

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 | ipswichcatholic.au
Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Bliss OFM
Assistant Priest: Fr. Minje Kim
Operations Manager: Benjamin Leschke

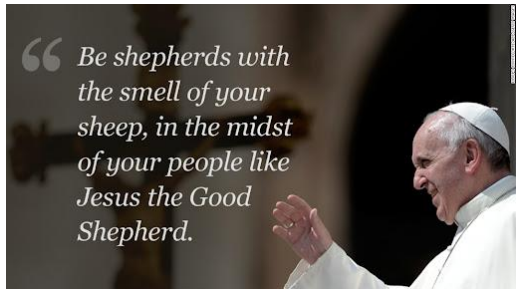
4th Sunday of Easter

Year B

21st April 2024

Dear Parishioners,

We have many analogies of our relationship with God: We are the clay, and God is the Potter (Jeremiah 18:1-6). We are the branches, and God is the vine (John 15:1-11). The Clay-Potter and Vine-Branch relationships provide us with a hierarchical picture. Without the potter's choice, clay may remain formless. Without the vine, branches cannot bear fruit or even exist. Similarly, we may be inclined to understand the Shepherd-Sheep relationship in terms of hierarchy, as without the Shepherd's guidance or presence, the sheep may often be stuck or lost.



Jesus identifies himself as the 'good shepherd', implying that his followers, including us, are sheep. Frankly speaking, until I was ordained to become a deacon, I always interpreted Jesus's description of the shepherd-sheep relationship in a hierarchical sense. A couple of years ago, as I read the gospel reading for this weekend slowly and carefully during a retreat prior to my diaconal ordination, with the hope of becoming a 'good' shepherd on my journey to the priesthood, I was drawn to reflect on what prompted Jesus to describe himself as the "good" shepherd, instead of simply saying, "I am the shepherd." Of course, Jesus is inherently good as he is truly God, but what I found was that 1) Jesus is always "ATTENTIVE" to his sheep 2) on the SAME ground where he is with other sheep. These two aspects make Jesus the 'Good' shepherd and convince us that Jesus cares for us closely and generously.

It is an Easter Grace that the Risen Christ continues to accompany and guide us on the same ground where we are. The Good Shepherd is WITH us. Father Mario Debattista OFM, who was with us during this year's Triduum celebration, said to me that his favourite thing to do in his ministry in South Sudan is to travel to people's homes and be present with their challenges and triumphs of ordinary life. He never stops being attentive to others nor does he try to be at higher points than others. Likewise, our Good Shepherd Jesus lovingly tends to us by being present with our challenges, worries, and even the frustrations of our lives. Because of this, let us not lose heart and confidence that we are never left without the help of a loving and saving God. Amen.

Fr Minje

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS – PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday 25th April – ANZAC Day
Monday 6th May – Labour Day
Friday 17th May – Ipswich Show Holiday

ALL VOLUNTEERS

We are finalising an online form to assist with new volunteers, existing volunteers who want to change ministries, and volunteers who may want to take a break from ministry.
More next week!

PARISH CALENDAR

THIS WEEKEND		NEXT WEEK	
Fri 19	9:00am Mass, Miraculous Medal, Eastern Heights 10.00am Funeral William Healy, Miraculous Medal Church 4:30pm Mass, Immaculate Heart Church, Leichhardt	Mon 22	9:00am Mass, St Mary's Church, Woodend
Sat 20	4:30pm Reconciliation, St. Mary's Church, Woodend 5:30pm Mass, St. Mary's Church, Woodend 6:00pm Mass, Miraculous Medal Church, Eastern Heights	Tues 23	9:00am NO MASS, Immaculate Heart Church, Leichhardt 3.30pm – Junior Choir Practice
Sun 21	7:30am Mass & Baptism, 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	Wed 24	8:30am Rosary, 9:00am Mass, 9:30am Adoration, St Mary's 8:30am Rosary, 9.00am Mass St. Brigid's, Rosewood 10.00am Prayer Group, Parish Office
		Thur 25	PARISH OFFICE CLOSED – ANZAC DAY 9:00am Mass, St. Mary's Church, Woodend
		Fri 26	9:00am Mass, Miraculous Medal Church, Eastern Heights 6:30pm Primary School Youth, St. Mary's Primary U/cover Area 6:30pm High School Youth, St. Mary's College Hall



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Add mail@flocknote.com to your safe sender list.

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

PARISH PRAYERS



Recently Deceased: William Healy, Meta Hayes, Paul Brown, Leonie Gorman, St. Marie Patrice, Marie Coleman, Pearl Dawson and Ronald Connole.

Anniversaries: Margaret Heffernan, 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

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



Kathy Bianchi (Parish Music Coordinator) music@ipswichcatholic.au

SACRAMENTS | FORMATION | LITURGY



MASS READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

5th Sunday of Easter – Yr B

1st Reading	Acts 9:26-31
Psalm	21:26-28, 30-32
2nd Reading	1 John 3:18-24
Gospel	John 15:1-8

DOES THE LIFE AND SPIRITUALITY OF ST. FRANCIS INSPIRE YOU?

Every year, the Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday or Vocations Sunday. The Gospel is about Jesus, the Good Shepherd who called his flock to follow him. We are encouraged to pray for vocations this Sunday. Traditionally we pray for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Nowadays we realise that everyone has a unique vocation. Every Christian is called to be the light and salt of Christ in the world.

Francis of Assisi was born in Assisi (Italy) in 1181/1182. After a carefree youth, he converted and the Order of Friars Minor, commonly known as Franciscans, originated from him. A young woman, Clare of Assisi, wanted to follow his way of life and the Order of the Poor Clares, later to be called Poor Clares, was born from her. He also inspired the birth of the Franciscan Third Order, now called the Secular Franciscan Order. Anyone, married or single, laity or clergy, can become a Secular Franciscan.

