietly becomes one of those wells. Financial security promises reassurance. Savings, income, and possessions can make us feel protected against uncertainty. Yet Jesus gently exposes the truth: **every purely human source of security eventually leaves us thirsty again.**



The Samaritan woman's transformation begins when she allows Jesus to speak into her real life—not the religious version of herself, but her actual circumstances. She moves from hesitation to trust, from guarded conversation to courageous witness. By the end of the Gospel, **she even leaves her water jar behind** and runs back to her town proclaiming whom she has met. That detail matters. She leaves the jar—the very thing that gave her provision. Her trust became concrete because encounter leads to surrender. This is precisely the journey we are invited into as individuals and as a parish.

In last week's readings, Abram trusted God enough to leave behind what gave him security. This week, the Israelites in the desert struggle to trust when water seems scarce, asking, **“Is the Lord with us, or not?”** Their question echoes in every generation—including ours. Saint Paul answers that question directly in today's Second Reading: **“The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.”** God has already given Himself completely to us—we may simply not have experienced it yet.

Christian generosity is never payment to God; it is response to a love already received. This is why financial giving belongs alongside prayer and fasting as a pillar of Lent. Giving stretches trust beyond ideas into action. It asks whether we believe God will truly provide if we place Him first.

I invite you to consider percentage giving—offering God a known proportion of your income. This approach is biblical and spiritually formative, moving generosity from convenience to discipleship. **I also continue to encourage Direct Debit giving**, not simply for administrative stability but because it reflects a conscious, prayerful decision made in advance: **“Lord, the first portion belongs to you.”**

For some, the next step may be small but meaningful. If you give occasionally, perhaps **regular giving** is your invitation. If you already give regularly, perhaps **increasing your gift** as a sign of trust in God's provision is the step.

Like the Samaritan woman, none of us are asked to have perfect faith before responding. Trust grows through concrete actions. Our parish is not sustained by obligation but built through shared mission. Every act of generosity helps create a community where people can encounter the living Jesus. Together, we are becoming more than a parish that maintains buildings or balances budgets—we are becoming a parish where lives are transformed through intimacy with Christ.

Stand with Him at the well. Listen for His voice. And ask: **“What step of trust are you inviting me to take?”** Because ultimately, I do not ask you to respond because the parish needs it; I invite you to respond because Jesus is offering living water—and trust in Him changes everything.

Peace and love – **Fr Josh**

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Ministry Leadership Team Update - Community Life



Recently, 5 generous ladies from Our Lady of the Way, Petrie, shared their expertise in **Rosary Bead Making**, with over 20 enthusiastic community members. Their kindness extended to beyond teaching, to leaving hand-made blessed rosary beads, prayer cards and materials to assist this new initiative and the tradition of rosary bead making continues within our community. Donated sets of hand-made rosary beads are available for parishioners and can be found on the bench near the piety items at OLR church.

27 parishioners, including Fr Gerard, were warmly welcomed by Ngaire at our recent monthly **Seniors Event** at the new contemporary **Caloundra Library**. Participants enjoyed a detailed tour across 3 floors, which left an impression and sparked enthusiasm for future library engagement. Look out for information about our next seniors event, **Cruising Pumicestone Passage, scheduled for Wednesday, 18 March**. All welcome to what promises to be an enjoyable outing!

Our **Hospitality Team** continues to serve refreshments and provide a welcoming environment after mass and for parish events, including the upcoming **Encounter Evening on 6 March**. These gatherings are important opportunities to connect and support one another within the parish. With increasing growth, we are always looking for more volunteers to assist with serving, clean-up, bringing a plate or becoming part of our regular Mass teams.

Welcomers play a vital part in greeting parishioners and visitors. Their role has extended to include offering assistance and guidance to those who may need a helping hand or directions, ensuring that everyone feels supported and included.

No strangers at OLR! The wearing of Name Badges is encouraged as part of our commitment to foster familiarity and connection among our parish community. Orders being taken.

For more information or to volunteer about any of the above Community Life roles, please contact Janice at chilcottj@bne.catholic.net.au.



Parish Mini Mission



Join us for our Parish Lenten Mini Mission with **Fr Richard Leonard** – priest, filmmaker and author of ten books, including ‘Where the Hell is God?’ and ‘Hatch, Match & Dispatch: A Catholic Guide to Sacraments’. He holds degrees in theology, a Master’s in systematic theology, and a PhD from the University of Melbourne.

