



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC PARISH

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 25/26th July Year A

A ROADMAP TO A SYNODAL PARISH

Last week, members of our Senior Leadership Team and I were honoured to be invited to deliver a 70-minute keynote presentation at the **annual Clergy Convocation at Holy Spirit Seminary**. Before approximately 150 priests from across Southeast Queensland, we were asked to share something of the journey Our Lady of the Rosary Parish has been undertaking and how we are seeking to create what Pope Francis describes as a synodal parish. The title of our presentation was "[A Roadmap to a Synodal Parish: From Personal Conversion to Differentiated Co-Responsibility](#)." While that title may sound complex, the reality is quite simple. At its heart, synodality is about **learning to walk together as the People of God**. It is about recognising that every baptised person has gifts, responsibilities, and a unique role to play in the mission of the Church.

Over the past four years, our parish has been intentionally moving away from two outdated ecclesial models where either Father is the leader and parishioners assist when needed, the priest celebrates Mass while the parishioners operate independently of the priest's leadership, towards a culture where **clergy and laity share responsibility for the mission Christ has entrusted to us**. This mission is not simply maintaining buildings, preserving programs, or ensuring Sunday Mass runs smoothly. Our mission is clear:

To make new disciples by actively accompanying people into an encounter with Jesus Christ.

Everything else exists to support that mission. What surprised the priests gathered at the Convocation was that our journey did not begin with organisational charts, strategic plans, or new committees. **It began with conversion** - particularly a conversion [in how leadership is understood](#). Many of us, clergy and laity alike, have inherited assumptions that leadership belongs primarily to the priest, while everyone else helps out. Yet the Second Vatican Council reminds us that through Baptism **every Christian shares in Christ's mission** and is called to exercise their gifts for the building up of the Church.

Over time, we began asking different questions:

- What gifts has God already placed within our parish?
- How do we identify, form, and empower leaders?
- How do we move people from volunteering to genuine co-responsibility?
- How do we create a culture where people confidently take ownership of mission?

The answer has been a gradual but intentional process of **forming leaders and entrusting real responsibility** to them. Today, our Senior Leadership Team meets weekly to pray, discern and lead together. Around this leadership body sit multiple Ministry Leadership Teams that oversee key areas of parish life, as well as our Pastoral Leadership Teams. Rather than functioning as representatives of particular communities or ministries, these [leaders are united by a common vision and a shared commitment](#) to helping people encounter Jesus.



The **result has been remarkable**. New ministries have emerged. Existing ministries have grown stronger. Hospitality has expanded. Alpha and faith formation opportunities have flourished. Young families are increasingly finding a place to belong. Hundreds of volunteers are serving with greater support and clarity. Most importantly, more parishioners are discovering that they are not simply consumers of parish life but **active participants in Christ's mission**.

In sharing our story with the clergy of the Archdiocese, we were careful to emphasise that we do not claim to have all the answers. Every parish is different. Every community has its own history, challenges, strengths, and opportunities. What we offered was not a blueprint, but a testimony. A testimony that when people are genuinely formed, trusted, empowered, and supported, they often exceed every expectation. A testimony that Holy Spirit is already at work among the People of God. A testimony that synodality is not primarily about structures, but about relationships, trust, shared vision, and a willingness to discern together where God is leading.

Perhaps one of the most encouraging signs of this renewal is that the vision of our parish is increasingly no longer "Father's vision." **It is becoming our vision**. It belongs to the countless volunteers, ministry leaders, staff members, and parishioners who pray, serve, welcome, invite, and accompany others every week.

The presentation concluded with a simple encouragement to the clergy gathered there: don't try to do everything at once. Take one step. Then another. Trust that God will reveal the next step after you take the first. The same is true for us as a parish. Our journey is far from complete. There is much work still to do. Yet we remain deeply grateful for what God has already accomplished through the faith, generosity, and commitment of so many people in our community. Thank you for being part of the story. [Together, let us continue to accompany people to encounter Jesus](#) and, through that encounter, make new disciples for His Kingdom.

With peace and love – Fr Josh

WORLD GRANDPARENTS & ELDERLY DAY REFLECTION

This weekend, on the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, we are reminded of the words God speaks through the prophet Isaiah: *"I will never forget you"* (Isaiah 49:15). For grandparents and elderly people, especially those who experience loneliness or feel forgotten, these words are **a message of consolation and hope**. God's love for each person does not fail, even in the frailty of old age.

This day also asks something of us as families and as a parish community. The elderly are not simply people to be remembered on one particular day. They are **a precious presence and a blessing among us**. Their lives, faith and experience are part of the story of our families and communities.

As we celebrate today, may we give thanks for our grandparents and elderly parishioners, and take the opportunity to **draw closer to those who may feel alone**. In doing so, we help make the words "I will never forget you" visible in the life of our parish.



UPCOMING FEAST DAY MASSES AT OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY



On **Saturday, 8th August**, we celebrate the Solemnity of **St Mary of the Cross MacKillop**, Australia's first canonised saint. Her life of faith, service, and sacrifice continues to witness to God's presence and action in the world.

One week later, on **Saturday, 15th August**, we celebrate the **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, a Holy Day of Obligation. In the Assumption, we are reminded of the hope of our own resurrection and the glory God desires to share with us.