Francis of Assisi was a man of simplicity, who loved and protected all creation and people, giving us the spirit of peace, asking us to build peace in ourselves and others. The Franciscan vocation is open to everyone. Friars, Poor Clares and Secular Franciscans are all part of the Franciscan family. We share a deep devotion to the values of St. Francis of Assisi and seek to follow his example.

In this same spirit of St Francis, we Franciscans are dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Christ by serving the poor and marginalised, promoting justice, peace, and the care of creation. Bring your gifts, talents and life experiences and join a movement that has been rebuilding and renewing the church for more than 800 years. To learn more about the Franciscan vocations please contact Friar Harry Chan OFM (hchan@franciscans.org.au) or Friar Joe McKay OFM (jmckay@franciscans.org.au).



Saint Francis Vocation Prayer

Most High, Glorious God, enlighten the darkness of our minds. Give us a right faith, a firm hope and a perfect charity, so that we may always and in all things act according to Your Holy Will. Amen.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN 2024



This weekend children celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation this year are participating in an all-day workshop.

Children will learn more about the Sacrament of Confirmation and how the

Holy Spirit impacts their lives and the lives of those people they meet.

Please keep the children and their families in your prayers, as they approach this very important sacrament.

Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Friday evening, 10th May.

SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST IN 2024

Baptised children in grade 4 or above

Parent Info Night – 5th June 6:30pm, St. Mary's, Church

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

SACRAMENT ENROLMENT LINK

ipswichcatholic.com/children

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

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (ATRIUM)

CELEBRATING GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

The Atrium is a ministry for young children built on the scripture we celebrate today - Jesus as the Good Shepherd who protects and calls his 'sheep' by name. We assist the children in building their faith formation by providing an environment where they can work with materials specially made so the children can ponder God's Word and God's action in the liturgy. It is a space to respond to God with thanks and praise for God's goodness.

Micheline (parent): *'The Atrium catechesis has a significant impact on Michelle's spiritual life. It deepens her love for our Lord, through engaging in biblical stories and hands-on activities. Michelle loves meeting with other children at the Atrium, where she can freely discuss our Catholic faith without fear of misunderstanding or criticism. Michelle says, "Mum, you can cancel any of my activities, but do not cancel the Atrium".'*

Michelle (child): *'I love the Atrium because it is fun, and I get to learn more about Jesus and Mary. I also get to make new friends and can talk together about faith.'*

Stewart England (Parish Youth Co-Ordinator): *'I am very fortunate and lucky to have been involved in the Atrium when I was in primary school. These past two years have been a very life changing journey for my faith, and I feel that it was the Atrium that provided me with the knowledge and faith foundation. From my involvement in the Atrium, I became involved in church ministries, in our community, which guided me to becoming the Youth Coordinator of our parish, and involvement in leadership in the archdiocese, as well as attendance at many major events, such as World Youth Day. The Atrium is a key ministry in our parish, and I believe it is essential for the development of every child's faith journey.'*

For more information about the Atrium please contact the Parish Office or go to the parish website www.ipswichcatholic.com



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

Term 2 is a massive term for our youth ministry! With our usual Friday Night Youth's, we also prepare for Ignite Launch at Dreamworld, a bingo fundraiser later in the term, continuing to grow relationships with our schools, more faith opportunities, Pentecost and so much more! With a big term ahead, we put all our trust in God to be with us on this journey. This term I am also investing myself more into the archdiocese and opportunities they offer to help enhance our youth ministry at Ipswich. I look forward to working in harmony with our parish for the term ahead.

Stewart England

YOUTH

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Celebrating the Cultures within the Ipswich Catholic Community

Sunday 19th May

10.00am Mass in St. Mary's Church | 11:30am Festival (Oval behind the presbytery)

The Ipswich Catholic Community is formally invited to come together to celebrate the many cultures within all our church communities. At the first Pentecost, all believers were gathered in one place. People came from all over the land to hear St. Peter open the scriptures. Regardless of where the people came from, they heard and understood, and most of all they believed and experienced the Holy Spirit.

Every believer, no matter their age or culture is an important part of our community. Everyone is needed and everyone is wanted to help make this annual event a success.

What gifts can you offer?

Attendance	Participation	Volunteering
Assist during the Liturgy	Supporting	Providing or service food (to feed the multitudes)
Entertainment groups	Clean up (from 1pm)	Help with planning over the coming 4 weeks



Find out more by participating in meetings each Thursday at 5pm in Parish office. There are many tasks and roles to be undertaken. It will take the community coming altogether, not just the same old familiar faces doing the 'work' to make this feast day memorable. This is an invitation for everyone to be involved in this important Feast Day. Moira Crowson on behalf of the Committee.

QUICK RECIPE OF THE WEEK – ANZAC BISCUITS from Fr Stephen



1 cup rolled oats; 1 cup wholemeal flour; ½ cup sugar; ¾ cup coconut; 125 grams butter; 2 tablespoons golden syrup; ½ tsp baking soda; 2 tablespoons boiling water.

Combine rolled oats, flour, coconut and sugar. Combine butter and golden syrup and microwave until melted. Mix soda with boiling water and add to melted butter mixture, stir into dry ingredients.

Place teaspoon lots on a greased tray, roll into ball shapes and press to flatten (about 12 per tray). Bake at 170 Celsius for 20 minutes. Cool on trays.

Makes about 35 biscuits – not enough!

PLANNING FOR ANZAC DAY - Mass St. Mary's Church at 9am Thursday 25th 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.

