

# Parish Bugle

Issue 23,  
November 2019



## Another Reason to Rejoice this Season

Millions of Christians around the world choose to celebrate the birth of Jesus during this time of year. Whenever a Christian decides to celebrate, we can all rejoice in the fact that, by putting on humanity, the Son of God became one of us to deal with our sin by dying in our place before conquering death when He rose from the dead.

God always shows Himself faithful as His Word is true and comes to life in a very real fashion. Just as He spoke light into the darkness and it happened, He spoke to the hearts of the prophets through His Holy Word to begin to reveal the plan He had in place. We know that roughly two thousand years ago God's One and Only Son was sent to us fulfilling the promises that the prophecy of the Old Testament stated would take place. He was born in Bethlehem of a virgin named Mary. Our God is with us!

As we enter the Christmas season we should have a sense of awe and reverence in how God fulfilled everything according to His Word. He keeps His Word! My Prayer is that we'll continue to be in awe of these incredible truths and that we'll instil the truths of God's revelation to our family, friends, or whomever God so chooses to place in our path. Especially during Christmas time! When we celebrate His birth may we all share the true meaning behind what the world considers as just another holiday. May the truth revealed in prophecy be communicated and known through us.

Praise God for revealing Himself and that we can have the true honour and privilege of worshipping Jesus and celebrate His entrance into the world during Christmas. Let us all have a true "Birthday" celebration for our Saviour.

*Fr Subin Thomas,  
Your Parish Priest*



*Nativity of Jesus,  
c. 1473-1475,  
by Botticelli*

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**Question:**

**Why can't my friend take Communion when she comes to Mass with me, she is not a Catholic, but she is a Christian — it seems harsh?**

**Answer:**

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (844 §4).

The Holy Eucharist is the most important of the seven sacraments, because in this and in no other sacrament, we receive the very body and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ. It deepens unity within the church, more fully assimilating us into Christ (1 Cor. 12:12; CCC1396).

Another reason that non-Catholics may not take Communion is for their own protection, since in the main, they reject the doctrine of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Scripture warns of the dangers for those non-believers who take Communion "For anyone who eats and drinks without discernment eats and drinks judgement upon himself" (1 Cor. 11:29)

However other Christians who share our specific beliefs in relation to the Eucharist are permitted to take Communion -these include members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East and the Polish National Catholic Church and several others.

In exceptional circumstances there are provisions for the reception of communion by Christians outside of the categories mentioned above but this would not normally take place at a suburban Mass.

Many Christian Churches outside of those mentioned believe only in the **symbolic** presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist rather than the **reality**. It would be demeaning and sacrilegious to give Communion in such circumstances - the Church has a heavy duty to safeguard the Sacrament.

The best option for you and all Catholics who face this dilemma is to acquaint yourself thoroughly with the Guidelines for the Reception of Communion and to explain them to your friend/friends **well before** you get to Mass.

*Terence M O'Shea*



*Jesus Christ Last Supper  
<https://i.pinimg.com/>*



*Nativity set in Bethlehem  
town square*

**We welcome all to St Patrick's Masses:**

Mondays and Tuesdays 7am  
Wednesdays 7pm  
Thursdays and Fridays 7am  
Saturdays 8am and 6pm  
Sundays 7am, 9am and 6pm  
1st Friday of month, Healing Mass  
Fridays Exposition of Sacrament 7am-7pm  
Saturdays Mass/Novena 8am

**St Patrick's Christmas Masses:****Christmas Eve, Tuesday Dec 24th:**

Children's Mass—6pm  
Youth Mass—8pm  
Christmas Carols—11:30pm  
Midnight Mass—12am

**Christmas Day, Wednesday Dec 25th:**

Mass—7am and 9am

*We acknowledge and pay respect to the land and the traditional families of the Yugambeh region of South East Queensland, including the Kombumerri, Mununjali, Wangerriburra and others, and their Elders past, present and future.*

# Fr Subin's Installation Mass

On the 2nd of November the parish hosted the Installation Mass for Fr Subin. It was celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge, who was assisted by the Dean of Logan, Very Rev John Conway, Fr Baiyi Gong, Parish Priest of Roachdale and our own Fr Subin Thomas.