Ordained in 1993 and born in Warwick, Fr Richard has spent many years helping people **explore the connection between faith and everyday life**, including through his work in film and media. He speaks with clarity, warmth and real pastoral insight.

We’re very pleased he has accepted our invitation to **lead this Lenten series for our parish** (sponsored by Holy Cross Funerals) – a valuable opportunity for reflection and renewal as we prepare for Easter.

9-11 March | 9:30am Cuppa | 10am Start OLR Caloundra | 5pm Start Stella Maris Maroochydore

Ladies Lunch

Our next Ladies Lunch is happening on **Friday 13th March at 12 noon at Three Restaurant, 115 Bulcock Street, Caloundra**.

All women of the parish are warmly invited to come along for a relaxed and enjoyable afternoon – a wonderful opportunity to connect, build friendships, and share in our parish community.

If you would like to attend, **please contact Deborah on 0410 531 901** by Tuesday 10th March so we can confirm numbers. We’d love to see you there!



RAP Workshop

Join us for the RAP Networking Workshop to deepen our understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture, and connection to Country. Parishes from across the Archdiocese are attending, and OLR parishioners are warmly invited.

Local elder Kerry Jones, a Kabi Kabi man and Director of the Bunya Bunya Country Aboriginal Corporation, will open the day, followed by a practical session on implementing the RAP and strengthening cultural inclusion in our parish.

RSVP: By Thurs 12 March. Please register via tinyurl.com/rapnetmar26 or using the QR code

March 14 | 10:00am – 2:30pm | OLR Church Caloundra | No Cost



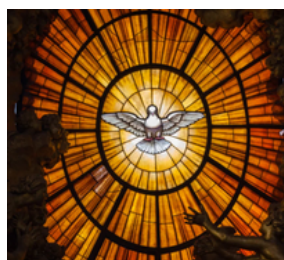
Term 2 - Sacrament of Confirmation

All baptised children from grade 3 and up are welcome to celebrate their Confirmation in Term 2. The program starts on **21st April at 5-6pm in the OLR Church**, and runs for 6 weeks with the **Confirmation ceremony on Friday 5th June**. Session 1 has been pushed back a week due to 29 May Maleny Show Holiday.

You will need to attend all sessions to be able to celebrate the sacrament.

To register, please join Flocknote, fill out the details for your family and complete the registration forms via the appropriate QR codes

Any questions please contact the Parish at caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au



Flocknote QR

Registration QR



Project Compassion - Week 3

Monoranjon lives in a village in Bangladesh close to the sea, where floods and storms often damage his crops and his home. With support from Project Compassion, he learnt climate-resilient farming techniques and new ways to diversify his income, helping his family survive and build a safer, more sustainable future.



You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code. Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate



You are invited to a Day of Reparation

Around **90.000 abortions are performed in Australia** each year. Join the Nambour Parish community on Saturday, 14th March, to pray and fast for an end to abortion.

St Joseph's Mass: 8am. Adoration: 8:30am – 5pm. Benediction: 4:30pm – 5pm.

Spend time with the Lord, praying for an end to abortion.



ON THE JOURNEY...

We pray for **Ava & Charlise Scaglia** and **Hannah & Jade Muller**, who will be baptised this weekend at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Caloundra.

We pray for the souls of our recently deceased

Funerals: **James Dwyer**, Gregson & Weight, Buderim, 1pm, March 10th
Margaret Cameron, OLR Caloundra, 11am, March 13th



Parish Diary

Monday 9th March

Mass (OLR) 9am
Mini Mission (OLR) 9:30am

Tuesday 10th March

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

Wednesday 11th March

Mass (OLR) 9am
Mini Mission (OLR) 9:30 am
Mass (Lt Mt) 9.30am

Thursday 12th March

Mass (OLR) 9am
Rosary (OLR) 9.30am
Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am
Adoration for Vocations & Stations of the Cross (Lands) beginning 10am

Friday 13th March

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

Saturday 14th March

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

Vigil Masses

4th Sunday in Lent

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

Sunday 15th March

4th Sunday in Lent

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



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