

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
Assistant Priest: Fr. Mario Debattista ofm
Operations Manager: Benjamin Leschke

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

15th September 2024

Dear Parishioners,

Unfortunately, 'faith' and 'works' are two facets of our faith that are often pitted against each other. In many of his letters, St. Paul insists on the superiority of faith, while today's reading from St. James underscores the importance of good works. It is understandable that one might get confused. Actually, both are vital. In fact, one without the other does not result in full Christian living. At issue is how they fit together.



Paul's insistence on faith was probably a corrective for the erroneous belief that we can earn eternal happiness by our good works. This was not simply a problem with the Jewish law and practices but with the religious law and practices of many societies. Even today we find people convinced that obeying religious laws assures salvation. To this, Paul insisted that it was faith in Jesus that saved, not conformity to law. Paul never said that believers should not obey the law. Last week at the Synod, I experienced people getting bogged down on conforming to the law (or at least their interpretation) rather than 'obedience' to credibly living the Gospel.

Rather, St Paul would insist that such obedience should flow from faith, not vice versa. It seems that the people to whom today's second reading was directed took the idea of "faith alone" to an extreme. They were not committed to good works. This letter corrected that error. It states that faith without works is dead. In fact, good works demonstrate the authenticity and depth of one's faith. Look the Churches of our Parish and see all the goodness – each week I am inspired you the faith of the congregations!

The message for today should be clear. Faith and works belong together. Genuine faith manifests itself in works of love and mercy, and the works of love and mercy that flow from faith are of God.

May our faith be strengthened today!

Have a great week,

Stephen ofm

PARISH CALENDAR

THIS WEEKEND

Fri 13	9:00am Mass, Miraculous Medal Church, Eastern Heights
Sat 14	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
Sun 15	7:30am Mass, St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich 8:00am Mass, St. Brigid's Parish Hall, Rosewood 9:00am Mass & Children's Liturgy St. Mary's Church, Woodend 10.30am Baptisms, St Mary's Church, Woodend 5:30pm Mass, St. Mary's Church, Woodend

NEXT WEEK

Mon 16	9:00am Mass, St Mary's Church, Woodend
Tues 17	9:00am Immaculate Heart Church, Leichhardt 3:30pm NO Junior Choir Practice, St. Mary's Church
Wed 18	8:30am Rosary, 9:00am Mass, 10:00am Adoration, St Mary's 8:30am Rosary, 9.00am Mass, St. Brigid's, Rosewood 10:00am Prayer Group, St. Clare Room, Parish Office
Thurs 19	9:00am Mass, St. Mary's Church, Woodend
Fri 20	9:00am Mass, Miraculous Medal Church, Eastern Heights

A VOCATION VIEW – 24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

We do not promote an easy life.

But then no life worth living is an easy life.

Jesus said, "If you wish to come after me, you must deny your very self, take up your cross and follow me".

Pray for the gift of being able to accept our vocation.

vocation@bne.catholic.net.au



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

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

PARISH PRAYERS



Recently Deceased: Sharon Olsen, Margaret Bool, Peter McAndrew, Bernice Doughty, Tom Greenwood.

Anniversaries: Dorothy Leathem, Margaret Long, Neal Crozier, Desley Briggs, Delma Winks, Joan Hearn, Colin Flood, Betty Edbrooke, Sam Dickfoss, Betty & Tom Sudgen and those in our

Book of Life.

SACRAMENTS | FORMATION | LITURGY

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

ipswichcatholic.com/ministries/becoming-catholic



Contact the Parish Office



MASS READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr B

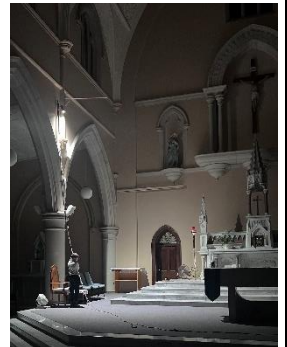
1st Reading	Wisdom 2.12, 17-20
Psalm	54
2nd Reading	James 3.16-4.3
Gospel	Mark 9.30-37

OPERATIONS UPDATE

St. Mary's Lighting - Over the last few weeks much of the 'behind the scenes' work has been completed in preparation for the new church lighting. Several kilometres of cable have been run, and this week several lights (including the 3 porch lights) have been removed. Part of our commitment to the upgrade was to restore some of the older light fittings in keeping with the church style and architecture. We have temporary porch lights now, which will be removed when the restored porch lights return!

