

# The Coastal and Hinterland Catholic Communities of **OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH**

**Embracing the faith communities of Beerwah, Caloundra, Currimundi, Kawana,  
Landsborough, Little Mountain, Maleny and Unity at Caloundra West.**



## **PARISH PRIESTS**

Fr Joshua Whitehead  
Fr Joseph Hien Van Vo

Fr Francis Fernandes

Fr Gerard Lai

## **PARISH OFFICE**

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## **OFFICE HOURS**

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## **PARISH STAFF**

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Bernadette Bain -

Director of Communications

## **PASTORAL CARE**

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## **YOUTH COORDINATOR**

Felicity Jones

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## **PARISH WEBSITE**

[www.caloundracatholicparish.net](http://www.caloundracatholicparish.net)

## **PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS**

[caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au)

## **OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Caloundra

07 5491 4522

Principal: Michael Stewart

## **UNITY COLLEGE**

Caloundra South

07 5490 5777

Principal: Dan McShea

## **16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 22/23 July 2023**

### **Welcome Fr Gerard Lai**

G'day wonderful folk of Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Parish! My name is Fr Gerard and it is with great joy and excitement that I join your community.

Growing up, I never wanted to be a priest. I wanted to be something exciting like a policeman, a scientist or a teacher. I was a very curious and quiet boy and in school I often knew the answer to the question but I was too shy to put my hand up and speak.

Then through high school, I remember seeing the Vocational Education and Training (VET) Co-ordinator over various lunchtimes trying to figure out what I wanted to do. I looked through magazines and booklets and did lots of personality interest tests and ended up considering science. I knew I wanted to make a positive contribution in the world and I loved science experiments, so researching renewable energies or developing techniques for bio-fortification was something which interested me.

During Year 12 we had a retreat; it was run by these young people who had a real joy about them, I remember going home and journaling all about it because it was just so fun and enriching. These young people were teaching us about the faith in really cool and fun ways using skits, dramas, leadership activities, games and small group discussions. Their activities explored the faith and helped me learn more about myself in a creative and interactive way. Slowly, towards the end of the year, I thought about taking a gap year and doing what these young people were doing, because they had a visible faith and they were doing something about it. I, on the other hand, had a faith but I wasn't really doing anything about it. I ended up serving two years with NET Ministries. I lived with other faith-filled young people running retreats and RE classes for various schools and parishes around Australia. These few years formed a great foundation for my life and for my faith.

After NET, during my science degree studies I was invited to Canali House—a house of prayer and discernment for young men thinking about Catholic Priesthood. When I was there I lived with a priest, and a bunch of other young men thinking about the same thing, and it was just great, being able to follow the priest around to the various ministry events and ask a million-and-one questions at dinner. Towards the end of my time there, I was in prayer and I thought, I can't discern God's call forever, *what do you want to do with your life Gerard?* And being the thinker that I was, I thought, well, I might be a good dad as well as a good priest, but all throughout this time at Canali House I was still open to the possibility of priesthood and the "what if" question never really went away. So I thought, what have I got to lose, I can continue to discern God's call in the Seminary so let's try that out. So it was this small step of faith (like the mustard seed in today's gospel) and a few other God moments I had, which helped me feel at peace about joining the seminary, and here I am today.

I was born in Australia and I have an older sister, younger sister and some pet chickens. My cultural heritage is Malaysian-Chinese and others would describe my personality as vibrant and creative. I grew up in a Catholic family and worshipped at St Paul's Woodridge and St Edward's Daisy Hill. I am particularly passionate in helping others find meaning and purpose in their lives. In my spare time, you'll find me outdoors hiking, fishing, and running (as I hope to run my first marathon in August)!

I am looking forward to meeting you all during my three-year appointment here.

*God bless, Fr Gerard*





World Day  
for Grandparents  
and the Elderly  
2023

## Prayer for the Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2023

Virgin Mary, Mother of faith and hope, an example for this humanity bent by indifference, make me as willing as You to accept the will of God, to magnify and praise His Mercy. Mary, Mother of fortitude, you who knows my heart, do not allow me to become discouraged. I confidently surrender my life into your

hands. Heal my wounds. May your tenderness accompany me on the way. Your presence, Mother of love, brings us to experience the joy of seeing our families united. Help me to transmit the tenderness and Love of God to the grandchildren and youth so that, in addition to praying for them, we can pray with them.

Mary, may the gift of the Holy Spirit intercede for me: sustain my weakness; breathe into my heart the consolation that I may leave traces of faith among the young, bearing witness to the beauty of life, knowing that life has a limit and that beyond it lies before us our Father's embrace. Amen.

## The OLR Conference 2023 St Vincent de Paul Society's Winter Appeal

OLR Vinnies winter appeal will be conducted in the Parish this weekend.

Proceeds from the appeal will support the work of the Society in assisting members of our communities who are homeless and experiencing difficulties due to cost of living pressures. All funds raised locally will be used to support people in need in the local area.

Everyday, members of our **five** Parish St Vincent de Paul Conferences come into contact with people who are homeless or experiencing difficulties affording every day necessities. Increasingly this includes women aged over 55 years who do not have a stable place to call home.

Envelopes are available to take home in OLR church today. Thank you for your generosity.

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## Call for Catholic Mission Ambassador

Join us as a Catholic Mission Ambassador, and you will be our voice and presence during World Mission Month this October 2023 for our annual appeal in a Brisbane parish.

You will be:

- Engaging in mission through prayer, advocacy and fundraising.
- Raising awareness of the work of Catholic Mission in 160 countries around the world, including Australia.
- Raising funds for mission projects supporting children, communities and church leaders.

