

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

The Most Holy Trinity

Year B

26th May 2024

Dear Parishioners,

I have recently had some “wow” experiences in my faith. There were a couple of instances in Assisi where I had a strong nudging in my faith – A real ‘wow’ encounter Some might think that “Wow!” is an inappropriate, even irreverent response, when talking about God. But what words would be appropriate? There are no words, there are no precise doctrinal statements that even come close to identifying God. The readings for today’s feast invite us to ponder, not define, this mystery.

The people at the time of Moses had no concept of a Trinitarian God. However, they were convinced God worked in their lives. They believed they had been delivered from bondage by God, invited into a special relationship with God and promised by God a long and fruitful life in a land they could call their own. In other words, they were cared for by God, who demonstrated again and again they were loved. The Gospel story tells of how Jesus entrusted his disciples with the mission he himself had exercised during his lifetime. What once might have been considered the special privilege of the nation of Israel was now seen as a promise for all nations. You might ponder how God ‘is working (living) in your life.’

All people could now rely on God’s care for them and God’s ever-present love. Saint Paul identifies this privilege as the spirit of adoption. Today’s readings may not paint a clear picture of God or provide a precise definition - God is far beyond any picture or definition. However, each reading gives us a glimpse of the way God works in our lives - inviting us into intimacy, caring for us, loving us. Wow! This is the hard part Sit back now and allow yourself to feel the “wow” of God’s love in your love! Enjoy whatever comes your way this week,

Stephen ofm



PARISH CALENDAR

THIS WEEKEND		NEXT WEEK	
Fri 24	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	Mon 27	9:00am Mass, St Mary's Church, Woodend 10:30am Funeral Fay Spillange, St. Mary's, Woodend
Sat 25	8:00am Mass, St. Michael's Church, Pine Mountain 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	Tues 28	9:00am Mass, Immaculate Heart Church, Leichhardt 3:30pm Junior Choir Practice, St. Mary's Church, Woodend
Sun 26	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 10:30am Baptism Preparation, Parish Office, Woodend 5:30pm Mass, St. Mary's Church, Woodend	Wed 29	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, St. Clare Room, Parish Office 10:30pm Funeral Jeanette Borger, St. Joseph's, North Ipswich
		Thur 30	9:00am Mass, St. Mary's Church, Woodend
		Fri 31	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

THE TRINITY SONG

Father, in my life I see. You are God who walks with me. You hold my life in Your hands.
Close beside You I will stand. I give all my life to You. Help me, Father, to be true.

Jesus, in my life I see. You are God who walks with me. You hold my life in Your hands.
Close beside You I will stand. I give all my life to You. Help me, Jesus, to be true.

Spirit, in my life I see. You are God who walks with me. You hold my life in Your hands.
Close beside You I will stand. I give all my life to You. Help me, Spirit, to be true.



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

PARISH PRAYERS



Recently Deceased: Andrew (Andy) Brennan, Nicolaas Van Duin, Helena Bennetts, Fay Spillane, Jeanette Borger, and Fr. Jim Smith.

Anniversaries: Graham and Brian Lawton, Jose Balajadia, for those in our Book of Life.

OPERATIONS UPDATE

Memorial Gardens Update – Fundraising for 2 garden planters for the new Parish Centre continues. To date we have raised \$3,102 of our \$4,500 goal.

We are still seeking \$1,398 if you can assist us with our goal.

The planters will break up the bitumen and block wall, adding some colour to our landscape and will make our Parish Centre more inviting. Please contribute via the link below, or by placing your gift in an envelope marked 'gardens' on the collection plate.

www.bit.ly/ipswichfundraise



Plaques for Existing Boxes – Our Garden Planter Boxes will be blessed by Fr. Stephen following the 9am Mass on Sunday 2nd June.

The blessing will commence approximately 10:00am, and we invite all parishioners to come along as we bless our planters!

PASTOR'S UPDATE

Thanks to all those who came to the Pentecost Mass celebrating the many cultures of our Parish and there was great evidence of the Holy Spirit living and working amongst us. To those who were not able to come, you missed a wonderful experience of prayer. Thanks to the Committee for all their work.

If you have been to St. Mary's of late you would have seen the works being undertaken on what were the old garages – these are being converted into a gathering space for socialising after Mass and Parish events. The Parish Centre will also be available for wakes after funerals (Families will be asked to use a recommended caterer) and the space will be available for up to 100 people. Children's Liturgy, Youth, Meetings, etc will be held in this space and I very much look forward to this being created further in the life of all our Community.

