

**Parish Priest****Fr Jason Antony MCBS****Office Staff**

Adrian Prendergast

Dot Lomax

**Pastoral Coordinators**

Rachel Marchesini

Yolanda Apelt

**Churches**

St Joachim's Church

41 Yuletide Street

Holland Park

St Agnes' Church

1227 Logan Road

Mt Gravatt

**Parish Office Hours**

Monday – Friday

8:30am – 4:00pm

**Parish Details**

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Website:

[www.hollandparkmtgravattcatholicparish.com.au](http://www.hollandparkmtgravattcatholicparish.com.au)**Parish Schools and College**

St Agnes' School

07 3349 5130

St Joachim's School

07 3397 9087

Seton College

07 3291-5333

**St Vincent de Paul Welfare**

1800 846 643

**Safeguarding Officer**

Dot Lomax 0428 172 224

(Safeguarding purposes only)

**The Presentation of the Lord****Year A****1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2020**

The gospel for mass today is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord Jesus in the temple. Joseph and Mary took baby Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, according to the law of Moses. But, before they left on their journey, they underwent a period of purification, according to the law of Moses. When they reached the temple, they were to offer a sacrifice of two turtledoves or pigeons, in keeping the law of the Lord. Then, Joseph and Mary presented baby Jesus to Simon, to perform the custom of the law. At the end of the gospel reading, it says that after they had fulfilled all of the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee.

Did you notice that the common thread through this gospel is that Joseph and Mary fulfilled the law of the Lord? We should stop for a moment to consider this, and not just skim over it, before we begin focusing on the main theme of this gospel. So many modern people feel like the “rules” are a hindrance to their freedom. We have a unflattering term for people who feel this way in our church. They are called “cafeteria Catholics”, because they feel like it is their right to pick and choose what they do, or do not believe about the Catholic faith. It’s a very good thing Mary and Joseph, and Jesus himself, did not feel this way.

Laws and “rules” were not created by God to impose His will on mankind, or limit their freedom or enjoyment in life. Laws, “rules” and Catholic doctrine do not limit our freedom, but enhance it. We undergo a great deal more suffering when we ignore the laws or the rules in the long run. Not adhering to the rules, or breaking the law is a short term pleasure that usually results in long term suffering for oneself and those whose lives we affect. This is especially true when it comes to Catholic doctrine.

The main point of today’s feast though, is about baby Jesus’ presentation in the temple. Simon and Anna both gave prophecies about who he was, and what the future would hold for him, their people, and for Mary too. These two holy people recognized who Jesus was when they first saw him, much like John the Baptist recognized who Jesus was when he was still in the womb. Their testimony validated the importance of who Jesus really was, along with many other eye witness accounts of his life.

The second reading for mass from the letter of Hebrews, tells us that Jesus came to destroy sin and death and to free those who had been subjected to slavery all their life. He became like us in every way because he is both human and divine. Jesus is the great, and merciful high priest who stands before God to expiate the sins of all people. He himself was tested through what he suffered and he is therefore able to help all those who are being tested as well. We should rely on Jesus in all the circumstances of our lives. He is our strength and the only means of our salvation.

The first reading for mass from the book of Malachi, says that the Lord is like a refiner’s fire. “He will sit refining and purifying silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi, refining them like gold or like silver, that they may offer due sacrifice to the Lord.” This scripture passage ends by saying that after this purification, they will please the Lord, as in the days of old, as in years gone by.

If you remember, Joseph and Mary underwent a period of purification in the gospel reading for mass today too, before they offered their sacrifice to the Lord. It prepared them to come before God, to present baby Jesus, in purity, holiness and in a state of grace.

Aside from the beautiful story of baby Jesus’ presentation in the temple and the prophecies of Simon and Anna, it would be a good thing to give a little thought today about growing in holiness ourselves. In order to be even more pleasing to God, perhaps we could realize that we too, have a need for purification. We don’t have to decide that “this is who I am” and God should accept us just the way we are. He does. But, a wedding feast is a deeper communion of love, a celebration of love and new life. Jesus invites us to this feast. Should we greet him just as we are? Jesus is the bridegroom of the church. We should prepare ourselves to receive him, in holiness, through grace, in keeping with the “rules” and sacraments of the church.