Internal brackets have been made for the new internal lights, and new light fittings are being placed in new surrounds for the front stairs and ramps. Once these have been prepared, they will replace the old, damaged stair/ramp lights. The photo attempts to illustrate some of the testing that was done during the week!

External lighting work is underway, with preparations made to replace the external spotlights on the buttresses of the church. We anticipate much of the next stage of work will be completed during the school holidays.



COLOUR FUN RUN



On Wednesday this week, I had the pleasure of attending the St. Mary's Primary School 2024 Colour Fun Run. Participating in this lively event allowed me to connect with the school community in a unique and celebratory way. It was a reminder that spirituality and joy are not mutually exclusive but can beautifully coexist.

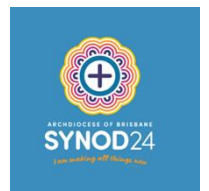
As we laughed and cheered amidst the colours, it became clear that such moments of unity and celebration can strengthen our friendships and enrich our spiritual journey together in God's name. Thank you for the fun and fellowship, students of St. Mary's!

Fr. Minje

SYNOD REFLECTION

The 2024 Synod is a gathering of the faithful to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church and asking her to be and to do. During the first two days of the Synod the decrees we discussed and voted on were centred around the themes of healing and inclusivity. I personally felt empowered that we were able to come to conclusion and pass these decrees in the hope that our Archdiocese is modernising with the current world and that our communities are accepting of these adaptations. We need to reconcile from the past and be committed to walking gently with each other. I believe we were truly responding to the mission of Jesus, making room for all because everyone is invited and welcome at the table. At the completion of the second day, I left with confidence for our growing church; knowing that the proposed implementations might become a reality for not only the archdiocese but our parish. I believe that our parish will benefit from the actions discussed at the Synod and through them we will continue to walk on journey with Jesus. We continue our Synod discussion in mid-October, but until then I continue to pray that we all continue to live and act in the hope, joy and mission of the Risen Christ.

Stewart England, Youth Coordinator



Postures of Prayer – Colleen Arnold, MD, May 2024

Sitting, standing, and kneeling during Mass each have their own distinct role in helping us fully experience and appreciate the liturgy.

Recently, a non-Catholic friend accompanied me to Mass. “I was so confused!” she exclaimed afterward. “How do you know when to sit or stand or kneel? And all those secret gestures!”



For most Catholics, that knowledge has been developed by participation in many Masses over the years. It’s so ingrained that even if we’re not paying close attention, the movement of the assembly gives us a split-second clue. We automatically change positions as our muscle memory takes over—so much so that if someone seated close to us sits or stands at the wrong time, many of us automatically follow along!

“But what does it all mean?” she continued. “Why not just sit, like we do at our church services?”

What a great question. We Catholics pray with our hearts, minds, and bodies. During a typical Mass, we sit four times (five if you count sitting when we first come into the Church), stand six times, and kneel three times. The word liturgy means “work of the people.” It’s not just the priest who does all the work; we have responsibilities too. The motions and postures we use have meaning and subtly change our mindset throughout each part of the Mass. We know that “body language” can sometimes convey our feelings better than words. What are we saying with our postures at Mass?

Read more at: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/st-anthony-messenger/postures-of-prayer/>

ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE & FLOCKNOTE

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SEPTEMBER SIGNUP!

Our Parish has been using Flocknote for about 8 years, and many will be familiar with it.

During September, Archbishop Mark Coleridge is promoting a September Signup for Flocknote, but you don’t need to wait until September.

Parishioners and visitors are invited to use the link (<https://ipswich.flocknote.com/register>) or QR code to sign up and register with the parish. If you are already signed up (many of you will be) there will be an opportunity for you to update your contact details and add your family members (like the old-style parish census form.)



If you have any questions, please see a priest, or speak with the Parish office.

