



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC PARISH

Third Sunday of Easter - 18/19th April Year A

From 'Here' to 'There' - Seeing with the Eyes of Faith

In parish life, the word vision can sometimes feel abstract – something reserved for plans, documents, or leadership meetings. But in its truest sense, **vision is deeply practical and profoundly spiritual**. It is about seeing clearly: seeing where we are, where God is calling us, and why that journey matters.

To understand vision, we must begin with honesty about 'here'. **'Here' is our current reality** – who we are as a parish right now. It includes our strengths: the faithfulness of parishioners, the generosity of volunteers, the reverence of our liturgies, the quiet acts of service that often go unnoticed. **But 'here' also includes our limitations:** the areas where we feel stretched, the ministries that need renewal, the people we are not yet reaching, and the habits that may no longer serve the mission entrusted to us.

Naming 'here' requires humility and courage. Without it, vision becomes disconnected from reality – something imagined but never lived. When we honestly recognise where we are, **we create a solid foundation from which God can lead us forward**. This is not about criticism; it is about clarity. It is about seeing with the eyes of faith, trusting that God is already at work in our present moment.



From this place, we begin to speak of 'there'. 'There' is not simply a better version of what we already have. It is the future God is inviting us into – **a future shaped by deeper intimacy with Jesus**, greater unity as a parish, and a renewed missionary energy. 'There' is a parish where every person, from the youngest child to the oldest member, knows they are loved by Jesus and called to share that love with others. It is a parish alive with purpose, where faith is not only celebrated on Sundays but lived boldly throughout the week.

Vision, then, is the bridge between 'here' and 'there'. It is not a map with every detail filled in, but a clear and compelling picture of the destination. **It gives direction and meaning to our efforts**. Without vision, even good activity can become scattered or routine. With vision, everything begins to align – our ministries, our decisions, our use of time and resources – all oriented toward the same horizon. But an important question remains: **why should we leave 'here' and go to 'there'?** After all, 'here' can feel comfortable. It is familiar. It is known. The call to move can feel unsettling.



This is where a compelling vision becomes essential. A vision worth following awakens desire. It stirs something within us. It helps us to see that 'there' is not about abandoning what we love, but about becoming more fully who we are called to be. It reveals that the journey is not driven by dissatisfaction, but by invitation – **God's invitation into greater life, deeper joy, and more fruitful mission**.

When vision is cast clearly and consistently – over and over again – it begins to take root in the hearts of the community. **It opens up new horizons**. People start to imagine what could be, not just what is. They begin to see their own place within the larger story. The journey from 'here' to 'there' becomes something we undertake together, not as individuals, but as one parish family.

In this way, vision is not a one-time statement; **it is a living reality that must be proclaimed, revisited, and embodied**. It shapes our culture. It influences our choices. It calls us forward, even when the path requires trust. Yet an essential step in this journey is the movement from my vision as parish priest to our vision as a parish community. This happens through consistent invitation, listening, discernment, and shared ownership. As the vision is prayerfully received, tested, and embraced by the people, it begins to take root in hearts and is expressed in the life of the community. In this way, **it becomes something we carry together**.

Ultimately, **a parish's vision is grounded in Christ Himself**. He is both the source and the destination. As we recognise 'here', and respond to the call toward 'there', we do so with confidence that He walks with us. And it is in following Him – step by step – that our vision becomes not just something we speak about, but something we live.

With peace and vision – Fr Josh



Ministry Update - Community Life



Our parish community continues to grow in faith, fellowship, and service through the many meaningful moments shared in recent weeks.

We were blessed to offer **hospitality during our Lenten events**, beginning with the **Encounter Evening**, which provided a meaningful opportunity to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit. This was followed by the **Mini-Mission**, helping parishioners deepen their understanding of the faith, and a **prayer morning with the Sisters of Mary Morning Star** — a reflective gathering that invited all into a space of stillness, prayer, and spiritual renewal. Many expressed heartfelt gratitude for these experiences, especially during the Lenten season, as they offered a gentle opportunity to pause, reflect, and reconnect with God.

After Mass hospitality continues to be a vibrant part of parish life, especially following the **Saturday Vigil and Easter Sunday Mass**. The sharing of food has brought warmth and joy, strengthening our sense of belonging and community. In March alone, hospitality was also generously provided at **five funeral services**, offering comfort and care to grieving families.

We are grateful for the strong response to parish badges, with 79 ordered as of 10 March. Parishioners can still place orders and choose to include either their first name or both first name and surname.

