

Parish Bugle



Issue 28,
November 2020

May the light of Jesus bring new life into this world

Covid-19 shattered our hopes and dreams this year. It has introduced uncertainty about the future in everybody. We simply don't know what the future holds anymore. Even once we see our borders opened up, we don't know when it will be shut down again. This upending of life has left us living in fear.

Here comes the relevance of Christmas. The key significance of the birth of Christ is that we can move forward with God and encounter him in all circumstances. Jesus wasn't born into a settled and peaceful world. There was uneasiness in the political, economical and personal lives of the people. There were problems and difficulties in the life of Joseph and Mary. The surprise pregnancy, the sudden census, the long road from Nazareth to Bethlehem... Unpleasant and difficult, yet they resulted in the world's greatest miracle. Was the first Christmas different from what Mary had planned? Yes, but it turned out greater than she could have dreamed.

Despite the chaos of the first Christmas, everything happened according to God's plan. God used the struggles to accomplish his will. In your world of short nights, hard works, and high stress, remember that God holds everything together for his glory and for the good of those who love him. When Christ came to earth, he quite literally became "God with us." God entered the world bringing himself as a gift, to enable us to experience joy, peace and hope through his presence and his promises.

We don't know that things will get better soon, or whether the world will continue to be disrupted by pandemics in the near future. 2020 has proven that we can have little confidence in the usual order of things. Order and predictability have been taken out of our hands. We know through encountering Christ that we can have peace despite chaos, joy in the midst of sorrow, confidence in the face of uncertainty, and hope for the future. Emmanuel, God with us, changed the world. May the light of Jesus bring new life into this world and may it shine brightly forever.

Fr Subin Thomas, Your Parish Priest

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

ST PATRICK'S

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The Christmas Story as told by Luke

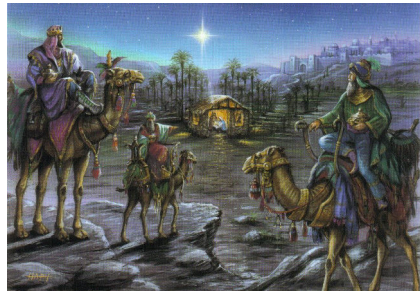
In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!"



When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Luke 2:1-14(15-20)

Q & A—How does God Communicate with us?

Catholics have a word for this special kind of communication: SACRAMENT. It is a sign through which God communicates his love, life and forgiveness to us.

The first and greatest of these signs is Jesus himself –‘To have seen Me is to have seen the Father’. Jesus makes God present to us in a way we can see, hear and touch: in a human life. Jesus embodies God’s love. He is the sign or sacrament of God. Jesus is still alive today. Through his spirit he lives on in the community of believers - the Church. It can be called a sacrament too as it is a sign of the continuing presence of Jesus in the world.



Within the Church, Jesus continues to communicate the Father’s love and forgiveness to his followers. This can happen in many ways, but Catholics believe there are sacred moments when Jesus reaches out to them in a special way. These sacred moments are the Seven Sacraments of the Church. The sacraments make use of words, gestures and materials like oil, water, bread and wine. Through these God reaches out and touches the lives of believers.

So, when Catholics receive the sacraments, they believe they are meeting Jesus Christ. He communicates with them, person to person, in a way they can see, hear and touch. Through the sacraments the love, the life, the forgiveness of God is made present and real, and is experienced by believers. The sacraments are God’s way of saying “**Here I am. I love you** .“

Baptism is the sign by which a person who has accepted Christ becomes a member of the Church. Water signifies that they share in the death and resurrection of Christ and is also a sign of cleansing from sin and of new life. Anointing with sacred chrism signifies the gift of the Holy Spirit. The white garment symbolizes that the person baptized has ‘put on Christ’, the candle signifies that Christ has enlightened the neophyte. The baptized are “the light of the world.” We also receive sanctifying or deifying grace as a free and gratuitous gift from God.

Confirmation is the sacrament of Christian maturity. The new life received in Baptism is strengthened and sealed and the Holy Spirit promised by Jesus to his disciples has come upon the Christian. This sacrament allows the baptised to make a personal commitment to Christ. Oil is used as a symbol of strengthening.

The Eucharist completes a person’s initiation into the Christian community and is a sign of the community of believers. Catholics believe the bread and wine consecrated during the Mass becomes the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. When we receive Holy Communion, we believe we are united in a most intimate way to the person of Jesus and to each other.

Penance (Confession or Reconciliation) is a sign of God’s continuing love and forgiveness. Catholics recognise their own weakness and continuing need of conversion. In confession, sins are confessed, repented, absolved and forgiveness assured by the ministry of the priest.