The Parish Choir sang, led by Anne Tracey and the church had the most beautiful floral arrangements.

Fr Subin made a speech to the congregation, where he promised to serve us and work with us to spread the word of God through our community.

After Mass there was a shared supper in the Truelson room, enjoyed by a large crowd. There were plenty of photo opportunities and time to enjoy good company.



Monica Boucek



Photos:  
Mary &  
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# St Vincent De Paul Society

As another year comes to an end, we would like to thank our parishioners for their support throughout the year.

We conduct three major fund-raising events - The Winter Appeal ( held in June), The Vinnies Dinner ( held in July) and The Christmas Appeal which this year will be held on Sat 30 Nov and Sun 1 Dec. As a result of these events and major financial contributions from Vinnies shops we have been able to offer the following assistance during 2019 to those less fortunate than ourselves:



Total number of contacts - 1387 consisting of: 3272 people (1515 children). Direct financial assistance provided: \$57 146.78. In-kind assistance provided: \$21 410.40. Total value of assistance provided: \$78 557.18 I think you would agree that we have had an extremely busy year.

In order to continue our work at St Patrick's Conference we are in need of **new members** to join the St Vincent de Paul Society. What does joining our conference involve? Our conference receives requests from individuals and families for food, clothes, furniture, scripts, rent arrears, emergency accommodation etc. They may be victims of domestic violence or sexual abuse, single parents with children, unemployed, homeless teenagers, migrants and refugees..... We help when and where we can but more importantly we try to establish the real reason for their particular need and although we are not counsellors we can listen.

We can often refer them to other agencies, advise how to apply for NILS (no interest loans), where to purchase urgently needed goods such as washing machines and fridges. Our aim is to provide help and support and hopefully lead their lives back on track. Our branch wishes to increase its membership to a minimum of 30 members. Many of our members have been with Vinnies for periods in excess of 15 years and up to 30 years. They have well and truly reached retirement age and we desperately need younger blood. We consider 70 as being young. We are open Mon to Fri from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm. We need a minimum of 3 people each day.

We need people with computer and administrative skills. We need help with manning our piety stall at all masses, bread run, organising Christmas Hampers etc. That is why we need your help and generosity to fill these vacancies. Your involvement will help us continue the good works they have been doing for many years. Jesus reminded us, "the poor will always be with you". Pope Francis, on the same theme, tells us "We are called, then, to draw near to the poor, to encounter them, to meet their gaze, to embrace them and to let them feel the warmth of love that breaks through their solitude."

If you THINK you might be interested now or in the future, we would be happy to supply you with further information. Please call John Maksimas (0410602549) or Fay O'Toole (0407465478).

**CHRISTMAS APPEAL** As usual at this time of year, the Society conducts its Australia wide Christmas Appeal. Here at Beenleigh the appeal will take place on Sat 30 Nov. and Sunday 1 Dec. Giving envelopes will be provided at all masses on this and the previous weekend. All donations, large or small, will be greatly appreciated.

**Important Dates:** Thanksgiving Mass- Wed 11 Dec. 7.00pm Parishioners welcome. Christmas Hamper Handout- Thurs 19 Dec. 9.00am to 12.00pm. Conference closes- Fri 20 Dec and reopens- Mon 13 Jan Vinnies Dinner- Fri 31 July '20. Beenleigh Bowls Club. Please put this date in your diary.

*John Maksimas, President*

# Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

You may have noticed that our parish offers **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**, also called **Eucharistic Adoration**, or **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**.

The following is a summary of what to expect and what to do during adoration.

During this time (8am-7pm Fridays) perpetual adoration is set aside for people to spend time with the Lord.

## What Do I Do During Eucharistic Adoration?



Eucharistic Host is displayed in a monstrance on the altar so that all can see and pray in the presence of Christ. As a form of respect, you should always genuflect when you see the Lord in the Host. Maintain an attitude of respect, and if others are present, silence. Always keep in mind that you are in the presence of God.

Kneeling, sitting or standing before the Blessed Sacrament are all appropriate forms of prayer. Let your posture reflect your worship of the King and do what is comfortable for you.

