

**REGULAR WEEKEND MASS LOCATIONS**

**St. Mary's Church, Woodend**  
 1B Elizabeth Street, Woodend 4305.  
**Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Leichhardt**  
 22 Old Toowoomba Road, Leichhardt 4305.  
**St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich**  
 42 Pine Mountain Road, North Ipswich 4305.  
**St. Brigid's Church Hall, Rosewood**  
 Railway Street, Rosewood 4340.  
**Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, E/Heights**  
 33A Robertson Road, Eastern Heights 4305.



**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Parish Office Hours**  
 Monday to Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm  
 1C Elizabeth Street, Woodend 4305 | 07 3362 8765  
[ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au) | [ipswichcatholic.au](http://ipswichcatholic.au)  
**Parish Priest:** Fr. Stephen Bliss OFM  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr. Minje Kim  
**Operations Manager:** Benjamin Leschke

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Year B**

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Dear Parishioners,**

A rare celestial event recently left many in awe across North America: a total solar eclipse. This phenomenon, unlike any other, showcased the Moon moving between the Earth and the Sun, momentarily extinguishing its light. While total eclipses are rare, imagine if they happened daily and everywhere. We might all feel alarmed, even questioning if the solar system malfunctioned.



In the Gospel reading, Jesus offers a simple yet profound message to the Twelve: "Peace be with you." Surely, Jesus wouldn't repeat something without a deeper meaning behind it. If Jesus were to appear physically before us every day from now on like solar eclipse occurring daily, what would our initial reaction be? For me, at least, fear would likely be my first response, as I wouldn't recognise Him at first. However, upon realizing who He is, remorse would surely follow, knowing how often I've fallen short of His will. I might say nothing to Him, feeling unworthy to be in His presence.

The disciples were likely to be astonished by the return of the Risen Christ, they initially mistook Him for a ghost. They likely felt remorseful for abandoning Him during his arrest. Nevertheless, our Lord gently said, "Peace be with you!" not just to calm their fears, but also to assure them of forgiveness, not judgment.

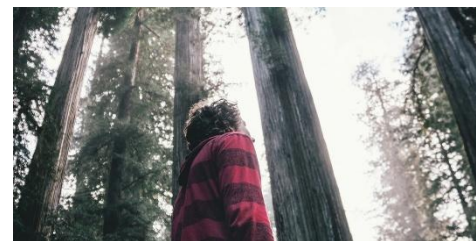
In this joyous Easter season, our Lord also desires to console us and grant us inner peace. He doesn't want us to dwell on shortcomings against His love. The Risen Christ has returned to offer us new life. The presence of Christ calmed the worries of the Twelve Apostles and Mary Magdalene. Now, He beckons us to set aside all anxieties and fears, and instead find inner peace in Him. Are we willing to embrace this peace offered by the Risen Christ, letting go of our fears and worries?

Perhaps by actively seeking prayer, reflecting on scripture, or engaging in acts of service, we can open ourselves more fully to the peace that the Risen Christ offers.

**Fr Minje**

**GOD BREAKS THROUGH TO ME**

What happens, or at least what happened to me, is that you realize that you cannot connect to God by sheer force of will or by a multitude of prayers. You have to wait until God connects with you. God hears your mantra of prayer and connects where you thought there was a vacuum. In my own case, I made a conscious decision to do what I thought God created me to do. I found a way to direct that action, and I just kept telling myself: I can't pray, but I have something to offer, so I am just going to offer myself in giving what expresses my love for God and others. I'll be here working.



If God wants to contact me, God will. But whether God contacts me or not, I'll be here doing God's will and saying prayers and going through the motions of meditation and contemplation until God breaks through to me.

—from the book *God's Love Song: The Vision of Francis and Clare* by Murray Bodo, OFM, and Susan Saint Sing

**PARISH CALENDAR**

THIS WEEKEND		NEXT WEEK	
<b>Fri 12</b>	9:00am Mass, Miraculous Medal, Eastern Heights	<b>Mon 15</b>	9:00am Mass, St Mary's Church, Woodend
<b>Sat 13</b>	4:30pm Mass, Immaculate Heart Church, Leichhardt 4:30pm Reconciliation, St. Mary's Church, Woodend 5:30pm Mass, St. Mary's Church, Woodend 6:00pm Mass, Miraculous Medal Church, Eastern Heights	<b>Tues 16</b>	9:00am Mass, Immaculate Heart Church, Leichhardt 3.30pm – Junior Choir Practice
<b>Sun 14</b>	7:30am Mass, St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich 8:00am Mass, St. Brigid's Parish Hall, Rosewood 9:00am Mass, St. Mary's Church, Woodend 10:30am Baptisms St. Mary's Church, Woodend 5:30pm Mass, St. Mary's Church, Woodend	<b>Wed 17</b>	8:30am Rosary, 9:00am Mass, 9:30am Adoration, St Mary's 8:30am Rosary, NO Mass St. Brigid's, Rosewood 5.00pm Prayer Group, Parish Office
		<b>Thur 18</b>	9:00am Mass, St. Mary's Church, Woodend 9.00am Mass, St Joseph's Church, North Ipswich 5.30pm – Information Night, Pentecost/Multicultural Mass
		<b>Fri 19</b>	9:00am Mass, Miraculous Medal Church, Eastern Heights