Holy Orders is the sacrament by which Christians are consecrated to the ordained ministry of the Church as bishops, priests, and deacons. As successors of the apostle’s certain powers are handed on to priests and deacons to act in the person of Christ by teaching, presiding at the Eucharist and acting as leader in the Christian community.

Marriage is a sign of the love Christ has for the whole church. This sacrament is not administered by a priest - it is administered by the man and woman to each other. They bring God’s grace to each other to help and sustain them during their life together and assures them of God’s blessing on their marriage.

The Anointing of the Sick brings spiritual comfort to those seriously ill and close to death. By the gift of the Holy Spirit the sick person is helped to bear suffering and is reminded of the care that Jesus showed the sick and dying whilst he was on earth. Blessed oil is used in this anointing on the hands and forehead to strengthen and comfort the sick and the dying.

*Catechism of The Catholic Church and Redemptorist Publications, Alphonsus House, Hants, England.
Terence O’Shea*

Family Scribbles

As Christmas draws ever nearer, the shops are becoming more and more decked out in tinsel and baubles despite us having just clawed our way out of the grasps of this global pandemic. The tinsel is overflowing; the baubles have never been shinier; Bubl  and Carey are battling it out to be your new earworm; and the store catalogues are screaming out what the latest and greatest gadgets are that you must buy to ensure your family know just how much you care about them.

While I am no stranger to being swept up in the materialistic hype of Christmas and buying things to win the hearts of those near to me, I've come to realize that none of those things really matter. I could give my twins a kid friendly stackable cup set and bunch of stubby coolers and they would easily have the best time playing with the coolers!

The Three Wise Men followed the Star of Bethlehem to give the Baby Jesus the gift of gold, frankincense and myrrh. While the Baby Jesus may not benefit from these items in terms of play they were all gifts of great value. Today the most valuable gift you can give a child is your time. The Bluey merch, the Disney stuff, the Duplo blocks are all great but at the end of the day it's the time you spend with one another that matters the most regardless of what toy you spend your money on.

When I found out I was pregnant with not one but two babies I knew I needed to do as much as I could to reduce the amount of waste produced by my family. The planet is hurting from decades of our over consumption, our single use living, and our willingness to throw away things that are no longer in vogue. Without getting to hippy-dippy, because really, that's a whole other topic, when you're out looking for the perfect gift for your loved ones remember the toy in that window isn't really a limited edition - YOU are. The time you spend with your loved ones is limited. So when you pick a gift, whatever it might be new, reused, recycled, upcycled or just from the heart - make it something of GREAT value. Like the gifts from The Three Wise Men.

Erica Ng Philips



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.



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Lawrie Griffin

One of Vinnies younger members and staunch Parishioners, Lawrie Griffin has decided to call it a day. Lawrie has been a member of our community for just over 12 years. During this time he has been a loyal member of our conference always willing to take on any task. He has fulfilled his role with genuine love, understanding and compassion for those in less fortunate circumstances. He will be missed.

As a parishioner he has fulfilled many roles such as Special Minister, Reader, Church Cleaner, Piety Stall attendant etc. A loyal Tasmanian, very loyal Collingwood supporter (although the Brisbane Lions won his heart in recent years) Lawrie stood out among the crowd - always beautifully dressed with coat and tie, and always surrounded by a number of our parishioners - usually ladies.

We thank Lawrie for choosing us as his Parish and wish him good health and happiness in the years ahead.

On behalf of us all at Vinnies, we wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas and assure you all that your support is greatly appreciated.

John Maksimas



Thank you to our marshals and untiring volunteers

Without the humble people who check our names, ask us to sanitize our hands and direct us to our seats, we would not be able to keep the church open for our regular Masses. Some of you have been helping out every week since the church first reopened. Thank you so much for your dedicated service. *The Parish Council*



Above left: Robert Kaese and Ken Maloney, part of the Saturday 6pm team and above: Esther Thompson and Joel Se for 9am. Thanks also to the Sunday 7am and 6pm teams!



