



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC PARISH

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 22nd/23rd August Year A

WHO HOLDS THE KEYS?

What will you do with the authority God has entrusted to you? It's a great question to sit with as we listen to this Sunday's Gospel. Jesus says to Peter: "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven." **Keys are a sign of authority.** They give someone access. They entrust someone with responsibility. They say, in effect, "I trust you to look after this." But what would happen if everyone had the keys?

Imagine a family where everyone could do whatever they wanted. No parents telling children when to go to bed. No one responsible for paying the bills. No one deciding when it's time to leave for school. Everyone has complete freedom and complete authority! It wouldn't take long before things became rather chaotic.



Authority, **when it is exercised well, isn't about having power** over other people. It is about being entrusted with **responsibility for other people.** That's what makes Jesus' words to Peter so significant. Peter is given the keys and entrusted with responsibility for the community of believers. The first reading this weekend gives us a similar picture: Isaiah describes Eliakim being given the "key of the House of David". Again, the key is a symbol of authority and responsibility.



Ultimately, the Church understands this authority as continuing through Peter's successor, Pope Leo, who holds the keys of the Kingdom here on earth. The Pope entrusts responsibility to bishops, bishops entrust responsibility to priests, and priests are called to entrust responsibility to others. And **this is something I am seeking to do deliberately here in our parish.**

Who are we entrusting with the keys? I want to see more and more lay people taking up genuine responsibility for the life and mission of our parish.

But entrusting someone with a "key" isn't about finding people who simply want a position. It is about recognising people who demonstrate four qualities using the acronym, FACT:

- **Are they Faithful** – people who are committed to Jesus, his Church and our parish community.
- **Are they Available** – people who are willing to make themselves available to serve and take responsibility.
- **Are they Contagious** – people whose joy, warmth and enthusiasm for the Gospel are infectious and draw others towards Jesus.
- **Are they Teachable** – people who remain humble, open to formation, willing to listen and ready to grow.

These qualities matter because **authority in the Church is ultimately about service.** We aren't given keys so that we can control others. We are given keys so that we can **open doors for others to encounter Jesus.**

This weekend, we are celebrating 55 First Communions across our parish with children and their families. It is a beautiful reminder that faith is something we receive before we learn to share it. Through the sacraments of initiation, these children are becoming more fully aware of their place within the Body of Christ – and, in time, of the responsibility that comes with belonging.

The Fourth Commandment, "Honour your father and your mother," also reminds us that **learning to receive legitimate authority is part of becoming mature.** Before we can exercise authority well, **we need to learn how to receive it well.** And ultimately, we learn this from Jesus. Jesus has all authority, yet he uses it to serve, love, forgive, heal and give himself for others.

So perhaps the question for each of us this Sunday isn't just "Who has authority over me?" But also, **"What authority has God entrusted to me?"** "Who has God placed in my care?" And perhaps even, "Am I ready to receive a key – and use it to open a door for someone else?"

SUNDAY GOSPEL READING - MATTHEW 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

MLT UPDATE - YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

Our Youth and Young Adults team are getting excited as we look ahead to Ignite Conference, now just over a month away! We would like to **thank all the parishioners who have supported our fundraising efforts** through the car wash, jam sales and sausage sizzles. Your generosity and support have helped **make this opportunity possible for our young people**, and we are very grateful.



Kingdom Youth continues every Friday during the school term at Unity College Chapel from **6:00pm–8:30pm**. Our current theme is the Mass, drawing inspiration from St Pier Giorgio Frassati's words, "Verso l'alto" – "To the Heights." We're exploring what the Mass means for us as young Catholics. If you or your child is in Years 7–12, come along and join us for Youth Group.

