

The Corona virus pandemic is now affecting every part of the world, disrupting people's lives and creating fear, anxiety, sorrow and hardship. Many around the world are sick and many others have died. This crisis raises serious medical, ethical and logistical questions. But it raises additional questions for people of faith. Where can we find strength and hope at this troubling time? As Catholics our faith in God and trust in his words should help us to face this situation. In such extraordinary times, it is not only helpful but

vital that we engage with God's Word.

There are many who say the Bible isn't relevant to our lives today. Some scripture doesn't apply to us today such as Levitical laws of leprosy and similar Old Testament laws. We are thinking people. Those aren't a matter of relevancy but application. Even those scriptures contain truth. Let's consider why the Bible is still relevant to us.

The message of the Bible is clear, compelling and current. The quest of humanity has always been to discover significance and meaning. The message of faith in God has never changed. It enables us to root ourselves in the truth of God's utter faithfulness. We discover afresh that, in Christ, we are never abandoned but are held by God, who comes alongside us. God's Word calls us to action. Scripture reminds us that, we are the body of Christ, with new opportunities to serve our



Marian Valley, Photo Cathy Korzeniewski

communities and to witness very practically to Christ's love. We can live the present and look to the future knowing the sovereignty of God and His reconciling love.

Those who reject the Bible as irrelevant say the Bible no longer fits our culture. Rather, our culture has rejected the principles of the Bible. The best way to counter those who say the Bible is irrelevant is to live the truth of God's word before them. Love them, share your faith with them and pray for them. I pray that, may we find comfort, strength and inspiration from God's word, and be empowered by the Spirit to share that comfort and grace in these difficult days.

Fr Subin Thomas, Your Parish Priest

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 emerging.



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### QGA

#### Question:

What does the Bible mean to Catholics? What is it, who wrote it, and is it true?

#### Answer:

Catholics have great reverence for the Bible. They believe it is the word of God. They believe it tells the story of God's revelation of Himself to mankind. Each Sunday when Catholics go to Mass, they hear three readings from the Scriptures, and they are encouraged to read the Bible privately.



The Bible is not one book, it is a collection of books written by different people in different styles over a long period of time.

The Old Testament comes to us through the chosen race - the Jews. Written over a period of about a thousand years it tells of God's revelation of himself to the Israelite nation.

The New Testament is a collection of writings which centres on the person of Jesus Christ. It tells of his life, death and resurrection and describes the growth of the community made up of his first followers.

The different books of the Bible obviously required many authors. But it is not always possible to say with any certainty who the author of a particular book may have been. This is especially true of some Old Testament books. But whoever the human authors were, Christians believe that God inspired them to write in such a way that they conveyed the truth God wished them to impart. That is why the Bible is referred to as the Word of God.

The Bible is made up of many kinds of writing - history, prophecy, law, poetry, parables, stories, and other forms of literature. When reading a particular book of the Bible, it is important to be aware of the kind of writing it is. Poetry and parables should not be read as if it were history. The bible is true, but the truth it conveys is primarily religious truth. The bible is not a textbook of science or history in the modern sense and it would be a mistake to read it as though it were.

The Bible did not descend from heaven, whole and complete bound in black leather. As we have said it was written by different people over a long period of time. It is essentially a product of a community of believers. The Old Testament arose out of the religious tradition of the Jewish people; the New Testament arose from the traditions about Jesus which were handed on and preached by the early Christian community. Because it is the product of the community, Catholics believe that the interpretation of it must be safeguarded by the authority of that same community, namely, the Church.

Some Credit to Redemptorist Publications, Alphonsus House, Chawton, Alton, Hants, England.

Terence O'Shea

#### Dear Reader,

If you enjoy reading our magazine or if there is something you would like to see in it, please contact us on beenleigh@bne.catholic.net.au and please put the word Bugle in the subject line to make it easier for the office staff. We appreciate your feedback.

Please do not discard your Bugle copy, but forward it to friends, family or neighbours. Let them know what we get up to and invite them to join us.