You really don't have to "do" anything. You can just sit there and look at Jesus. Take the time to be with Him. If you are the only person in the chapel, don't be afraid to pray or sing aloud. This is your personal time with Christ. See the chart for ideas.

In order to have perpetual adoration, at least one person **must be present in Adoration at all times** because Jesus may never be left alone. There is no need to ask permission to attend, you can just show up and be with Lord.

If you are familiar with Adoration of the Eucharist, then we will be offering people the opportunity sign up to spend a regular time slot with the Lord on the weekend Masses of 23/24 November.

Testimonial: *"Whenever I go to the chapel, I put myself in the presence of our good Lord, and I say to him, 'Lord, I am here. Tell me what you would have me to do'. . . . And then, I tell God everything that is in my heart. I tell him about my pains and my joys, and then I listen. If you listen, God will also speak to you, for with the good Lord, you have to both speak and listen. God always speaks to you when you approach him plainly and simply."* – St. Catherine Labouré

<https://catholic-link.org/how-to-go-to-adoration-eucharist/>

Submitted by Denise O'Shea

## Bequests to the Parish

Should any Parishioner be considering making a financial bequest to St. Patrick's Parish, such a bequest must be included in your Last Will and Testament.

There is an exactly worded statement required to be used when making such a bequest. This exact statement can be obtained from the Parish Office.

## Disclaimer

The views, opinions and comments expressed in the Bugle are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Roman Catholic Archdioceses of Brisbane, the Catholic Parish of St Patrick's Parish Beenleigh, or any other agency, organisation or company.



# Kingdom Now Conference

I recently had the opportunity to attend the Kingdom Now Conference that was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2019 at the Logan Entertainment Centre in Woodridge. The Conference began at 3pm and concluded at 8pm. I enjoyed being part of the Volunteer Group in which my role was to welcome the attendees as they came through the front entrance of the Entertainment Centre.

Once everyone was welcomed in, I then joined all the attendees (which was around 300 people) in the Conference Hall, to listen to the Guest speakers. There were some very interesting topics:- from Spiritual journeys, to how do we get people to come back to their faith. We got to listen to some great music from the attending band. Around 8 St Patrick's parishioners attended the Event.

The conference was concluded with a beautiful Mass officiated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge and Father John Conway (Dean of Logan) and all the priests from each of the Parishes within the Logan Deanery.

All in all it was a really great Conference

*Marian Ward*



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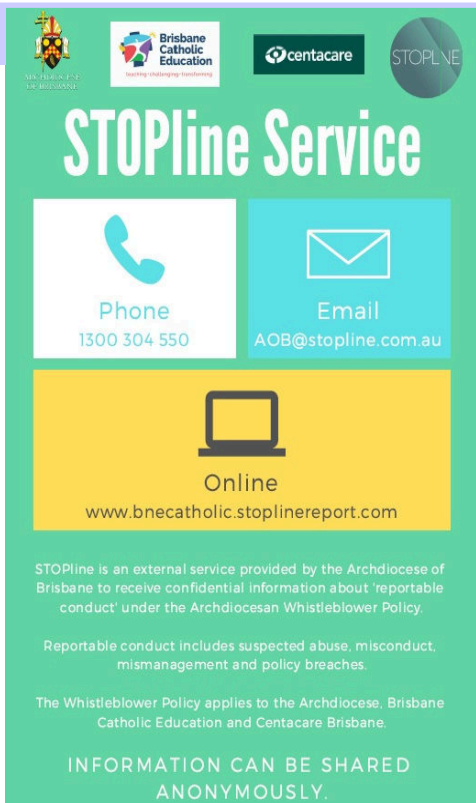
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- Online: <https://www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com>

**Reports and information can be shared with STOPline anonymously.**

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STOPline is an external service provided by the Archdiocese of Brisbane to receive confidential information about 'reportable conduct' under the Archdiocesan Whistleblower Policy.

Reportable conduct includes suspected abuse, misconduct, mismanagement and policy breaches.

The Whistleblower Policy applies to the Archdiocese, Brisbane Catholic Education and Centacare Brisbane.