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'Memorial Page'




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A loving husband and father



My dear Dad Ron Power was a loving husband to Peg, a wonderful father to 3 children, 12 grandchildren & 19 great grandchildren. Ron passed away on 7th September 2020, aged 96, dearly loved & greatly missed by so many. Thank you, Karen Foote



HARVEY MY FRIEND 
BORN IN LATVIA 1940 GERMANY
MET HARVEY AT MT GRAVATT DANCE 1997
HARVEY LIVED IN IPSWICH FOR MANY
YEARS. HE MOVED TO BEENLEIGH AFTER
HE HAD HIS 1ST. CANCER THROAT OP.
FOR HE COULDN'T LIVE ALONE ANYMORE
HE LIVED IN MY HOME UNTIL 18-6-20 WHEN
HIS CANCER RETURNED AND I WASN'T ABLE
TO LOOK AFTER HIM ANYMORE HE WAS
IN AND OUT OF HOSPITAL HE MOVED
INTO WOODBECK VILLAGE FOR A SHORT
TIME WHERE HE SPENT LITTLE TIME HE
WENT BACK TO HOSPITAL 20-9-20 AND
PASSED AWAY 9-10-20 PEACEFULLY
IN GODS CARE. HE IS MISSED BY ME
VERY MUCH. JOSIE

News from our Parish Office

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to the students of St Joseph's and the St Patrick's Parish who recently made their First Holy Communion.

Due to COVID restrictions, this celebration was held over all the parish Masses the past couple of weeks.

Fr Subin held a special Mass where all the children and their families came together to celebrate and acknowledge the completion of the children's Sacraments of Initiation.

Following Mass, the cake was cut for all to enjoy. Congratulations from all in the Joey's community.

Maree Wright, APRE, St Josephs Tobruk Memorial School



The Columbarium & Memorial Garden

has been built to provide a permanent resting place for parishioners and their families who have chosen to be cremated.

It is situated within a gated area on the western side of St Patrick's Church. The niches are set in a walled area within a tranquil and peaceful Garden setting.

Niches may be reserved at any time prior to an interment with many parishioners choosing to purchase several years ahead. To purchase or to reserve a niche, families are asked to contact the Parish Office who in turn will put you in touch with a Columbarium Committee member.

Once the ashes of our loved ones have been interred, families are welcome to visit the Garden at any time. Loved ones interred in St Patrick's Columbarium are remembered in the Prayers of the Faithful at each Sunday Mass. The columbarium and garden is maintained in a clean and dignified condition by members of our parish community.

St Patrick's Parish Columbarium, has niches available as a single, double or treble niche. The cost of these niches are : **\$400** for a single niche; **\$800** for a double niche and **\$1,200** for a treble niche.

If you wish to view the Columbarium please contact the Parish Office on 07 3287 2282.

Peter Haack, Pastoral Associate

QBCC 1054037



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Our Schools—Trinity College

TRINITY COLLEGE STUDENTS ACT AS CATHOLIC MISSION AMBASSADORS

This year Trinity College was approached by Catholic Mission to have 4 students act as Mission Ambassadors and speak to the parish community about the work of Catholic Mission during October. The College was delighted to be able to support Catholic Mission in this way.

On approaching four students in Year 11, each of whom have been elected to positions of student leadership in 2021, they were excited to take up this opportunity.

Prior to speaking with the St Patrick's Parish community these students undertook a brief training with Catholic Mission personnel which enabled them to gain a deeper understanding of the theme for this year 'For the joy of the Lord is your strength'.

On Sunday 18 October, Ben Southam and Ellie Lahrs, College Captains in 2021, spoke at the 9am Mass and Keegan Bradley, Liturgy Prefect 2021, and Emily Garrett, Marist Outreach Prefect 2021, spoke at the 6pm Mass.

Continuing our support of Catholic Mission we were delighted to have Sue Williamson and David McGovern from Catholic Mission attend our school assembly to be presented with a cheque and speak to the students about how this financial support would help support their work. The funds donated to Catholic Mission were derived from the fundraising efforts of our students and families.

Catholic Mission is one of seven charitable organisations that the College has raised funds for this year, others include: Rosies, Caritas, St Vincent de Paul, Australian Marist Solidarity, Emmanuel City Mission, The MacKillop Fund.

Nancy Rodgers, Assistant Principal—Religious Education, Trinity College, Beenleigh



Above: Ellie Lahrs and Ben Southam, College Captains in 2021, speaking at 9am Mass



Right: Keegan Bradley, Liturgy Prefect 2021 and Emily Garrett, Marist Outreach Prefect 2021, speaking at 6pm Mass.

Our Schools—St Joseph's

New Library

We have come full circle with our new library opened above the administration block. In the early 1970's, the library had its first permanent residence there, however as our library collection grew, space became a problem and in 1985 the library moved to a pre-existing shelter shed that was enclosed. Since the late 1970's the priests resided above the school administration until recently when Fr Joseph moved to the current parish house. This space has now been converted to our new library and STEM area with many walls knocked out to enhance space and learning areas. Bright carpet and contemporary furniture have



been included to make this

Remembrance Day

On Remembrance Day we paused at 11am acknowledging all who fought for our freedom today. May we never forget or take for granted their sacrifice. This year marked the 102nd anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War. We gathered in the Courtyard facing our Tobruk garden observing a minute's silence in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts.