The Bugle is available in electronic copy from our website https://www.stpatricksbeenleigh.com.au/ and through our parish app. (Search for 'St. Patrick's Beenleigh' in the App Store).

### News from our Parish Office

#### Confirmation

On the 27th August 15 children received the Sacrament of Confirmation. It was a very special and praverful evening for the children and their families led by Vicar General Monsignor Peter Meneely and Fr Subin.

Please continue to pray for the children as they start to prepare for First Holy Communion in 2021, when they will be fully initiated into the Church.

#### First Holy Communion 2020

The children of the Parish that received Confirmation in 2019 will begin to prepare for First Holy Communion at the Rite of Enrolment at each Mass on 5/6 Septem-Please continue to support these ber. families through praver on their faith journey to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus.



#### Reconciliation

ease. Contact the Parish Priest to make an place at 5:30pm and 7pm. appointment by calling 3287 5168.

To conform to the Covid-19 restrictions the children Available by appointment until restrictions were divided into two groups, with ceremonies taking

The school APRE's, Maree Wright from St Joseph's and Ben Torenbeek from Mother Teresa, were involved in the program and were assisting the children during the confirmations.

#### Weekend Masses

If you would like to attend weekend Mass-

es you can print your details on the sign on sheets in the Church or phone the parish office Tuesday, Thursday & Friday.

#### The Columbarium

Many heartfelt thanks to Margaret and Russ Skerman for their loving care of the Columbarium. They have helped and comforted many parishioners in the care of their loved ones over the years.

If you should want to reserve a niche or get some information about the Columbarium, please speak to Cathy Korzeniewski on 0400 494 943 or the Parish Office.

Peter Haack. Pastoral Assistant



## Parish Youth Stuff

Every so often, our youth group has an outing that is different to our regular meeting. It may be a bush walk, watching a movie, going bowling, lunch at the park, swimming, etc.

Recently, we went on a day trip to Marian Valley. There was Fr Subin, a handful of young people and a few parents who were able to come along. We celebrated a beautiful 'bush Mass' at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Southern Cross, then enjoyed lunch together. Later in the afternoon, those of us who were able to stay did the pilgrimage walk up the mountain to the shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows, then hiked back down into the bush.



We waited in the bush till dark, hoping that we might see some fireflies (I had seen them there a few years ago). We certainly weren't disappointed! We were treated to an amazing display of hundreds of tiny glittering lights which surrounded us on all sides, some flying really close to us.

For those who sometimes stay over in the cabins at Marian Valley, why not go for an evening stroll down to the bush where Our Lady of the Southern Cross is – you may by the fireflies in the evening. The weather was pretty windy but we managed to not get blown off the mountain when we went for our hike :) If you've never been to Marian Valley, I highly recommend it!

Cathy Korzeniewski, Youth Leader

www.academvoftraining.edu.au



Phone:

07 3059 0299

RTO Code 91215

### Multicultural Mass

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions we could not hold the traditional Multicultural festivities with food and performances in the hall. Instead Fr Subin suggested we share our faith while celebrating Mass. A previous parish priest, Fr Grundy once told us that the Catholic Church is a Multicultural Church and that was certainly evident during Multicultural weekend.

We focused on the Mass and celebrated at all the weekend Masses, rather than just the usual Sunday 9am Mass. The first and second readings were in the languages of different parishioners at each Mass and different groups provided music. The music made the parishioners join in which uplifted the spirit of the whole Mass.

The church decorations were inspiring and the atmosphere was warm and friendly.

Thank you to Fr Subin and to the people who helped in the planning and in decorating the church so nicely. Thank you to the readers, who made such a great job and looked stunning in their outfits and thank you to the musicians and others who stepped up at such short notice.

#### Monica Boucek









## **Bible Word Search**

G	Y	R	0	Т	S	Q	Κ	
Н	0	Н	R	Е	D	D	0	
S	R	Е	Т	Т	Е	L	0	
В	I	В	L	Е	F	Х	В	



#### **BIBLE QUIZ**

Q1. Who committed the first murder in the bible?