Email us on [brisbane.admin@catholicmission.org.au](mailto:brisbane.admin@catholicmission.org.au) for more information.



## Introducing our Local Safeguarding Officer

Judy Moir - [lsr.caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:lsr.caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au)  
0421 873 060



Judy is our representative for OLR Parish as our Safeguarding officer.

*Caloundra Catholic Parish is:*  
Zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and strives to safeguard all who interact with its ministries & services.

If you have any concerns or need to talk to Judy, please don't hesitate to contact her.

## Love Your Neighbour Food Drive

Is proving to be a huge success. Thank you to everyone for your wonderful generosity and support. We are still accepting donations of food or money towards this venture.



If you would like to volunteer by cooking for this worthy cause, please contact **Trish Harding** [tharding4173@gmail.com](mailto:tharding4173@gmail.com) who is the leader of the **Service & Outreach Team**.

## In Transition

We welcome **Felicity Harris, Tien Hill, River Underwood & Hudson Turnbull** who will be baptised at OLR this weekend.

We pray for the repose of the souls of **Joseph Camenzuli** who died last week and his funeral will be held at G&W this Thursday 27th at 11am. We pray that all the souls of our deceased priests, religious and parishioners

**Rest in Peace.**

## Scam Alert – Once Again

Once again, scammers, purporting to be Fr Josh, have been phishing. This time, many people received a text message that looked legitimate, asking for help. The scammer, when replied to, asked for people to purchase gift cards (iTunes vouchers) for a sick family in hospital. Please note: your priests will **never** contact you through non-official channels to ask for assistance (eg. text messaging or emailing from private email addresses). The only email address you may receive communication will end in @bne.catholic.net.au.

Your priests will **never** ask for financial assistance using digital media.

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

## Parish Diary

### Monday 24 July

Mass (OLR) 9am  
Adoration (OLR) 9.30am

### Tuesday 25 July

Mass (OLR) 9am  
Rosary (OLR) 9.30am  
Adoration (Maleny) 8.30am  
Mass (Maleny) 9am

### Wednesday 26 July

Mass (UNITY) 7.50am  
School Liturgy (OLR) 9am  
Mass (Lt Mt) 9.30am

### Thursday 27 July

Mass (OLR) 9am  
Rosary (OLR) 9.30am  
Mass (Currimundi) 9.30am

### Friday 28 July

Mass (OLR) 9am  
Mass (Landsborough) 9am

### Saturday 29 July

8.30am (OLR) Reconciliation  
Mass (OLR) 9am  
Vigil Mass  
Mass (OLR) 5pm  
Mass (Beerwah) 5pm

### Sunday 30 July

*17th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Mass (OLR) 6.30am  
(Landsborough) 7am  
Mass (Unity) 8am  
Mass (Kawana) 8am  
Mass (Maleny) 9am  
Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am  
Mass (OLR) 9.30am  
Mass (Lt Mt) 10.30am  
Mass (Unity) 5pm

### Reconciliation

Saturday OLR Church  
8.30am

### WATCH MASS LIVE

<https://www.facebook.com/caloundracatholicparish/>

## Bring a Plate



We invite families/friends to 'Bring a Plate' for the morning tea after the 9.30am OLR Mass for Weeks 2&4 of each month.

Please advise on a tag if gluten or lactose free etc. and bring it to the kitchen area. We cordially welcome and invite volunteers to assist with Morning Tea. If you wish to be rostered as part of this hospitality team, simply contact the Parish Office.

Please note that part of our 5-year strategic plan is to have refreshments/gathering after every Mass in every worshipping community. The 9.30am OLR Mass refreshments are happening due to the initiative of several 9.30am parishioners.

## First Holy Communion has started

As our children have commenced the sacramental program towards making their First Holy Communion, please keep them in your prayers.

The children and their families will be joining the 9.30am OLR Mass each Sunday after they have a brief class/session at 9am.

If you have not yet registered and are wanting your children to be involved please go to our website <https://caloundracatholicparish.net/first-holy-communion/> Complete the registration form, sign by both parents and hit submit. Please note the form cannot be completed on your mobile devices. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the Parish office.

**Final registration will closes Monday 31st July, 2023**

## Ignite Conference 2023

This year Kingdom Youth are sending another group, hopefully of 40 students and young adults, to Ignite Conference in Brisbane from 21-24 September. Ignite Conference is a gathering of thousands of young people from around Australia and New Zealand to celebrate faith through vibrant rallies, workshops, encounters, and Sacraments. We had an incredible time last year and look forward to providing this opportunity again for our young people.

We saw a lot of fruit after Ignite Conference last year. Almost all who attended either still attend or now lead at youth group on Friday nights, running games/activities, or sharing their witness through testimony. This year, several of those who completed their Sacraments of Initiation program last year are already registered to attend, and we pray the experience continues to support their journey of faith.

We couldn't have made any of this possible without the generosity of our beautiful parish. Thank you so much to all those who assisted us in some way. There will be a few upcoming opportunities to assist us in our fundraising efforts, and we would very much appreciate your support not only here, but in whatever way you are able to give - we are so grateful for your prayers and time!

Please continue to pray for us as we prepare for the conference this year, and we will definitely continue to pray for each of you.

**God bless, Felicity—Youth Co-ordinator**

## Safeguarding News

*The Safeguarding Commitment for the Archdiocese of Brisbane and Caloundra Catholic Parish is:* Zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and strives to safeguard all who interact with its ministries & services. Special priority is given to the safety & wellbeing of children & adults at risk. In an emergency, please call the Police 000 or information can be provided to STOPline anonymously. Phone: 1300 304 550 Email: [A0B@stopline.com.au](mailto:A0B@stopline.com.au) Online:

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