# 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.

# 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 9/10 September 2023

# CONTEMPLATING GOD WHO IS ALWAYS CONTEMPLATING US

This week, Fr Josh, Fr Francis and I attended a retreat with a group of priests from around Queensland and one of the topics we explored was contemplation. This talk was led by Mother Hilda Scott, abbess of Benedictine Sisters at Jambaroo. Now, when I think of contemplation what often comes to mind is someone who is in a quiet place sitting very still with their eyes closed and their eyebrows furrowed, deep in concentration. However, quite the opposite is true.

#### **Contemplation has 4 main points**

#### 1/ Contemplation is founded on love.

Contemplation is part of our DNA, we don't need a book to understand contemplation, it's happening all the time and it's not that difficult to understand. It's a human phenomenon, often unconsciously discovered when we find ourselves part of something bigger than ourselves. Something changes in our soul on the day when it understands that it has been loved with a deep and personal love by Jesus. When was the day that you realised that God truly loved you? Contemplation has its roots founded in love, a love which stems from the love of Jesus. As with all things that we love, we will *immerse* ourselves with all the things we love, we will *seek* that which we love, we will be *concerned* about that which we love.

#### 2/ Contemplation is borne of prayer.

We often get the wrong idea of prayer. We think that prayer is when we are at Mass, or at adoration, or saying the rosary or when we are kneeling down and holding our hands in a prayer pose. Sure, these things are prayer, but prayer goes much deeper than that. If there are 1 million ways to say I love you, then why are we confined by only a few ways to contemplate and communicate with God? God is in constant communication with us. And God is in constant communication with all of creation – every blade of grass, every fish in the sea, every bird in the sky... the minute God is no longer in communication with creation it ceases to exist. Prayer doesn't begin with us. Rather, prayer is something that is done through us. Prayer is God's communication with us. When we are moved to pray and communicate with God, that's when we really go 'online', and tap into God's communication with us.

#### 3/ Contemplation is exemplified through Jesus.

It doesn't matter how you pray, it only matters that you pray, and I suggest 30 minutes daily. With prayer, I guarantee that you will get through the day. "Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them... Learn from the way the wildflowers grow. They do not work or spin." (Mat 6:26-34). Notice how Jesus makes an immediate connection between his everyday interactions and his Father - the one he loves, the one he seeks, the one he sees in all things because he is so constantly contemplating God. Naturally that means even when he is betrayed, even in the Garden of Gethsemane, even on the Cross Jesus is constantly in contemplation. God is speaking to us always, not just in the good times; and Jesus is our model for contemplation.

#### 4/ God contemplates you.

God is 100% of the time contemplating you. God has no other job. God doesn't exist to stop the wars or fix the planet or cure cancer, that's our job. God's job is to love us. God is forever contemplating us, and every now and then, we tune in and contemplate God.

#### Contemplate well, Fr Gerard

-Paraphrased from a talk given by Mother Hilda Scott OSB

# PARISH PRIESTS

Fr Joshua Whitehead Fr Joseph Hien Van Vo Fr Francis Fernandes Fr Gerard Lai

# Parish Office

61 Edmund St, Caloundra Qld 4551 Ph: 07 5430 9390

(After hours pastoral emergency 0431 099 854)

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm

# PARISH WEBSITE

www.caloundracatholicparish.net

### PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS

caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au

#### PASTORAL CARE

olrpastoralcare@bne.catholic.net.au



This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that builds and supports safe communities for all people.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023

# World Youth Day - OLR Pilgrims

Our pilgrimage started in the beautiful city of Paris where we got to experience the small and hidden cathedrals tucked away in the streets of Paris. We started our first full day in Paris by visiting The Chapel of Graces of the Miraculous Virgin, where the incorrupt body of St Catherine Laboure lays. When we arrived in the Cathedral we joined the end part of a mass being celebrated in French. Although I couldn't understand the language, it was incredible to still be able to experience and understand what was happening, and still be able to encounter this Mass even though I couldn't understand the language. This made me feel so connected to my faith!

After celebrating Mass, we went to the chapel of the Lazarists Mission where we visited the incorrupt body of St Vincent de Paul. This was a surreal experience as these two magnificent locations were so close to each other, but hidden within Paris. It made me feel so lucky to be a Catholic as I was able to experience these things and truly

appreciate them.

Another highlight was getting to see and pray within Sacre Coeur. This Basilica was one of the most beautiful things I got to see whilst on pilgrimage, and I felt very privileged being able to pray here. Being in a space full of hundreds of tourists, but finding the peace through prayer here, truly made me appreciate where I was. Holly Rees

On our way to Lisbon, we visited the Marian apparition sights of Lourdes and Fatima. In both cities we participated in the evening rosary processions. It was so special to pray the rosary in those holy places with thousands of other pilgrims and in all different languages.