A special 9:00am Solemnity Mass will be celebrated at OLR on both days. We especially invite you to join us for the Assumption as we celebrate with our parish patroness, Our Lady of the Rosary, and ask for the intercession of Mary and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

These **Masses will replace the usual 9:00am Adoration and Benediction**. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 8:00am before each Mass.

8th August | Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop | 8am Reconciliation | 9am Mass

15th August | Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary | 8am Reconciliation | 9am Mass

IGNITE CARWASH

Our annual Ignite Car Wash & BBQ is coming up on **Sunday, 9th August, at Our Lady of the Rosary Church**. Our Youth Group will soon be travelling to Ignite Conference 2026 in Brisbane, and we are coming together as a parish to help make this possible.

Ignite gives young Catholics the opportunity to encounter Jesus alongside thousands of others from across Australia through talks, worship, the sacraments, prayer, and fellowship. By supporting our youth, we live out our parish mission *to be a vibrant community that actively accompanies people to encounter Jesus*.

Cars will be washed from **7:00am–12:00pm for just \$20 per vehicle**, with a sausage sizzle after both the 7:30am and 9:30am Masses. All funds raised will go towards **helping our Youth Group attend Ignite**. Please continue to pray for them as they prepare for this experience.

If you are able to volunteer to help with the BBQ or car washing, please contact the Youth Team at cp.youthandyoungadults@bne.catholic.net.au.



IGNITE CONFERENCE - ADULTS

Ignite isn't just for the youth! Adults are also invited to **join our parish delegation to Ignite Conference** in Brisbane from **24–27 September 2026**.

Ignite is a conference for everyone — from parish leaders and those deeply involved in ministry to those simply looking to grow in their faith and encounter Jesus in a new way. Many adults who attended with our parish last year are excited to return, and we hope you'll consider joining us this year. Whether you have been to Ignite before or would be attending for the first time, you are very welcome to be part of our parish delegation.

If you'd like to find out more, **please contact the parish office**.

SENIORS WELLBEING PRESENTATION



All seniors are invited to join us on **Thursday, July 30th, at 10:00am** in the Egan Room for an engaging presentation on wellbeing by **Peggine Zih**—Naturopath, CranioSacral Therapist, and Wellbeing Coach. Peggine has recently presented to audiences across the Sunshine Coast libraries and is known for her informative and interactive presentations.

Please bring a plate to share beforehand. To assist with catering and seating, **please register via the Parish Linktree** by using the QR code on the 'Parish Information' section of this newsletter, or contact the Parish Office.

RCIA

RCIA is for **adults interested in becoming Catholic**, receiving the Sacraments, or learning more about the Catholic faith. The next RCIA journey begins in September.

To express your interest in RCIA, or to register for Alpha, please **complete the relevant form via the QR code** in this newsletter or contact the Parish Office.



NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

National Vocation Awareness Week will be observed from 2nd–9th August 2026. This week invites the whole Church to **pray for vocations** and to reflect on how God may be calling each of us to live out our vocation, whether through marriage, the single life, priesthood, or consecrated life. Please also pray for those discerning their vocation, for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, for our priests and all those who already serve the Church.

A special evening prayer event, Transfiguration, will be held at the **Cathedral of St Stephen on Thursday, 6 August**, beginning at 5:30pm with Solemn Vespers and a Holy Hour, presided over by Archbishop Shane Mackinlay. Refreshments and a Vocations Expo will follow in the Hanly Room.



PEOPLE ON A MISSION

What does it mean to be a people on mission? The Archdiocesan Centre for Catholic Formation is offering a **nine-week formation course** exploring the call to evangelisation and what it means to become missionary disciples in our parishes, families and wider communities.

Beginning Monday, 17 August, the course will explore practical ways that we can respond to the Church's call to go forth on mission. Sessions will be held on Monday evenings at the Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre, with an online option available for regional groups of at least five participants.

If you would like to find out more or register, visit catholicformation.au.

ON THE JOURNEY ...

We pray for **Levi & Lincoln Mahony, Elara & Josephine Bentley and Storm & Reef Murry** who will be baptised this weekend at Our Lady of the Rosary, Caloundra.

Funerals:

Gerardus Slager at OLR, Caloundra, 11am, Tuesday 28th July

Bev Cammell at OLR, Caloundra, 11am, Thursday 30th July

We pray for the souls of our recently deceased priests & parishioners. **May they Rest in Peace.**

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 27th July

Mass (OLR) 9am

Adoration (OLR) 9:30am

Tuesday 28th July

Mass (OLR) 9am

Rosary (OLR) 9:30am

Wednesday 29th July

Adoration, Rosary

(Maleny) 8:30am

School Liturgy (OLR) 9am

Mass (Lt Mt) 9:30am

Thursday 30th July

Parish Office Closed

Mass (OLR) 9am

Rosary (OLR) 9:30am

Mass (Currimundi) 9:15am

Adoration for Vocations

(Lands) 9am

Friday 31st July

Mass (OLR) 9am

Mass (Beerwah) 9am

Saturday 1st August

Adoration & Reconciliation

(OLR) 9am

Vigil Masses

Mass (OLR) 5pm

Mass (Unity Chapel) 5pm

Sunday 2nd August

Mass (OLR) 7:30am

Mass (Lands) 9am

Mass (Currimundi) 9:15am

Mass (OLR) 9:30am

Mass (Lt Mt) 10:30am

Mass (Unity Chapel) 5pm

PARISH INFO

Phone:

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0754309390

After hrs pastoral emergency -
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Email:

caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au

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