Over the coming months I will be speaking to the Finance Committee, some Parishioners and seeking advise on how to 'smarten' up our Churches. This will be a project over the next 18 months – I am very conscious that we are a community of communities, and we have to look after each Church. Who knows what the future holds, but for the present some 'cosmetic' works will need to be planned and implements at each Church. In other words, we will develop a "Maintenance Plan" and depending on available finances some works will occur. We must be realistic in what is undertaken!

During the week at the Deanery Meeting Fr David Pascoe (Vicar for Clergy Life and Ministry) came and spoke to the priests about "priest's wellbeing". Some fruitful discussion took place, and we welcomed Ms Stephanie Unger who shared with us about the forthcoming Archdiocesan Synod to be held in September and October this year. Over the coming weeks we will place some articles in the Newsletter on what the Synod is and how we as a Parish will be preparing for it. As you know, the Archbishop has sent his letter of resignation to Rome as he has turned 75, so later in the year a new Archbishop will be appointed. The Synod will deliver to the new Archbishop a clear mandate on the state of the Archdiocese and where people are hoping to be in the coming years. Our Deanery will have three representatives.

The coming celebration of Michael Tran's Mass of Thanksgiving is a wonderful occasion for our Parish. Michael has chosen to have it at St Mary's because of the support and encouragement we all gave him whilst here on his placement. I know he appreciated his time here as very formative and as a Parish, I hope you feel proud of him and how this Parish is asked to assist many in their formation as future priests. I hope you can make the celebration on the 8th June and together we will receive many graces for our Parish Community. If you can help in any way, please let the Office know. There is much happening in our Community, so please pray that our Parish will always be a place of welcome and acceptance. Let us continue to pray for each other. Pax,

Stephen ofm

SACRAMENTS | FORMATION | LITURGY

Labyrinth Workshop
St. Brigid's Primary School
 Labyrinth walking is an ancient meditative practice used by many different faiths, including Christianity. The labyrinth is a dedicated place with a path that is unicursal, meaning one path in and out generally in a circular geometric shape. It is different from a maze that contains dead ends and many paths. Full article in our online newsletter.



Robyn Harm



MASS READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Corpus Christ – Yr B

1st Reading	Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40
Psalm	33
2nd Reading	Romans 8:14-17
Gospel	Matthew 28:16-20

MASS ROSTERS

AoB - Volunteer Enquiry

The form will take approximately 2 minutes to complete.

* Required

Your Parish

Please select your parish from the list below.

1. Parish Name *

Ipswich Parish

Next

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Ministry Rosters for the next 3 months have been sent to volunteers by email. We have a few printed copies for those without email. If you currently are not volunteering and would like to, please complete the online form, or call the Parish Office who will complete the form for you.

The form is for new volunteer enquiries as well as for existing volunteers who may want to change ministries, or volunteers who may want a break for a while or withdraw from volunteering altogether.

Click the link below, select 'Ipswich Parish' from the list, and the rest is really straight forward! The link to the form is – <https://forms.office.com/r/dJ2yuxeY8z>

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST IN 2024

Baptised children in grade 4 or above

Parent Information Night for the Sacrament of Eucharist.

Wednesday 5th June 6:30pm, St. Mary's, Church

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



ENROLMENT LINK - [ipswichcatholic.com/children](https://www.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

VALE FR. JIM SMITH

Dear Bishop, Monsignor, Father, and Deacon,

Sadly, I write to you with news of the sudden death of Fr Jim Smith who died this morning at his home in Alderley. Fr Jim served in the parishes of Grovely, Booval and Cannon Hill as well as ministering as Hospital Chaplain at the Royal Brisbane Hospital. He would be best remembered however, for his dedicated service and leadership with the Catholic Psychiatric Pastoral Care ministry for many years. May he rest in peace and experience the eternal presence of Christ he has both loved and served. We pray for his family and friends as we remember Jim at this time of sadness. Funeral details will be announced in the coming days.

Fr. Peter Dillon, Vicar for Administration

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (ATRIUM)

PENTECOST IN THE ATRIUM

This week in the Atrium with our Primary School age children, we spent time reflecting on the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Because we have such a large group in this age bracket, we will continue with activities associated with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially discovering where the Holy Spirit is mentioned in the Old and New Testament.