The World Youth Day (WYD) festivities took place in Lisbon over a week. It's estimated that we were among 1.5 million other young people who had gathered there. This meant that the city was teeming with groups of young people from all over the world. Despite the overwhelming number of people all in the same place, the city felt very peaceful. One of my favourite experiences of that peacefulness was hearing the extremely overcrowded train carriages being filled with voices singing hymns and praise in every language you could imagine. It made me feel so united in our universal Catholic faith!

I am so grateful to have gone on the WYD pilgrimage and would like to thank everyone in the parish who helped us get there. It was definitely a 'mountain top' experience! Jasmine Quinlan

Holly and Jas with the Holy Water from Lourdes that they brought home as a souvenir for the Caloundra Parish.

#### You are cordially invited to attend the next Men's Dinner

Wed. 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 ~ 6:00 for 6:30pm

St Andrew's Anglican Church Hall, 46 Upper Gay Terrace, Caloundra 4551 \$20.00 includes Drinks & Nibbles, Main Course,

Guest Speaker: Ken Mewburn OAM Topic: "The breakthrough that formed Bribie Island North." RSVP: by not later than Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023

place your name on the list at the back of the church, or \*Email: gordontraffic@gmail.com or kvfield@bigpond.com \*Phone: Gordon Smith 0405382389 or Keith Bradfield 5491 4668

#### In Transition

We welcome Audrey O'Neill, Abby Lynch & Leo Bailey who will be baptised at OLR this weekend. We pray for the souls of our loved ones who have gone before us an the souls of our deceased priests, religious and parishioners Rest in Peace.

Our Parish's Mission is to be a vibrant community that actively accompanies people to encounter Jesus.



# Our Lady of the Rosary Feast Day Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October

Celebrations will start at 4pm with a Rosary Procession from the school oval, followed by 5pm mass in the OLR church, and then dinner with celebratory cake afterwards. All parishioners and friends from all Mass communities are very welcome. This is a great opportunity for all of us to celebrate the importance of the rosary and connect with fellow parishioners in all 8 mass centres to build a stronger community and create a "vibrant parish" and have fun celebrating!! We invite a member from each mass community to lead the rosary. Holy Cross funerals will be supporting the afternoon celebrations. Further ideas or suggestions are welcome and can be forwarded to the parish office via email caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au

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

# **Parish Diary**

# **Monday 11 Sept**

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

#### **Tuesday 12 Sept**

Mass (OLR) 9am
Rosary (OLR) 9.30am
Adoration/Rosary (Maleny) 8am
Mass (Maleny) 9am

#### Wednesday 13 Sept

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

#### **Thursday 14 Sept**

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

#### Friday 15 Sept

Mass (OLR) 9am Adoration/Rosary (Lands) 8am Mass (Landsborough) 9am

#### **Saturday 16 Sept**

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

#### **Sunday 17 Sept**

24th 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

#### WATCH MASS LIVE

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



#### **Ladies Lunch**

The next Ladies Lunch will be on Friday 15th September at 12noon at La Promenade Cafe 4 Tay Avenue Caloundra. If you would like to attend could you please contact Deborah 0410531901 by Monday 11th September so I can confirm numbers. All ladies are welcome.

#### **Grief Support**

The next bi-monthly Grief Support Mass for all parishioners will be held at OLR on Friday 15th September at 9am followed by morning tea. Major life changes or events may cause severe emotional distress. If the Grief Support team can be of confidential assistance, please contact the Parish office or email Kath on olrgriefsupp@gmail.com.

# **Baptism Preparation Evening for Infants**



Those parents with newborn babies wishing for them to be baptized are reminded of the preparation meeting which takes place at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Caloundra, this **Thursday 14th September**, beginning at 7pm.

At this short preparation meeting we outline some of the symbols used at the ceremony, answer any questions and confirm dates.

To book in for the preparation evening please contact the Parish office.

### **Grandparents Day 26th September**

'Do not be silent when children come to you with questions, but be strong sharers of the true faith you have received. Be a living chain which makes it possible for the Good News of the Gospel to always be present in our families, communities and in the Church'



Our Lady of the Rosary Caloundra would like to extend an invitation to all Grandparents to attend a workshop giving support & ideas for passing on Faith to children & grandchildren. Presented by Evangelisation Brisbane this short workshop is Designed to give easy ways to engage Children & Grandchildren in conversations about God, Faith & Prayer. Please join us on Tuesday 26th September after 9.00am mass in the church, the session should be around 90min with morning tea provided. To register please go to Eventbrite and register

by Sunday 24th September. https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/grandparentsworkshop-sharing-faith-with-children-tickets-715002661207

# **Our Local Safeguarding Officer**

Judy Moir - Isr.caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au mb.0421 873 060 Or Brisbane 07 3324 3752 www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding



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