Laura Kazlas

**Readings: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Isaiah 58:7-10

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Matthew 5:13-16

## **WE REMEMBER**

We remember Maureen Campbell, George Zangerle and Eileen White. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

## **PARISH HAPPENINGS**

### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

Regular timetable resumes on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **COUNTERS**

Tony's team.

### **COFFEE AND CHAT**

On Monday, February 3rd please join other parishioners for morning tea and fellowship from 10:00am. **Due to the closure of Kafe Me morning tea will now be at Deedot Coffee House, 973 Logan Rd, Holland Park (Holland Park shops).** Everyone welcome. Contact Barbara Kerr on 3349 6334 or just turn up.

### **MASS OF ANOINTING AND HOSPITALITY**

The mass on Friday, February 7th will include an Anointing of the Sick. This will be followed by a hospitality which will be held at the front of the church.

### **2020 LENTEN PROGRAM**

We are planning to run this year's program on Wednesday mornings commencing February 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am in the Parish Centre. Please indicate on the clipboards in the churches if you are interested in attending or would like a book to reflect on at home so that we can purchase the resources.

### **LOST PROPERTY – ST JOACHIM'S CHURCH**

If anyone has lost a pair of clip-on earrings in or around St Joachim's Church please ring the Parish Office.

### **VOLUNTEER REQUIRED URGENTLY**

#### **COMMUNION MINISTER TO AGED CARE FACILITY**

On Monday mornings for many, many years a volunteer from the Parish has been visiting Esida Court and Esida Lodge (formerly Carindale Court and Carindale Nursing Home). This is a very valued ministry of the parish and is also highly valued by the residents and staff of this facility.

With regret our current volunteer has had to immediately withdraw from this ministry due to health reasons. We are now calling for a new volunteer/s to take communion to the residents on a weekly basis and if possible assisting Fr Joson at a monthly mass which is offered in the morning on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday.

If you are interested and/or would like more information please contact the parish office. Please give it some thought.

## **Parish Diary**

### **Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Funeral - Maureen Campbell**

Funeral Mass 10:00am  
St Joachim's

Benediction 5:30pm  
Mass 6:00pm

### **Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes'

### **Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**

(Includes Anointing of the Sick)  
Mass 9:00am  
St Joachim's

### **Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**

Reconciliation 5:30pm  
St Joachim's

### **5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

### **Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 6:00pm  
St Joachim's

### **Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 7:30am  
St Joachim's  
Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes  
Mass 6:00pm  
St Agnes

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Full itinerary and brochure available through the Parish Office: Tel - 3349 2280 Email - [hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au)

## FROM AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

### ACBC BUSHFIRE APPEAL - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY



We are very grateful to have received \$1978 from the Holland Park Mt Gravatt Parish to support our families and communities as we work to recover from the bushfires that have affected our people. Your generosity will go a long way in assisting those affected as they move forward.

### RELICS OF ST THERESE PILGRIMAGE 2020

The Relics of St Therese will be touring the Archdiocese of Brisbane from Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested, the itinerary is available from the Parish Office. Please call or email and a copy will be forwarded to you.

### THE LITTLE KING'S MOVEMENT ANNUAL PARISH APPEAL – FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>/16<sup>TH</sup>

“The Little King’s Movement” once a year conducts a Parish Appeal and a Door Knock supported by some Catholic Schools. The Movement caters for people with disabilities in social and spiritual activities. There is no Government funding and the Movement is staffed by volunteers. Each year the calls for their services are increasing. The Movement, though based on Catholic beliefs is truly ecumenical, and all members are welcomed and respected for their own beliefs. There is no charge for any of the services provided by the Movement. Due to the Bush Fire Appeal this appeal has been postponed until the weekend of February 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>.

