



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC PARISH

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 15/16th August Year A

RECOGNISED AND WELCOMED

This week, **Australia held its 2026 Census**. On Census night, everyone in Australia was to be counted—not only Australian citizens, but also visa holders and overseas visitors. The Census asks about such things as our country of birth, ancestry, and the language we speak at home. In this way, it recognises that the people present in Australia have come from many different nations and cultural backgrounds. It does not pretend that we are all the same. Rather, **it gives each person a place within the wider picture of Australia**.

This weekend, the Word of God invites us to **consider another kind of census**—one conducted not by a government, but by God's grace. At a deeper and more spiritual level, the first reading and the Gospel ask us to **recognise whom God welcomes into his household**.

Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord speaks about **foreigners who have joined themselves to him**. Although they were not Israelites by birth, God promises to bring them to his holy mountain and make them joyful in his house of prayer. God then declares, **"My house will be called a house of prayer for all peoples."** Their place of birth does not prevent them from entering God's dwelling place.

The Canaanite woman in the Gospel does not belong to the Jewish people, and the disciples appear to regard her as a nuisance. They want Jesus to send her away and maintain the boundary between themselves and this foreign woman. **Yet she refuses to allow the label of "foreigner" to silence her prayer**. She continues to cry out, "Lord, help me." In response to her persistent faith, Jesus pours out his healing grace upon her daughter.

Jesus finally says to her, "Woman, you have great faith." The person whom the disciples wanted to send away is recognised by Jesus as a woman of remarkable faith.



The Census records our country of birth and ancestry; **Jesus recognises the faith within the human heart**. The Census counts every person who is present; **God sees every person as precious**. The Church is therefore called not merely to acknowledge that people come from different backgrounds, but also to make God's welcome visible to them.

Our parish reflects the cultural diversity with which God has blessed our world. Yet someone may still feel like a foreigner in our parish because of their accent, culture, appearance, or unfamiliarity with Catholic traditions. Our words and attitudes must never make anyone feel invisible, unwelcome, or unwanted.

At every Eucharist, a kind of spiritual census is revealed. People from many backgrounds gather around one table, united not by nationality, ancestry, or language, but **by the mercy of Christ**. Let us look around and recognise who is with us. We may be different from one another in many ways, yet we worship the same God and receive the same Body of Christ.

May our parish truly become what God desires: a house of prayer and a spiritual home for all peoples. - **Fr. Minje**

THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY



The Catechism teaches: *"The Most Blessed Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was completed, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven, where she already shares in the glory of her Son's Resurrection, anticipating the resurrection of all members of his Body"* (CCC 974).

Mary, the all-holy Virgin, the New Eve and Mother of the Church, **reveals Christ's victory** in splendour. She who shared so intimately in the mystery of her Son now shares in the glory of his Resurrection. Christ, who trampled down death by his death and rose victorious from the grave, has glorified his Mother, preserving her from the corruption of the tomb and taking her, body and soul, into heavenly glory.

In Mary we therefore **behold a sign of our own hope**. She already shares in the glory that awaits those who belong to Christ. At the resurrection of the dead, we too shall be raised bodily and, by grace, share in the life of the risen Lord.

The Assumption is therefore both **Mary's exaltation and our promise**: in her, the Church sees already accomplished the glory that, through Christ, awaits his members at the resurrection of the dead.

MLT UPDATE - COMMUNITY LIFE

Hospitality Teams:

Hospitality is an important part of parish life. Whether it is sharing a meal after Mass, welcoming people at a parish event or providing food and conversation after a funeral, these simple acts help us build a sense of community and make people feel welcome and cared for.

Our Hospitality teams have recently supported two special parish occasions. At the **St Carlo Acutis Major Relic Day**, the BBQ lunch provided an opportunity for people to come together, share conversation and learn more about the life of this remarkable young saint. Carlo's short life of faith and his love for the Eucharist continue to inspire people around the world.

Our Sunday Hospitality Team also helped make **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** a special occasion. Beautifully decorated tables, adorned with camellia flowers, provided the setting for a shared meal and an opportunity for our older parishioners to come together and enjoy one another's company. It was a lovely way to recognise and celebrate the contribution of our older members of the parish.



Seniors Group:

Our Seniors Group recently enjoyed a **presentation on wellbeing and healthy ageing** by Peggie Zih, a local naturopath, craniosacral therapist and wellbeing coach. Peggie shared a range of simple and practical ideas for supporting our general health and wellbeing as we grow older. Participants were encouraged to set personal goals and consider practical steps they could take in the future. The lively conversations afterwards showed how much the group valued the opportunity to learn and share together.

Volunteers Required:

Our **Funeral Hospitality Team is looking for a couple of volunteers** to help with setting up and packing away tables and chairs for funeral gatherings. If you are able to assist, please contact Don through the parish office on Mondays for more information.

We thank all who give their time to support our teams ministries and contribute to the life of our parish.