**INFORMATION CAN BE SHARED ANONYMOUSLY.**



## 'Memorial Page'



### My Dear Friend Betty



Betty was my carer for 27 years. She not only cared for me, but if my Mum or sisters needed a hand with anything it was never too much trouble for Betty to give them a hand. Betty moved to Cairns to be with her son and her two grand-daughters. To see them grow up. She passed away on 23rd August, aged 94.

### LOVES LIGHT SHINING BRIGHT

Brenda Maree Donoghoe



This photo of my wife was taken on our wedding day at St Patrick's Church Beenleigh in April 2017.

Brenda passed away, after a long illness, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2019.

### Cedric Wright 23/12/1926—27/4/2019



Born in South Africa. Emigrated to Australia in 1996. Apart from raising a combined family of 9 children he had many and varied interests. He was a very successful journalist. He built 4 houses. He was a keen supporter of the Wallabies and a member of the RSL. Above all he had a deep faith in the Catholic church and was a devotee to Mary Mother of God.

### Frank Erbacher 19/5/1946—15/9/2018



Parishioner since Christmas 1981. Served as Reader, Special Minister of the Eucharist, counter and banker of parish funds, member of Finance Committee.





## 'Memorial Page'



**George Hartman 17/2/1940 – 13/8/2019**



George lived in Eagleby and was often seen on his mobility scooter around Beenleigh and coming to Church, usually parked next to the organ. Born in Germany, leaves behind his two sisters in Germany and wonderful friends in St. Patricks.

*Helmut Ronnert*



*You will never be forgotten*

**Jill Palmer 21/10/1930-30/7/2019**



Jill was for many years leading the Charismatic Prayer group. She did so much for the community and also for patients at the Logan Hospital. She was so close to God and everything she did in her life was solely for HIM.

**Memorial Mass, 6th November**



*The Mass in memory of our Departed Loved ones concluded with a beautiful ceremony in the Columbarium and a Blessing:*

May God give to you and all those whom you love his comfort and peace, his light and joy, In this world and the next;  
And the blessing of God almighty,  
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.  
**Amen**

# Schools—Mother Teresa

## Mother Teresa Day

On September 5th we celebrated the feast of St. Teresa of Kolkata our patron saint. It was a whole school contribution with every student decorating a set of prayer hands and writing a phrase of gratitude for what Mother Teresa means to them. These were then placed on the school cross to form part of our sacred space as each class entered. Our talented Yr 1 teacher Mrs Gray created a lifelike portrait of Mother Teresa to complete the dressing of the cross.



## Recycling at MTS - more than just environmental

Mother Teresa students and their families know that the use of plastics in our society is a big problem, and so they have started to do something about it. Firstly we are encouraging everyone in the community to put drink containers into the new Blue Bins so that they can be processed for recycling at the newly established Loganholme Containers for Change depot. This limits the rubbish going to landfill and collects some change for the school to contribute to other community works of charity.

Plastic bottle lids are also being collected separately to send off to Envision Hands to be processed and turned into moulding material that creates prosthetics hands to be distributed to people (particularly children) in poverty stricken countries. Doing Small things with Great Love is alive and well at Mother Teresa School.



## Grandparents Day

Our Prep students loved having their Grandparents come along and visit last week. They enjoyed reading with their grandchild and their class mates and learning all about what they do in Prep. Positive connections with families contributes significantly to students success at school and so we thank all of those Grandparents who were able to join the preppies.

On behalf of all the community at Mother Teresa Primary we wish everyone a wonderfully joyous time with family and friends over the Christmas period. We also keep in our prayers and thoughts those who struggle to connect with family in this time and thank those who assist them to have some food, gifts and company.



*Merry Christmas everyone!*

**Ben Torenbeek , APRE - Mother Teresa Primary**

# Schools—St Josephs

## Grandparent's Day

On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October, we celebrated Grandparent's Day which is a wonderful tradition held each year at St Joseph's. The day began with a special liturgy led by Fr Subin, followed by time in the classrooms and a special morning tea. Father prayed this blessing for all grandparents:

*Dear God,*

*Bless our grandparents. Thank you for the life they gave my parents and for the life they give to us. For the ways they helped us and made us strong, we give thanks. For the ways they love us no matter what, we rejoice. For the ways they have paved the road that leads us here, we are grateful. Let them grow in wisdom and joy in life. Let them find peace and rest from their work. Let them be healed of every sickness and pain. And let them see with their own eyes the glory of your Son, Jesus, in the love of their children and grandchildren. Bless them always until they come to rest in you.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



