



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC PARISH

PENTECOST - 23RD-24th May Year A

PENTECOST AND PARISH SERVICE DAY

This weekend, the Church throughout the world celebrates **the great feast of Pentecost** - the outpouring of Holy Spirit upon the apostles and the birth of the Church. It's a day of fire, courage, mission, and transformation, yet Pentecost is not merely about something that happened 2,000 years ago. In the same way that when we celebrate a person's birthday, we do not celebrate only the day they were born but also who they have become and are becoming, so too, **Pentecost invites us to celebrate what Holy Spirit has done, is doing, and will do** in our parish and the Universal Church. One of the **clearest signs that Holy Spirit is alive and active among us is service.**



This weekend also marks our third **annual Parish Service Day (PSD)**. PSD takes place at the conclusion of National Volunteer Week and is a fitting moment to pause and **give thanks for the countless people** who quietly, faithfully, and generously serve our parish community in ways seen and unseen. Throughout this past week, we have been celebrating many of the different areas of service within our parish on social media - highlighting the service areas and ministries that help make our parish what it is. It has been a beautiful reminder that **every parish flourishes because ordinary people** continue to say "yes" to God in extraordinary ways.

We give thanks for those who clean our churches before most people arrive and long after everyone has gone home. We give thanks for those who prepare the altar, arrange flowers, count collections, welcome at the doors, serve on committees, maintain buildings and grounds, lead music, project lyrics, prepare liturgies, teach children, visit the sick, coordinate ministries, accompany the grieving, organise hospitality, care for the vulnerable, and lead our parish from both behind the scenes and the front-and-centre with generosity and love. So much of what happens in parish life is only possible because **people quietly choose to give their time, energy, gifts, and hearts in service of others.** Personally, I am deeply grateful.

Perhaps the most beautiful thing anyone could do this weekend is to say thank you to someone we have never met before - someone whose service often goes unnoticed, but whose contribution helps make this parish a place where people can encounter Jesus Christ. Because that is what service ultimately is. Christian service is not simply volunteering or helping out. **Service is one of the fruits - one of the effects - of encountering Jesus through His Holy Spirit.** To encounter Jesus is to be drawn beyond ourselves. **Holy Spirit always moves us outward in love.** The Spirit awakens gifts, inspires generosity, and calls each of us into mission for the sake of the Body of Christ.

In this weekend's second reading, St Paul reminds us: *"No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord,' except by the Holy Spirit. There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord... the particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose... In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body"* (1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13).

What a profound vision of the Church. **Every single person matters. Every gift matters. Every act of service matters.** No one has every gift, but everyone has been gifted. **Holy Spirit does not create spectators but disciples** - people who discover that their lives have meaning when poured out in love for God and neighbour. This is why service is not an optional extra in parish life. It is part of Christian discipleship itself.

At the end of Masses this weekend, there will be **opportunities for parishioners to put their hand up to serve in some way** within our parish community. Some ministries are visible; many are hidden. Some require leadership; others require simple faithfulness. Some involve public speaking; others involve quiet acts of care. But all of them matter because all of them build up the Body of Christ.



This weekend presents each of us with an important question: **What is Holy Spirit inviting me to do at this moment in my life?** For some, the invitation may be to step into a ministry for the very first time. For others, it may be to return after a time away. For others still, it may simply be to become more intentional about serving with joy rather than obligation. **Holy Spirit never stops calling us into deeper communion, deeper mission, and deeper love.**

May this Pentecost renew within us the courage to say "yes" again to Holy Spirit. And may our parish continue to become a community where every person discovers the joy of using their God-given gifts in service of Christ and one another.

With peace and love – **Fr Josh**

THANK YOU FATHER GERARD

To serve the Church where one is needed most is part and parcel of being a diocesan priest. Throughout their ordained lives, priests know they will continually be called to new communities, new ministries, and new opportunities for growth. Indeed, priests grow by being willing to change, let go, move on, and embrace whatever the Lord asks of them next.

Recently, I received word from Archbishop Shane that **Fr Gerard will soon take up a twelve-month appointment at Stella Maris Catholic Parish** alongside Fr Peter Brannelly. While it is never easy to say goodbye, we also recognise that this next appointment will be an important opportunity for Fr Gerard's continued growth in leadership and ministry.

Fr Gerard arrived at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish newly ordained and, over the past two years and ten months, has become not simply one of the priests of the parish, but **a deeply valued member of our parish family and mission.**



Among Fr Gerard's greatest strengths has been his one-to-one pastoral ministry. In a particular way, he has invested himself generously in the lives of children and families, as well as our youth and young adults. Through his warmth, availability, encouragement and genuine interest in people, he has formed countless friendships across our parish community. There are many people - parishioners, school families and young people alike - who **will deeply miss his presence among us.**

One of Fr Gerard's most endearing qualities is his kind heart. His gentleness and sincere care for others have **reflected the love of Christ to so many people** - myself included. In the way he has quietly accompanied people, listened attentively, and given himself wholeheartedly to parish life, Fr Gerard has provided a beautiful example of Christian love and priestly service.