## COMMUNITY

### THE ELIZABETHAN CRAFT GROUP

Would you like a friendly get together with others? Come and join us for a cup of tea and a chat. There is also an opportunity to develop your talents (eg. crochet and knitting). You can get to know our group, learn new skills or simply get together for friendship and hospitality. This is a wonderful group with a long history of helping others and providing company to all ages. Men are also most welcome, for activities or simply to get together for companionship and a yarn. If you would like to be a part of our group contact Phil (3349 2809) or Marilyn (0411 226 735) or simply turn up at The Function Room, St John Fisher Church, Messines Ridge Road, Holland Park West each Thursday from 9:00am. A number of parishioners already belong to this group.

### THE CATHOLIC LEADER

**COST: \$2**

- Bishop Richard Umbers marched for the March for Life 2020 in Washington DC.
- Aboriginal elder and educator Aunty Joan Hendriks died and is being remembered for her commitment to her culture and as a guiding light for Aboriginal Creation spirituality and Christian faith.
- Queensland Catholics were named to the Australia Day honours list including Orange Sky founders.
- Kerri Brennan is helping women from the country sell their crafts online to supplement farming incomes.
- Nth Qld bishops unite and issue a joint statement to criticise extreme political narratives on climate change and calling for a moderate, facts-based approach.
- Charities give assurances that money raised for bushfire appeals go to those in need.
- Papua New Guinea Cardinal John Ribat speaks of the gift and challenges of sexuality as a priest.
- Carmelite Sister Catherine Ann reflects on the role the relics of St Therese of Lisieux played in her vocational journey to religious life
- Available in the churches this weekend.

### Thank You

Carol Borromeo-Zangerle wishes to thank you for your tremendous show of support and love on the demise of her husband George Ludwig Zangerle.

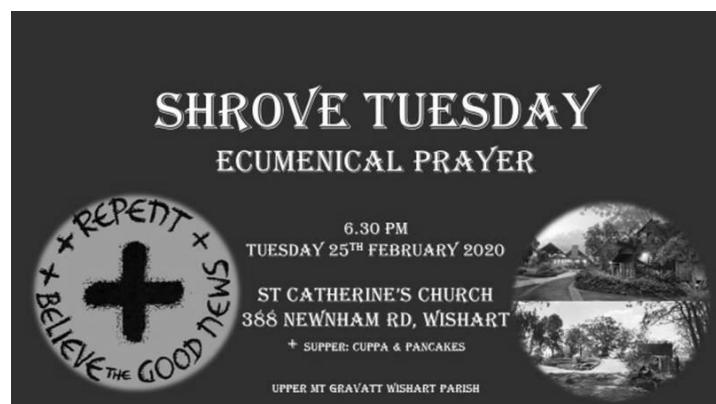
Likewise, her nieces, nephews, cousins and sisters-in-law say from the Philippines & USA "you are indeed a Great Community. Thank you All"

### CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL BRISBANE

Our monthly Prayer Meeting will be held in St Stephen's Chapel on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February (10.45 - 12.15pm) following the regular 10am Mass. Join us in the City for Praise & Worship & Personal Prayer Ministry. Our guest Speaker will be Kathleen Cosgrove. Bring a friend, all welcome. Fellowship afterwards with a cuppa & lunch at the CWL Tea Rooms. Enq:- Maureen 0403002199 or Helena 0405321901

### CCR BRISBANE HEALING PRAYER CENTRE

Catholic Charismatic Renewal will be offering training on Healing Prayer Level 1 at CCR Brisbane Centre, 688 Nudgee Road, Northgate in 2020. This level 1 course will be completed over 3 full Saturdays - 29 February, 28 March, 18 April with attendance at all three training days required and is **open** to all. For more details, fees and registration email [secretary@ccrbrisbane.org.au](mailto:secretary@ccrbrisbane.org.au); 0435 558 390 or 3202 6856





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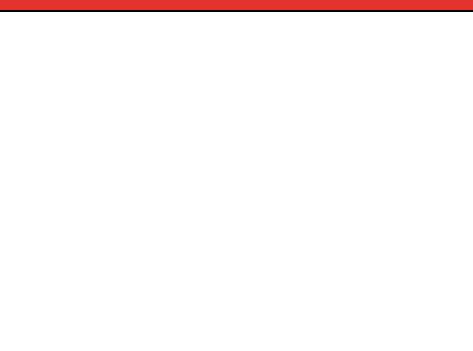
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