Our **Young Adult community** is also growing, with adoration, picnics and plenty of opportunities to come together. We're enjoying growing in faith, sharing laughs and having good conversations along the way. If you're 18+, we'd love to have you join us at our next event. We meet most Wednesdays, so follow us on Instagram **@Caloundra.YA** for upcoming events and more info.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

The parishes across our Archdiocese are taking part in the Annual Catholic Campaign this weekend. However, our parish will have it **next weekend, 29-30th August**, as we want to use this weekend to fully support our children receiving the First Holy Communion.

Through this campaign next weekend, we have an opportunity to contribute to the important work of the Archdiocese of Brisbane and to help bring Christ's hope, compassion and practical support to people throughout our community.

Funds raised through the Campaign help support:

- **Centacare ministries** and services, including hospital and prison chaplaincy, support for vulnerable individuals and families, and pastoral care programs.
- **The Priests Foundation**, which cares for our retired, elderly, and unwell priests.
- **Holy Spirit Seminary**, assisting in the formation and education of future priests.
- The Mary MacKillop **Brisbane Catholic School Access Fund**, helping families experiencing financial hardship access a Catholic education.
- **The Annual Grants Program**, which supports parish ministries, youth initiatives, faith formation, and community outreach projects throughout the Archdiocese.



Campaign **envelopes will be available** at Masses next weekend. Please take an envelope home and prayerfully consider how you may contribute. Completed envelopes can be returned the following weekend. A QR code will also be provided nearer the time.

Thank you for your generous support. Through our shared contribution, we participate in the Church's mission of caring for others and making Christ's love present to those most in need.

ANOINTING MASSES - OLR & SACRED HEART CHURCH



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

UNLOCKING THE BIBLE



Join us for Unlocking the Bible, a monthly opportunity to grow in confidence with Scripture and deepen your relationship with Christ.

The next session will be held on **Thursday 27th August at 4pm**, at OLR church, Caloundra, presented by Fr Josh. Come and explore God's Word with us.

SENIORS EVENT: A MORNING ON MEDJUGORJE

Join us at **Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore** on **Friday, 4th September** for a special morning with Fr Gerard, who recently visited Medjugorje. Fr Gerard will share about his experience of visiting this place of pilgrimage, followed by an opportunity for discussion.

9:00am – Morning Mass (First Friday Anointing Mass)
10:00am – Morning Tea, sponsored by Holy Cross
10:30am – Medjugorje Talk with Fr Gerard
11:15am – Talk concludes, followed by Q&A
11:30am – Pack up and farewell

All are welcome to join us for this morning of fellowship, prayer and reflection. **Registration is required.** Please register via the Linktree QR code on the newsletter or phone the parish office.



COMMUNION TO THE SICK

Calling all parishioners who are taking Communion to the Sick or Infirm or anyone who could assist us in this very meaningful Ministry. This coming **Wednesday, 26th August at 2:30pm** we will be having a get together to discuss any issues and to share any good news stories. It will be for one hour and a cuppa will be provided.

We look forward to seeing you then. If you have any further questions prior to the Wednesday meeting, please feel free to call Vivienne Cooper on 0409897673.

MUMS & BUBS

Calling all Mums & Bubs within the parish! Join us for Praise and Play on **Monday, 24th August, from 10:00am-12:00pm** in the Dobson Room at OLR.

Our Mums & Bubs group provides a great opportunity for mums and little ones to connect and enjoy some time together.

If you would like to come along, please sign up via the **Linktree QR code** in this newsletter.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

This weekend, we **celebrate 55 children from our parish** who will receive their First Holy Communion. Congratulations to each of them as they take this important step in their journey of faith and receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. May the Lord continue to draw the children of our parish closer to Him and strengthen them in faith as they grow in their love for Christ and His Church.

ON THE JOURNEY ...

We pray for **Lincoln Henschell, Arlo Uribe, Bloom Hertel & Rosielea Mejia-Davis** 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 24th August

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

Tuesday 25th August

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

Wednesday 26th August

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

Thursday 27th August

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

Friday 28th August

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

Saturday 29th August

Adoration & Reconciliation
(OLR) 9am

Vigil Masses

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

Sunday 30th 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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