Fr Gerard's final weekend with us will be May 30/31 before he moves to Maroochydore on **Wednesday 3 June**, to begin this new chapter at Stella Maris Parish. While we will certainly miss him, we also give thanks to God for the many ways he has enriched and strengthened our parish community during these past years. Please keep Fr Gerard in your prayers as he prepares for this transition and new ministry.

With every blessing on behalf of us all,

Fr Josh

SENIORS EVENT - MAY: BEERWAH'S BUSH MASS

Next Friday, 29 May, members of the Seniors Group will be heading to Beerwah for the 9:00am Bush Mass. It will be a lovely opportunity to get together, celebrate the Mass, and spend some time catching up with one another over morning tea afterwards. These outings are always a great chance for friendship, conversation, and enjoying each other's company.

If you would like to join us for this outing, please register your attendance via the **Linktree QR code** provided in the 'Parish Information' section of this newsletter. For those who require it, transport can be arranged upon request.



KINGDOM KIDS YOUTH GROUP

Kingdom Kids Youth Group for children (Years 3-6) is back next week on **Tuesday 26 May from 4:00pm-5:00pm** at Unity College Chapel (47 Lomond Crescent, Caloundra West). Meeting monthly, Kingdom Kids aims to help children grow in faith, build friendships, and deepen their relationship with Jesus through catechesis, formation, and fun activities together.

To register, please scan the **QR code** in the 'Parish Information' section of the newsletter.

ALPHA COURSE - JULY



Our parish will be offering another Alpha course beginning on **Saturday 18 July** and continuing through to Saturday 29 August 2026. Sessions will be held **each Saturday from 1:30pm-3:30pm**, with a retreat day on Saturday 15 August from 9:00am-2:00pm.

Alpha is designed for those who are new to the Christian faith, returning to the Church, or simply wanting to explore their faith in a relaxed environment. It is a place to learn about the faith, ask the big questions and grow in a Christian based community.

Do you know someone who could benefit from Alpha? If you do, then we encourage you to invite them along. Registrations are limited to 20 participants. Please use the **QR code** in the 'Parish Information' section of this newsletter to register.

ENCOUNTER NIGHT



Our next Encounter Night will be held on **Friday 19 June**, and all parishioners are invited. The evening will begin with separate gatherings for youth and adults. From 6pm, young people will gather at Unity College for games and activities, while adults will enjoy drinks and nibbles from 6:15pm.

At 7pm, everyone will gather in the chapel for praise and worship, a guest speaker, personal testimony, Eucharistic Adoration, and an opportunity for prayer ministry.

Encounter Night is a chance to slow down, **spend time with the Lord, and gather as a parish community.** Whether you have been before or this is your first time attending, we would love to welcome you.

If you would like to attend Encounter Night, **sign up through our Linktree** by scanning the QR code in the 'Parish Information' section of this newsletter.



CEO SLEEPOUT



The Vinnies CEO Sleepout is an initiative that raises awareness and funds for **Australians experiencing homelessness.** As part of the event, participants spend one night sleeping outside to gain a small insight into the reality faced by thousands of people across the country.

This year, Fr Josh is taking part in the Sleepout to help raise funds for the St Vincent de Paul Society and support Australians experiencing homelessness and hardship. To donate, please scan the **QR code** below. There will also be an opportunity to **give cash** at Sunday Masses.

RECONCILIATION WALK

The Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Group invites the community to join the Aunty Betty Memorial Reconciliation Walk on **Wednesday 27 May 2026, from 10:00am-2:00pm** at Dicky Beach Park.

This special event is an opportunity to connect with **Kabi Kabi First Nations culture** through traditional dance, music, and a guided walk led by Traditional Custodians. Each year, hundreds of people gather for the walk, including local schools, community groups, and civic leaders, as part of National Reconciliation Week. All are welcome to attend this community celebration at **Dicky Beach.**



ON THE JOURNEY ...

We pray for **William & Joseph Carberry, Eleanore Abelgas and Ciana Adolfo** who will be baptised this weekend at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Caloundra.

Funerals:

Howard Morris, Thursday 28 May at Sacred Heart Church, Maleny

We pray for the souls of **Margaret Brown** and **Miriam Zender** whose funerals were on Friday 22 May and our deceased priests, religious & 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



Parish Diary

Monday 25th May

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

Tuesday 26th May

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

Wednesday 27th May

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

Thursday 28th May

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

Friday 29th May

Mass (OLR) 9am
Mass (Beerwah) 9am

Saturday 30th May

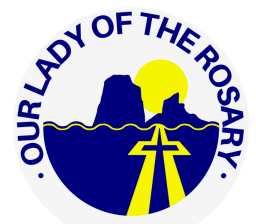
Adoration & Reconciliation (OLR) 9am

Vigil Masses

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

Sunday 31st May

Mass (OLR) 7.30am
Mass (Landsborough) 9am
Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am
Mass (OLR) 9.30am
Mass (Lt Mt) 10.30am
Mass (Unity College Chapel) 5pm



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