Q2. Name the disciple that denied Jesus 3 times.

Q3. What did God do on the 7th day of creation?

Q4. Which disciple betrayed Jesus for money?

Q5. Who parted the Red Sea and helped the children of Israel escape from Egypt?

Q6. What does the word "Bible" mean?

Q7. Who was the first man created on earth?

Q8. Who built an ark to survive the great flood?

Q9. Who had incredible strength until his hair was cut?

Answers: Cain, Peter, Rest, Judas, Moses, Books, Adam, Noah, Samson

### Family Scribbles

With the St. Patrick's Multicultural Day Masses around the bend as I write this, I thought it'd be fitting to share the experience of my own cultural diversity.

For those who aren't aware, I am what is termed a Third Culture Kid. This is defined as individuals who are (or were as children) raised in a culture other than their parents or the culture or their country of nationality and also live in a different environment during a significant part of their childhood years.

Although, you would technically class me as a Fourth Culture Kidas my cultural background is Hakka Chinese, my parents were born and raised in Mauritius, I was born in Canada but by age two Dad swept us all up and flew us to the other side of the world to Australia.



I grew up here as an outsider. I was the odd one out amongst my Caucasian peers at school, and even the few friends who look similar to me were different in that they spoke an Asian language, but I spoke Creole.

While I know for my siblings they found this difference to be a small source of shame, I embraced it. Everyone had their vegemite sandwiches and their cheese dips, but I had my flaming red 60s thermos with hot Chinese meatballs, and a baguette filled with bright pink beetroot, potato and egg salad. They could keep those sandwiches for all I cared.

Everyone looked at me and assumed I spoke an Asian language, but I'd whip out my broken Creole like a hidden UNO Pick up 4 card from my sleeve.

I stood proudly in front of my peers, telling them about my background and all the nationalities that define who I am and with time I learnt to embrace the culture of this land I now call home.

Now as a mum I am always trying to expose them to all the cultures that make me who I am. I play them Mauritian Sega music; feed them modified Hakka Chinese dishes, homemade roti, and vegemite sandwiches; and during morning and afternoon tea we listen to "Little Yarns" a podcast for children that teaches them about the diverse languages, stories and countries of Indigenous Australia. My hope is they'll grow up proud of who they are and this country that they live in, know where it is they come from and never see it as a source of shame.

I don't know if what I'm doing will have much of an effect or if they'll ever remember half of it, but I can just keep exposing them to it all. If all else fails, send them to school with a baguette filled with bright pink beetroot, potato and egg salad.

Erica Ng Philips

#### 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.

#### 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.

### Our Schools—Mother Teresa

#### **Christian Outreach 2020**

Thank you to all of the students and families who have been able to contribute greatly to our Christian outreach activities so far this year.

Our Project Compassion, Pyjama Day and Winter appeal have generated over \$720 and nearly 100 items of clothing in donations. Thank you to our Justice Saints in Year 6 for bringing awareness to these issues as well. We will be passing on those donations to Caritas, St. Vincent De Paul and to Asthma Australia (Children with Asthma).

Our students have been busy making cards to send to the elderly residents at Tri-Care Pimpama. After discussing what it might be like to be an elderly person and needing help with day to day living they have created a "We're thinking of you" card to reassure them that they are being thought of.



### Acknowledgement of Country

It's a pleasure to reveal our updated official Acknowledgement of Country for Mother Teresa School. Thank you to the RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan) Committee and to our community indigenous representatives for their time, effort and ideas to establish an official acknowledgement. It was announced during our annual NAIDOC week activities in July that we held, even though it had been moved to later in the year.





### Our Schools—Mother Teresa

### Fr. Subin Visits

It was great last term to have Fr. Subin visit some of our classes after our liturgies. He discussed many topics, answered a lot of questions particularly around the sacraments and also joined in a class liturgy. We are grateful to have Fr Subin visit the students and share his wisdom.