## Catholic Mission Month

This year Catholic Mission invited schools to register for the Socktober program using an e-platform designed to engage the whole school community- parish, parents, teachers and students in the work of mission. Our Mission Day was held Monday 28 October where classes had the opportunity to 'kick goals for poverty' in a penalty shoot-out and view a 360<sup>o</sup> VR to witness first-hand what life is like for children and their families in Ghana. The St Joseph's community raised \$1707 to fight poverty in Ghana which was a tremendous effort!



## Remembrance Day Liturgy

On Monday 11 November, we held our Remembrance Day liturgy marking the 101<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War. We gathered to remember and pray for the victims of war and those who have died to help bring freedom to all. We observed a minute's silence in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts. We also focussed on the place of peace in our hearts, families and community here at St Joseph's. Jesus is our model for true peace and shows us how to be makers of peace. We are God's ambassadors for Christ – commissioned by the Holy Spirit to announce the good news of God's kingdom. Because of this, we are called to represent God's peace in the world. May we continue to work together to bring about true peace in our hearts and in our community.



*The St Joseph's community wishes all the parishioners of St Patrick's Parish a blessed Christmas.*

**Maree Wright, APRE—St Joseph's Tobruk Memorial School**

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When a family experiences the heartache and difficulty of the loss of a loved one, funeral arrangements can be a stressful time for everyone involved. Organising for a prepaid funeral can lighten some of that burden and relieve your family in a time of sorrow.

## Planning for the future is a prudent approach

Nobody likes to think about it, but the fact remains that we are only on this earth for a short time. Pre-arranging a funeral is no different from saving for a holiday or putting money away for an investment. Pre-planning a funeral is a logical and sensitive way to ensure your passing can be celebrated with as little stress possible on the ones who love you. Our professional and helpful funeral director can guide you in completing the appropriate paperwork – nothing morbid or sad, just like filling out a will – practical, sensible and easy.

## Holy Cross Funerals can ensure you have the funeral you want

Many people have personal requirements or guidelines they would like their funeral to follow. Often this is something that's thought about in passing and not discussed with loved ones or family. Pre-arranging a funeral gives your family the ability to follow your wishes as they are outlined in your pre-arranged funeral documentation.

## Sureplan Funeral Insurance



Sureplan has managed funeral funds since 1935 and understands what is required when a family loses a loved one. That is why Sureplan pays the funeral benefit within 24 hours of being advised as to the passing of a member as we know this relieves the financial stress for the family. In 1999 Sureplan launched a funeral savings fund called Sureplan Gold that had been designed specifically to cater for the needs of people who wanted to pre-fund their funeral.

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# Presentation to Committee on Voluntary Euthanasia

Firstly, let me thank the Committee for giving me this opportunity to have my say.

At the outset let me say I am strongly opposed to this proposed legislation which will allow a human life to be taken on the basis of suffering.

Human life is precious and God-given and to give anyone, including physicians, this right is dangerous. There is an inherent danger in doing this.

To say that there will be safeguards is not good enough. Countries where this sort of legislation is in place, have found difficulty in enforcing them. The reasons for ending the person's life have known to be extended to the point that simply feeling old is reason enough for termination.

Hippocrates, who lived pre-Christian times, in his Oath for physicians, stated that they were to "Do no harm". How does this lofty aim fit in with this proposal?

I believe, along with many in Palliative Care, that the solution is in more funding in the area of Palliative care.

Loving care by family and hospital staff is much more humane than putting people down.

In some areas, life is valued as it should be. Take the care administered to premature babies. Such efforts are to be applauded and the same loving care should be offered to those nearing the end of their lives.

Unfortunately, in many cases, physicians are put under pressure from relatives who have a strong bearing on the outcome for the patient.

To conclude let me quote the Associate Professor Richard Chye, Director of Palliative Care for St Vincent's Health Australia.

"No terminally ill Australian should ever find themselves in the position of being unable to experience quality care but able to access assisted suicide"

*Don Robertson*



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