On Remembrance Day we also focus 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. May we continue to work together to bring about true peace in our hearts and in our community.



Catholic Mission Month

This year's theme for Catholic Mission Month in support of Cambodia was, *'For the joy of the Lord is your strength'* (Nehemiah 8:10).

Our school leaders Alana Perera, Shea Mason, Abby Witham and Max Seeto represented St Joseph's for World Mission Sunday 17/18 October at respective masses in St Patrick's Parish. This is a new initiative by Catholic Mission for students to be a 'presence' as Mission Ambassadors. They shared the story of Chen, a landmine survivor who lost both his legs when he was sixteen. Chen has been given the care and opportunity to turn this tragic event into a positive outcome through the support of the Arrupe Centre in Cambodia and Catholic Mission. We thank our leaders for taking on this important ministry.



Wishing all the St Patrick's family a blessed Christmas. See you in 2021!

Maree Wright, APRE, St Josephs Tobruk Memorial School





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CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

USE THE CLUES TO COMPLETE THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



Across

1. One of Santa's Reindeer
3. Santa's Helpers
5. December 25th is _____.
7. Christmas Drink
10. The name of a popular snowman.

Down

2. Christmas Month
4. He hates Christmas!
6. You hang them by the chimney.
8. On Christmas morning we unwrap our _____ to the world!

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CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

OPRINLI GQRE QNRD GLE UNH Z E F
 CHMZ QEJ AOTR U I P D O B N I Y R T R L V Q
 B M N H J O L S Z L Y N U Y E N M I Y C H V E U
 X P L A M N P P S F I A G K A C G C C T E E R G S Z
 D L O M E H T X C E D A Y S G F B N I V Y E T Q R E G M
 Z D Z I R V T A J A P S G R B W C C F S W V Q S
 P G U I R E H N X R L J B P Y O N U N A H C H R S O I
 B N Z C S T L B H J O M D P I M O A B V M U
 Y G M I S T O R L E T O E C Y O Q T D E E R T T S M C I
 W K Y Q C Z L E J A G C O V T R D R Y L S D N G Q S
 L O R T K L C F N I C G P A N R Y L H R I N X S Z
 X L W O N H T A E R W V I I L E H A M B O
 M Y A D I L Z G O H L S U H J A W N Z A M J
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- | | | | |
|------------|----------|-----------|------------|
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| CANDY CANE | SEASON | GIFT | MISTLETOE |
| CARDS | SLEIGH | GIVING | NOEL |
| CELEBRATE | STOCKING | GREETINGS | NORTH POLE |
| CHIMNEY | TREE | HOLIDAY | REINDEER |
| CHRISTMAS | WREATH | JOLLY | |



Angels and Shepherds - © 2010 TheCatholicKid.com All rights reserved.

Submitted by Asha & Amala Sajju

St Vincent De Paul Society

Conference Activities

2020 has certainly been a most trying one for us all. Despite all the restrictions due to COVID-19, our conference has been able to continue to provide assistance to those in need albeit with less person to person contact.

This is a brief summary of assistance provided for the period from 1 Sep to 31 Oct 2020.

Total Number of Contacts - 121

Total Number of people assisted - 273

Single - 203, Partnered - 23, Single with children - 47

Total Value of assistance provided: \$ 9208.62

This is a considerable increase on the previous 2 months and reflects changes in government packages such as job seeker and job keeper.

We anticipate a greater demand once these payments decrease even further.



Christmas Hamper Appeal.

Once again, due to Covid-19, it has been necessary to change the way we intend to operate this year. Our hampers are intended to provide items suitable for a Christmas Lunch/Dinner.

The number of hampers will be limited to 50. The hamper will consist of a carry bag containing items such as Christmas Cake, Christmas Pudding, lollies, chips, cordial, jellies etc. etc.

Recipients will also receive a gift card which will enable them to buy such items as ham, BBQ chicken, fresh fruit, salad items etc.

Hampers will be handed out on Thursday 17 December.

All of these items will be bought. We therefore ask for monetary donations rather than goods as in previous years.

We wish to thank our schools for their generous help in past years and we look forward to their help in 2020. We wish to acknowledge a large donation from Trinity College which we have already received. Thankyou.