MEN ALIVE CONFERENCE 2026

Recently, 140 men from across Australia gathered at Luther Heights Camp, Coolool, for menALIVE MAX26, a national Catholic men's conference and retreat weekend.

Our parish was strongly represented, alongside a great group of men from Maroochydore Parish, as participants came together for a weekend of prayer, fellowship, formation and renewal.

Built around the theme "Oceans," the weekend invited the men to go deeper in their relationship with Jesus Christ—to move beyond the shallows of faith and place greater trust in him. Through inspiring talks, shared prayer, worship, the sacraments and time spent together, the retreat created space for men to step away from the busyness of everyday life and consider more deeply what it means to follow Christ as husbands, fathers, friends and members of the Church.

There was also **a strong sense of fraternity** throughout the weekend, with men of different ages and backgrounds encouraging one another in faith and sharing openly about the joys and challenges of Christian life.

We pray that the fruits of the weekend will continue to grow in the lives of all those who attended, and through them, in their families, parishes and communities.



ANOINTING MASSES



The Anointing of the Sick is a **sacrament of healing and strength** for those experiencing illness, ill health or the effects of ageing. Through anointing with the Oil of the sick, we are strengthened by Christ's grace and the prayerful support of the Church community. Those who are unwell, experiencing serious illness or suffering from bad health are invited to receive the sacrament.

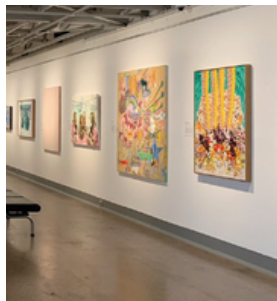
Our parish will celebrate **two Anointing Masses in September:**

Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Caloundra on Thursday 10th September at 9am
Sacred Heart Church, Maleny on Sunday 13th September at 9am

COMPASSION & CARE

Please join the Compassion & Care Team for our monthly **Morning Tea after 9am Mass on Friday the 21st of August** in the Parish Centre. The aim of this ministry is to support parishioners through challenging times by offering companionship, listening, prayer and gentle support. All are welcome!

SENIORS EVENT



Join the Seniors Group on **Friday 21st August at 1:30pm** for a visit to the **Caloundra Art Gallery** to explore the Sunshine Coast National Art Prize exhibition.

The exhibition features 40 finalists from across Australia, showcasing a variety of artistic expressions through mediums including painting, drawing, photography, printmaking, assemblage, and digital works.

Please bring a plate to share for afternoon tea. **RSVP by Wednesday 19th August** via the parish Linktree QR code in this newsletter.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Next weekend, we will celebrate First Holy Communion with **55 children and young people** from our parish as they receive the Eucharist for the first time. FHC Masses will be celebrated at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Caloundra, on **Saturday 22nd August at 5pm** and **Sunday 23rd August at 9:30am**. Families and friends will be joining us for these special celebrations, so please expect larger numbers than usual.

Some seats will be reserved for family & friends of those taking FHC, which means you may not be able to sit in your usual place. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

IGNITE CONFERENCE



All are invited to join our parish delegation to Ignite Conference in Brisbane from **24–27 September 2026**.

Ignite is a weekend of inspiring talks, worship, the sacraments, and fellowship with Catholics from across Australia. Many adults who attended with our parish last year are excited to return, and we hope you'll consider joining too. If you'd like to find out more, **please contact the parish office**.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Our parish **relies on the generosity of volunteers** in many different ministries and areas. At this time, we would especially appreciate help in the following area:

Parish Office Reception – Help welcome visitors, answer phone calls, and assist with reception duties. Training is provided. If you are available from 9:00am–12:00 noon Monday to Friday, and are interested in this role, please directly contact the parish office at **caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au**

To register to volunteer in other areas and ministries within the parish, please scan the QR code in this newsletter and fill out the form.



ON THE JOURNEY ...

We pray for **Thomas & Angus Johnson** who will be baptised this weekend at Our Lady of the Rosary, Caloundra.

We also 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 17th August

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

Tuesday 18th August

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

Wednesday 19th August

Adoration, Rosary
(Maleny) 8:30am
School Liturgy (OLR) 9am
Mass (Lt Mt) 9:30am

Thursday 20th August

Mass (OLR) 9am
Rosary (OLR) 9:30am
Mass (Currimundi) 9:15am
Adoration for Vocations
(Lands) 9am

Friday 21st August

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

Saturday 22nd August

Adoration & Reconciliation
(OLR) 9am

Vigil Masses

Mass (OLR) 5pm **FHC**
Mass (Unity Chapel) 5pm

Sunday 23rd August

Mass (OLR) 7:30am
Mass (Maleny) 9am
Mass (Currimundi) 9:15am
Mass (OLR) 9:30am **FHC**
Mass (Lt Mt) 10:30am
Mass (Unity Chapel) 5pm

PARISH INFO

Phone:

Parish Office - (9am - 1pm)
0754309390

After hrs pastoral emergency -
0431099854

Email:

caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au

Website:

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