Ben Torenbeek, APRE - Mother Teresa Primary







Mother Teresa School Principal: Leigh Mirto Assistant Principal Religious Education: Ben Torenbeek

Phone: (07) 5549 5000 Email: pormeau@ bne.catholic.edu.au St Joseph's Tobruk School Principal: Tony Barron Assistant Principal Religious Education: Maree Wright

Phone: (07) 3287 2798 Email: pbeenleigh@ bne.catholic.edu.au Trinity College Principal: Chris Raju Assistant Principal Religious Education: Nancy Rodgers

Phone: (07) 3442 5222 Email: sbeenleigh@ bne.catholic.edu.au

### St Vincent De Paul Society

#### Changes to the way we help the needy:

We have continued to operate as previously advised. People needing assistance must ring the HELPLINE 1800 846643. We then receive the referral and respond by establishing the reason for the request. We can always assist with food and are able to access money from a special St Vincent de Paul fund for people directly affected by Covid -19, such as sudden loss of employment. We communicate by telephone and deliver assistance to the person's address.

This is a brief summary of assistance provided for the period from 01/07/20 to 28/08/20:

Total Number of Contacts - 76

Total Number of people assisted - 165

Single - 121, Partnered - 11, Single with children - 35

Total Value of assistance provided: \$8194.71

Numbers reflect government packages such as Job Seeker and Job Keeper.

#### Vinnies House

Due to Workplace Health and Safety regulations and Corona Virus restrictions, we can no longer operate from our Vinnies House. We are in the process of negotiating with the Parish, the Archdiocese, St Joseph's School and the South Coast Diocese for alternate accommodation.

#### Winter Appeal

On behalf of all those people that we have the honour to assist, we wish to thank our parishioners for your generous contribution to our recent Winter Appeal. The final total was \$2487. Thankyou.

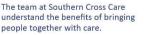
#### Bread:

We have resumed collecting bread from Bakers Delight in Loganholme. At times we have more bread than we can use. On these occasions we will give out bread after one or two of the weekend masses. If you hear an announcement at mass please feel free to help yourself.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE VI-RUS IN ANY WAY.

John Maksimas

# We look after people.



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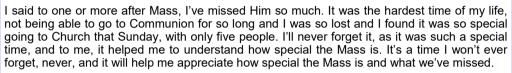


### Maintaining Faith during Covid-19

This year the Catholic Church has been through a rough and very hard time. It was so difficult those 3-4 months without the Holy Mass. As I said to a priest one day, "How do you think Jesus is feeling alone in that room shut in the tabernacle, knowing that no one is coming to visit Him? He must be so lonely in there".

My heart was broken in pieces because of the length of time I have not received Him. Oh I miss my Mass so, so much and find it hard that we did not even see through the anniversary of his death and resurrection. Not seeing or being there to pray through His passion and then not allowed to celebrate His resurrection. Oh, it really hurt.

Then when my turn came to be chosen as one of the five to get to visit My Lord, I actually wept when it came to receiving him in Holy Communion. I love Him so much.



I pray many will come back to God My Father and return to Him fully aware of who we are... His Children.

Thank You Jesus for waiting so long for us.

Your loyal servant, Betty Graver, 14/06/2020

### Servant of God Dr Mary Glowrey

During the Covid-19 pandemic there has been a keen appreciation of the value of the front-line health care professionals around the world.

In India, with 1.4 billion people, the pandemic poses an explosive threat. The Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI) is the largest non-government healthcare network in the country. It has a staggering vision of social work and healthcare founded on the

organizational talent, medical brilliance and holiness of Australian born Dr Sister Mary Glowrey (1887—1957).

This year, 2020, marks the centenary of her voyage from Melbourne to India, where she worked tirelessly for 37 years tending to thousands of patients, establishing a hospital and training local people. She worked with local Bishops and religious communities in order to establish CHAI in the midst of the second world war, 1943.