In the Atrium the youngest children are introduced to the Holy Spirit through the images or symbols that come to us through the Holy Bible. At the age of three the children work with the land of Israel map that flags Nazareth with a symbol of the Holy Spirit (dove or flame). The children recognise that Mary became the Mother of Jesus because she received and welcomed the gift of the Holy Spirit in her life.

For more information regarding the Atrium please go to the Parish website. We are in need of volunteers to assist with the Atrium on the Tuesday afternoon session. If you think you may be able to contribute, please contact the Parish Office to register your interest. Bernadette McAndrew



CONNECT YOUTH

Ignite Conference is a conference for everyone, from leaders to first-time believers. This is the Church gathered and alive on mission. This is God's people united with one heart. There is something for everyone at Ignite Conference, from explosive rallies, inspiring workshops, and powerful sacraments. You will be able to meet Jesus in so many ways. Ignite Conference isn't just for youth, it is for all ages, there are opportunities for primary school aged children, high schoolers, young adults, and mature age adults. For more information follow this link: <https://igniteconference.com.au/>.

If you wish to attend Ignite Conference 2024 with the Ipswich Catholic Community, please email ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au.

Stewart England



ROSEWOOD SHOW - Each year volunteers help at the gates for the Rosewood Show, giving us an opportunity to raise some funds for the parish. The Rosewood Show is on Friday 28th June & Saturday 29th June. Volunteers are needed to assist with entrance and check-in. This year several shifts will be rostered at each of the three gates. If you can assist, please contact the Parish Office. **This is a great fundraiser!**

LOST ITEM - Last Sunday between the front of the Church and the Primary School oval, 1 brown maraca (shaker) and 1 circular red hand bells were lost. If you know the whereabouts of either of these instruments, please return them to St Mary's Primary School office.

ARCHBISHOP MARK COLERIDGE

INVITES YOU

TO CELEBRATE

THE ORDINATION TO THE PRESBYTERATE



BRADLEY GRAEME DAVIES

and

MICHAEL MY VAN TRAN

**THE CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN
ELIZABETH STREET, BRISBANE**

FRIDAY 7TH JUNE 2024

7PM

FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS

RSVP: FRIDAY 31 May 2024

[Click here to register your attendance](#)

MASS OF THANKSGIVING

MICHAEL MY VAN TRAN

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, IPSWICH

SATURDAY 8TH JUNE, 10AM

CELEBRATIONS AFTER MICHAEL TRAN'S FIRST MASS

We are providing refreshments after Mass and would love some help from Parishioners. Michael has asked for some Vietnamese food and a BBQ.



If you would like to contribute towards a gift for Michael, we will present him with some money towards Vestments from the Parishioners, others might like to contribute to the brunch after his Thanksgiving Mass. We are asking that people 'bring a plate' of cakes etc; a BBQ will be offered (at Michael's request) and some Vietnamese food will be available from a caterer.

Any contribution to either the gift and or the brunch will be greatly received. Please 'pop an envelope' on the plate at Mass over the coming weeks, marked either "gift for Michael" or "catering" - thank-you. As a Parish we look forward to celebrating with Michael.

OFFICIAL AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE - *'In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop'* is an official Australian National Pilgrimage prepared by the [Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart](#). In 2024, the pilgrimage will be led by a Sister of Saint Joseph and the inaugural Director of the [Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre](#), East Melbourne. Title: In the Footsteps of St Mary MacKillop. Dates: Tuesday 15 October 2024 to Saturday 26 October 2024. Registration: For [brochure](#), application form and enquiries, visit the [MMP website](#). Please have a look at the brochure and express your interest to the Parish Office.

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL – This year's appeal will be held over the weekend of the 8th June and 9th of June. Please mark your calendars!

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION BILL 2024 - We face a significant challenge with the introduction of this Bill by the Queensland Government, which proposes stringent restrictions on religious freedoms. This bill could greatly impact our ability to operate in alignment with our faith values. Key Concerns: Restrictive employment standards for religious organisations, Invasive secular definitions of 'genuine occupational requirements', and Disproportionate limitations on our religious practices.

WE NEED YOUR ACTION

Get Informed: Review the legislation explanation summary and/or the detailed submission on the bill provided by our Joint Faiths Working Group. <https://bit.ly/44R0n6d>

Contact Your MP: Voice your concerns to ensure our religious freedoms are protected. When MPs receive dozens of letters on an issue, they realise how important it is.