Christmas Giving Tree

You will find the Giving Tree at the front of the church near the organ. In accordance with my comments above, we are asking for cash donations. Any donation will be gratefully received.

Piety Stall

A reminder that the Piety Stall is open before and after Mass at all weekend services. It is fully stocked and well worth a browse. Columban calendars and Christmas cards are now on sale. Catalogues are available and we can order items not for sale at the shop.

John Maksimas

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Aboriginal Reconciliation Action Plan 2020 - 2022

On the weekend of 14 & 15 November the launch of the Aboriginal Reconciliation Plan, or (RAP) was held at St Patrick's Beenleigh.

As a member of the RAP team I had the privilege of being involved with the Celebrations of the launch, which included singing in the Choir. Our Choir leader Cathy Korzeniewski taught us to sing the Australian National Anthem in Yugambeh language, which was such a great and delightful experience. The church was beautifully decorated with Aboriginal Artefacts, paintings and native flowers.



Prior to the RAP launch I was involved in many weekly meetings in the Truelson room, which on several occasions was attended by Cynthia Rowan (RAP Project Manager from the Archdiocese of Brisbane) who helped guide us on our journey towards preparing for the RAP launch. Cynthia spoke at the 7am and 9am Masses and she put together a video of herself speaking about the Plan, which was then played at the 6pm on Saturday night and then again at the 6pm Sunday night. Cynthia spoke beautifully at the two Masses and also on the Video. She explained the importance of us all working and walking together on our journey towards Reconciliation.



Cynthia Rowan, RAP Project Manager, Evangelization Brisbane.

I attended Mass at 6pm on Saturday night, where I was delighted to give a brief overview of what the RAP was all about and how St Patrick's is one of the pilot parishes along with five other parishes who will implement the Plan over the next two years. Cynthia will continue to guide and support us throughout our journey.

A cuppa and light refreshments was served after each Mass and it was wonderful to see so many people stay back and meet Cynthia and also have a chat with one another.

Overall the Celebrations and the Launch, was I felt, a great success and I am really looking forward to being part of the RAP team over the next two years as we travel together towards having a better understanding and respect for our First Nation Peoples.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office if you are interested in joining the RAP team.

Marian Ward



Vin Russell and Pipo Ng planning the hanging of Aboriginal painting.

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.



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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.

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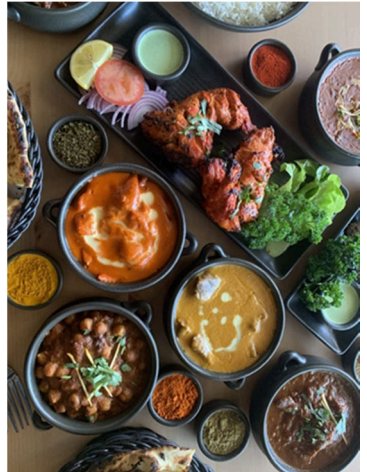
Hello Parishioners,

We are thrilled to introduce you to the new location of Kalavara Indian Restaurant!!! We have relocated from Loganlea to Browns Plains. Firstly, we would like to share some history.

"Kalavara Indian Cuisine" is run by a traditional *Malayali Family* and is an independently operated business. We offer you a vast assortment of traditional Indian food and a fabulous friendly environment to relax and take pleasure dining in the fantastic interior décor. Kalavara was established in 1983 at Trivadrum, Kerala, India. Our clients bounced back to us as they fell in love with the different way in which Indian flavours were used to create new dishes or reinvent an old traditional dish. We deliver the best dishes of traditional Indian recipes with real Indian touch.

We gathered all the different styles and the best dishes from different provinces of India under one roof. We have been serving the customers from over 30 years and will continue to do so. 'Great Satisfaction through Great Services' is our motto. We strictly maintain the quality and taste—we don't compromise one for the other. It's that quality and the taste that makes our customers recommend us to others.

We use nothing but the freshest ingredients to produce everything on our spectacular menu, that's why we're so popular amongst the locals. When you want good food and great service, Kalavara Browns Plains is the place to be."



The new dine-in restaurant also provides a venue hall where birthday parties and celebrations can be catered for. We wholeheartedly welcome all members of St Patrick's Parish, to come visit our restaurant and enjoy the delicacies of Indian cuisine.

Address: 834 Wembley Rd, Browns Plains QLD 4118
Ph: 0421620064

Kind Regards,
Saju and Family

The Saju family are loyal supporters of St Patrick's. They were the first company to advertise in the Bugle and have kept it up since Issue 1, March 2016!

Asha and Amala have published the Kidz Stuff for over two years now. Thank you so much!