PAUSE + PRAY – SEEKING MORE HOURS IN THE DAY

Reflect

It seems that our days are getting busier and busier, with to-do lists that are longer and longer. I never finish today’s list before it’s time to move on to tomorrow’s, and all those unfinished tasks pile on to the next day. Even my prayers don’t always get done by the time I fall into bed each night.



Pray

Dear God, there are only 24 hours in each day, but it feels like I need at least 30 to fulfill all my responsibilities. Sometimes I confuse what’s important with what’s trivial. Help me weed through my daily tasks and give me the energy to do those that matter to you. Help me get over the silly pride that makes me want to “do everything.” Amen.

Act

Sit down at the start of your day and review your to-do list. Pick out three things that matter most to God and be sure they get done. Cut yourself some slack on the rest.

SECURITY - BE ALERT

This week, a visitor attending a funeral had their vehicle stolen from the St. Mary’s Church carpark. The matter is with the Police, however this is a timely reminder to everyone, secure their vehicles. Unfortunately, there are oportunists around who take advantage of others.

Let’s pray that the police catch the thief.

Remember if you see something suspicious, please tell someone.



Thank You - The McAndrew family would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Fr Stephen and the Office Staff for their support to ensure that the celebration of Peter's Funeral was a memorable and prayerful experience for all those who attended and viewed via livestream. We are also overwhelmed and humbled by the messages of condolences and support we have received from the Ipswich Catholic Community, and wider Ipswich community. May Peter now rest in peace knowing his beloved Ipswich farewelled him with dignity and love." Bernadette

Ipswich Catholic Community Junior Choir - The ICC Junior Choir will be taking a little break until October due to Kathy being away for a couple of months. We will resume our Tuesday rehearsals on the 15th October.

Atrium – The term has ended at the Atrium. The new term start date will be announced in due course.

A Catholic Mental Wellbeing morning is held weekly on a Wednesday morning at 58 Morgan Steet, The Valley. Enjoy a morning of companionship, reflection and prayer, and celebrate Mass followed by a light lunch. Contact Judy Norris: 3324 3193 or email judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au

Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass - Couples who are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary or more are warmly invited to attend this year's Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass, to be celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge. Family and friends are also welcome, and the Cathedral car park will be available on the day.

When: Saturday 28 September, 2024 at 11:30am

Where: The Cathedral of St Stephen

Please RSVP by Wednesday 25 September via Email: cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au or by phone on 33243030



Marriage Encounter Weekend, 18th to 20th Oct 2024 @ Santa Teresa, Ormiston

Reconnect, rekindle and refresh your marriage. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is offering a weekend for couples away from the distractions of everyday living. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your couple relationship and revitalise this precious asset.



Our weekend gives couples the opportunity to focus on their relationship with their spouse. Priest and religious are also invited to focus on their relationship with their community. Listen to presenting team couples and priest give witness to the power of God within the married and priestly vocations.

Our next live-in weekend will be held from 7pm Friday evening 18 October to 4pm Sunday afternoon 20 October (including Sunday Mass). The venue is the Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston.

To book go to the web site www.wwme.org.au or contact Joseph and Lisha Deseam on 0481 307 821 or via email qldbookings@wwme.org.au



When: Monday, 30 September at 10am – 2pm

Where: St. Catherine's Catholic Church, 3356 Moggill Road, Moggill

Morning tea and lunch will be provided free of charge.

To register your attendance at the event please email: kenmore@bne.catholic.net.au or call 3324 3632 and you will be sent an RSVP form. Please RSVP on or before Tuesday 24 September

Faith Foundations Short Course - This online course comprises six fortnightly workshops, conducted in real time so there's plenty of opportunity for questions, discussion and connection. The course is designed to cater for a range of learners, for those who are new to reading the Scriptures and for those ready to take the next step and dig deeper. Six course dates available from 14th September.

For more information call: 07 3324 3485 or Email: ife@bne.catholic.net.au or visit: <https://ife.qld.edu.au/parish/>



Season of Creation - All are invited to the annual Season of Creation Mass at St Stephen's Cathedral. Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family unites for the Season of Creation, a worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our Common home. There are many other events and ways to engage with the Season of Creation and resources available. For more information contact: beache@bne.catholic.net.au