In 2013 Dr Mary was declared a Servant of God. She was consecrated, Sister Mary of the Sacred Heart. Her cause for canonisation continues to be investigated in Rome. Dr Mary writes of her call "Mine was now the privilege—I say it in all reverence—to rise up in haste and cross not the hills but the seas, and carry Jesus to many a mother and child".

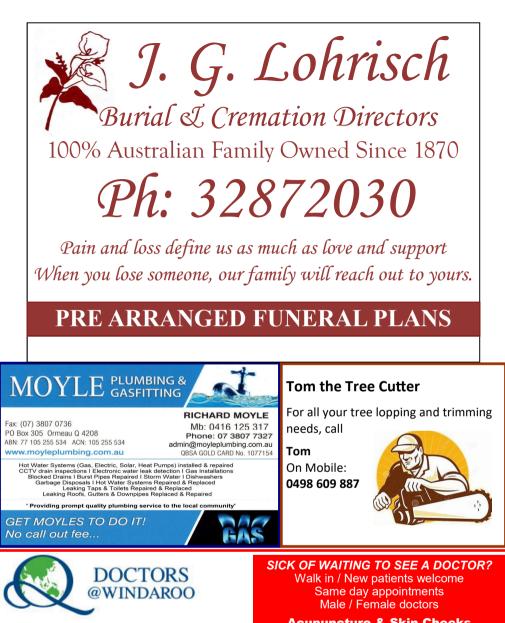
From Australian Confraternity of Catholic Clergy Submitted by Wilhelmina Warnholtz







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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.

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An Outreach of the Catholic Church

Funerals with Faith

### Meet Your Parish Priest

Fr Subin Thomas was born in Puthupady, Kerala, India to Thomas & Mary Kaduvannoor, the youngest of five children. The family lived on a small farm growing fruit and vegetables for their own use as well as supplying the local produce markets. His mother, Mary would cook healthy seasonal meals, although one meal, a bitter gourd dish full of iron and goodness, was not to the liking of young Subin!

The Kaduvannoor family was devotedly Catholic. His grandfather would call the family to hymns, prayers and rosary at 7pm every evening. The family attended St George's Church, where Fr Subin and his siblings learnt the catechism and went through their sacramental programs.

Fr Subin's inspiration to become a priest came from his religious family upbringing and from the priests he met during his school years. One particular young priest, very smart looking and very good

with the children made an impression on Fr Subin. Priests have a high standing in Malayali society and are often asked for advice in various difficult situations. Despite this, when Fr Subin entered the seminary at age 15 he was undecided about his future but was determined to get a good education.

The years at the seminary were enjoyable and the formation studies very valuable. He grew in conviction and sometime after year 12 he came to the realisation that 'This is my call'. Fr Subin was ordained on December 27, 2010.

The first year as a priest Fr Subin spent as associate priest in Kerala. He was then transferred to vocational training for the disabled. The third year he spent at a mission in the tribal areas of Assam in the North East of India. After that he was offered to come to Australia and spent a year preparing.

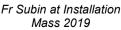
Fr Subin arrived in Australia in April 2015. He spent two months in Holland Park assisting and receiving training in Australian traditions from an Indian priest. His first appointment was as associate priest in Beaudesert. Fr Subin speaks very warmly of the priests, who went to great lengths to help him and other Indian priests to settle in. He spent 22 months there before transferring to Murgon in January 2017.

The early time in Australia was challenging for Fr Subin. He had to adapt to a more individualistic lifestyle and speak English all the time, but he did find the parishioners very supportive and helpful.

Fr Subin came to Beenleigh in August 2019. He finds that the parishioners are good people, working hard to maintain the church and help out. St Patrick's is one of five parishes with the highest Mass attendances. It means that people are practising their faith. It is a very multicultural parish and the faith life is very important.

For the future, Fr Subin is hoping to retain the families after the baptisms and the sacramental programs. He is hoping that parishioners will return to church as the Covid-19 restrictions ease up. He is hopeful as there are lots of people willing to assist in different ways.

St George's Church, the family church







Colleen Sheehan & Monica Boucek