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Add [mail@flocknote.com](mailto:mail@flocknote.com) to your safe sender list.

Help Guide - <https://bit.ly/3N6QtGp>

## PARISH PRAYERS



**Recently Deceased:** Meta Hayes, Paul Brown, Leonie Gorman, Sr. Mary Britton, St. Marie Patrice, Marie Coleman, Pearl Dawson and Ronald Connole.

**Anniversaries:** Dorothy Shine, Pat Donlevy and those in our Book of Life.

## OPERATIONS UPDATE

**Memorial Gardens Update** – Fundraising for 2 garden planters for the new Parish Centre is underway. The planters will break up the bitumen and block wall, adding some colour to our landscape and will make the Parish Centre more inviting. Those who wish to contribute to planter boxes are invited to make their contribution via the link below, or by placing your gift in an envelope marked 'gardens' on the collection plate.

[www.bit.ly/ipswichfundraise](http://www.bit.ly/ipswichfundraise)

**Our goal is to raise \$4,500** to ensure we cover the cost of all garden boxes and plants/materials. We invite everyone to be part of this important initiative to dress up our new Parish Centre, which is due to be finished in approximately June this year.



Benjamin

## PARISH MUSIC NEWS

**Junior Choir** - It's not too late to come along and see what our newest activity is all about! We rehearse on Tuesdays from 3:30pm until 4:15pm at St. Mary's Church. All school aged children from Year 3 upwards are invited to come and experience the joy of music ministry! The first Mass we will lead the music will be at the 9:00am mass at St. Mary's on Sunday the 28th of April. For further information please contact Kathy at [music@ipswichcatholic.au](mailto:music@ipswichcatholic.au)



Kathy Bianchi (Parish Music Coordinator) [music@ipswichcatholic.au](mailto:music@ipswichcatholic.au)

## SACRAMENTS | FORMATION | LITURGY

### St. Clare of Assisi

As the eldest daughter of a wealthy noble family, Clare had a privileged future ahead of her. But she gave it all up, cut her hair short, dressed in rags, and followed the Franciscan way. She chose to live in manual labour, piety, and simplicity, which made her happier than when she was living as the daughter of a count.



*"Love God, serve God; everything is in that."*



### MASS READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – Yr B

<b>1st Reading</b>	Acts 4:8-12
<b>Psalm</b>	117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29. R. v.22
<b>2nd Reading</b>	1 John 3:1-2
<b>Gospel</b>	John 10:11-18

**worldwide marriage encounter**

**REMINDER**

PLEASE JOIN US FOR HIGH TEA TO CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER IN AUSTRALIA

**1pm, Sat, 25th May, 2024**

**The Hub, 58 Opperman Drive, Springfield Lakes**

**To RSVP contact - Leisha & Joseph**  
**Phone: 0481 307 821 |**  
**Email: [qldbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:qldbookings@wwme.org.au)**

**Archbishop's**  
**VOCATIONS DINNER 2024**

for **WOMEN 18 APRIL**

**A night of discussion and discernment with the Archbishop.**

## SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST

This year's First Eucharist program formation day has been moved to **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July**, and will be an all day workshop. Celebration of the Sacrament of First Eucharist will then be celebrated the weekend of 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> August (Feast - Body and Blood of Christ).

The Sacrament of Eucharist is open to children who are baptised and in grade 4 or above. Children from each of the Parish Primary Schools and other (Government and Private) Schools in Ipswich (in grade 4 or above) are invited to participate. If you need assistance please contact the parish office [ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au)

Parent  
Information  
Night

The information evening for First Eucharist will be moved to Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June. The families who had already enrolled in the information night that was scheduled be notified.

Register for Information Night - <https://bit.ly/43yM5Xa>

Children who celebrated Confirmation in the Parish in 2023 are automatically enrolled into the First Eucharist program.