Our Welcomers have embraced an expanded role, now including **ushering responsibilities**. Their presence has been especially valuable during busy celebrations such as Easter Sunday, assisting parishioners — particularly those with special needs — in finding suitable seating.

A new initiative, the **Compassion and Care Ministry**, has been introduced to support parishioners during difficult times through companionship, listening, prayer, and gentle support.

Our **Senior Group** continues to flourish, recently enjoying a Pumicestone Passage cruise in March with 30 parishioners, and just this past week attending the “Orchids in April” show, guided by parishioners Marg and Fred.

Together, we continue to build a caring, welcoming, and faith-filled community.

Altar Server Congratulations

At the end of the 9:30am Mass last Sunday, Fr Brian marked a special moment as **Francine served for the first time as an altar server**, with support from Emily-Rose. It was a great example of young people stepping forward to be part of the life of the parish.

If your child is interested in becoming an altar server, there is a simple process in place coordinated by **Fr Gerard**. We encourage families to consider this opportunity to be involved in the Mass in a meaningful way.



Open House Event

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Caloundra, invites parish leaders and members of parish communities to join us for a one-day gathering called Open House.

Open House is a chance for us to open the doors of our parish and share some of our journey of renewal. Shaped by our **partnership with Divine Renovation Ministry**, the day is less about presentations and more about hospitality—making space to connect, share what we’ve been learning, and hear from others. There will be opportunities throughout the day to hear stories, explore key ideas around parish renewal, and take part in conversations that spark new thinking and encouragement. The aim is to create a space where people can speak openly, ask questions, and learn from one another.

The event takes place on **Saturday 6th June from 9:15am - 4:15pm** with an optional 5pm mass at **Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Caloundra**.

If you would like to attend this free event, then please sign up by scanning the **Linktree QR code** in the ‘Parish Information’ section of this newsletter.

OPEN HOUSE
CALOUNDRA

DIVINE RENOVATION
in Collaboration with

SATURDAY, 6 JUNE 2026
9:45 am - 4:15 pm (Optional 5 pm Vigil Mass)

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish
61 Edmund St, Shelly Beach QLD

Kingdom Kids Youth Group - Term 2

Our Kingdom Kids Youth Group will re-launch for term 2 on **Tuesday 28th April** 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, then please sign up by scanning the **Linktree QR code** in the 'Parish Information' section of this newsletter.

St Vincent de Paul - May Initiatives

As the cooler weather approaches, the St Vincent de Paul Society invites our parish community to support **two initiatives in early May**.

Annual Winter Appeal (2-3 May)

The Winter Appeal assists local individuals and **families who are struggling**, with a focus this year on **essential items** like food and fuel. Your generosity helps meet these basic needs during a challenging time.

St Vincent 'de Formal' (Saturday 2 May)

Siena College will host the "de Formal" event, offering affordable formalwear for young people. Donations of **clean, good-quality dresses, suits, shirts, and accessories** can be dropped at the St Vincent de Paul shop in Caloundra (labelled "de Formal").



Catholic Mission

Join Catholic Mission online to honour Mother Mary during the month of May through praying the World Mission rosary.

This beautiful tradition—created in 1951 by the Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen in the United States—was born from his desire to pray for the whole world, especially for those living in poverty.



Monday to Friday | 1 May – 31 May | 2PM – 3PM | Online via Teams

RSVP by 24th April online via Brisbane.admin@catholicmission.org.au

On the Journey ...

We pray for **Lucas Busch** who will be baptised this weekend at Our Lady of the Rosary, Caloundra.

Funerals

Andrew Hazel on 23rd April, 11:00am at Our Lady of the Rosary, Caloundra

Regina Zufic on 5th May, 11:00am at Our Lady of the Rosary, Caloundra

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

May they Rest in Peace

Parish Information

Phone: Parish Office - (9am - 1pm) 0754309390

After hrs pastoral emergency - 0431099854

Email - caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au

Please see Parish Linktree QR Code to the right



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

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

Parish Diary

Monday 20th April

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

Tuesday 21st April

Adoration, Rosary
(Maleny) 8:30am
Mass (OLR) 9am
Rosary (OLR) 9:30am

Wednesday 22nd April

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

Thursday 23rd April

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

Friday 24th April

Mass [*Anointing*] (OLR) 9am
Mass (Beerwah) 9am

Saturday 25th April

ANZAC Day

Adoration & Reconciliation
(OLR) 9am

Vigil Masses

Mass (OLR) 5pm
Mass (Unity College
Chapel) 5pm

Sunday 26th April

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



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