### FIRST EUCHARIST INFORMATION EVENING (EARLY JUNE)

#### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN 2024

Baptised children in grade 3 or above  
(Information Night has already occurred)

**USE THIS LINK TO ENROL**  
[ipswichcatholic.com/children](https://ipswichcatholic.com/children)

- 15/04/2024** Enrolments close
- 21/04/2024** Sunday - Formation Workshop (St. Mary's Church)  
Further details available following enrolment
- 10/05/2024** Friday Evening - Celebrating the Sacrament  
Liturgy time to be advised when enrolments close

#### SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST IN 2024

Baptised children in grade 4 or above  
(Information Night – 5<sup>th</sup> June)

**USE THIS LINK TO ENROL**  
[ipswichcatholic.com/children](https://ipswichcatholic.com/children)

- 08/07/2024** Enrolments close
- 14/07/2024** Sunday - Formation Workshop (St. Mary's Church)  
Further details available following enrolment
- 3<sup>rd</sup> August** **Celebrating the Sacrament at Weekend Masses**  
**4<sup>th</sup> August**

## CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (ATRIUM)

### RECOMMENCES THE WEEK OF 13TH MAY

Sessions for the 0-3 years infants and toddlers are held at Leichhardt in a building right next door to Immaculate Heart Primary School, Old Toowoomba Road, One Mile on a Wednesday from 9-00am.

Sessions for Kindy, Preps and Year One children are held in a room under St Mary's Primary School Early Years classrooms on a Monday afternoon from 3-30 – 4-30pm.

Sessions for Primary School children grades 2 to 6 are held in the same room under St Mary's Primary School on a Tuesday afternoon from 3-30 – 5-00pm.

For more information regarding this ministry for young children and families please contact the Parish Office or go to the Parish website <https://ipswichcatholic.com/the-atrium>



#### An example of what activities we have done in the Atrium in Term One:

Throughout last term we focused on the events in scripture surrounding the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We culminated all that we had shared with a celebration of the Liturgy of Light. Just as the Church celebrates the Liturgy of Light during the Easter Vigil, we also celebrate with all ages in the Atrium. They delight in the light of the Paschal Candle and even more when they are invited to receive their own small candle, reminding that the light of Jesus was first received at their baptism and remains in their hearts forever.



## CONNECT YOUTH

### FRIDAY NIGHT YOUTH - RETURNS 26TH OF APRIL

Primary School Youth – St. Mary's Primary Undercover Area | High School Youth – St. Mary's College Hall

YOUTH

## PENTECOST (MULTICULTURAL) MASS



We look forward to celebrating our cultural diversity once again on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00am in St. Mary's Church.**

If you would like to be part of this celebration of faith and culture and are willing to help plan this Mass or volunteer to assist in some way, please contact the Parish Office. The more volunteers we can get, the easier it will be for all.

Please consider coming to an **Information Night on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> April from 5.30pm in the Parish Office.**

**PLANNING FOR ANZAC DAY** - Mass St. Mary's Church at 9am Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April. Please come along and remember.

### ANZAC DAY SERVICES & MARCHES

#### BRASSALL

4.27 am – Ipswich Adventist School Memorial Stone, 56 Hunter Street.

#### GRANDCHESTER

6.00 am – Bigges Camp Park, Gordon Road.

#### IPSWICH – LIMESTONE HILL

6.30 am – Naval Cairn, Queen Victoria Parade.

#### IPSWICH – MAIN MARCH

10.45 am – From cnr Brisbane and Waghorn streets.

#### IPSWICH - RSL MEMORIAL GARDENS

4.27 am & 8:20am – Honour Stone, cnr Limestone and Nicholas streets.

#### MARBURG

7.30 am – Marburg Heritage Centre, cnr Queen and Edmond streets.

#### NORTH IPSWICH

7.30 am – Honour Stone, Queensland Museum Rail Workshops, preceded by a march at 7.15 am inside the Queensland Museum Rail Workshops. Gates open at 6.45 am.

#### ONE MILE

9.30 am – West Ipswich One Mile War Memorial, 1A Old Toowoomba Road.

#### PINE MOUNTAIN

9.00 am – Honour Stone, Cricket Pitch Park, cnr Russells and Pine Mountain roads.

#### ROSEWOOD

4.28 am – Rosewood Memorial Hall, ANZAC Park, Mill Street, preceded by a march at 4.20 am from the Rising Sun Hotel.

9.30 am – Rosewood Memorial Hall, ANZAC Park, Mill Street, preceded by a march at 9.00 am from cnr John and William streets.

#### WOODEND

6.30 am – Woodend Honour Stone, Roseberry Parade.

*Times are subject to change.*



## NEXT WEEKEND



# World Day of Prayer for Vocations

21 APRIL GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

