



Holland Park Mt Gravatt Parish News



Parish Priest
Fr Thomas Varkey

Deacon
Dcn Des Neagle

Office Staff
Dot Lomax
Kate Waymouth
Mary Ginty

Pastoral Coordinators
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

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Pager: 07 3521 8025
Website:

www.hollandparkmtgravattcatholicparish.com.au

Facebook:
st joachim's & st agnes' parish

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

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B

January 20th/21st , 2024

Today's liturgy invites us to take up again the reflections on Christian discipleship that we began last Sunday. Last week we considered what Christian discipleship has in common with the following of inspiring human leaders. The vivid picture painted by Mark in today's gospel reading highlights characteristics of Christian discipleship that have no parallel in the world of human discipleship.

In our common human experience, the decision to become a disciple is first and foremost a decision made by the follower. The decision to become a disciple of the Saviour has its origin in the decision and call of the Lord himself. Mark's brief narrative probably has its basis in a more complex sequence of events - in which the four fishermen have already heard the 'Good News' preached by Jesus, that 'the kingdom of God is close at hand': alluded to in the previous verses. But Mark wishes to emphasise the authoritative call of Jesus as the basis of the relationship they enter into, and the unconditional nature of their response. 'You did not choose me, no. I chose you' – these words of Jesus at the supper, in John's gospel, are addressed to each of us. Our relationship with the Lord is grounded in his decision on our behalf and his eternal fidelity.

Responding to the call of Jesus – like all the great decisions of a full and generous life – is not without its cost. We are reminded of this by Mark's stark narrative - as the four leave behind old securities and their kinsfolk to throw in their lot with Jesus.

The choice of Jesus is not related to any previous formation or qualifications. Mark describes the call as coming to them unexpectedly, in the midst of their daily work. As successful fishermen, with hired labour, they were probably literate and relatively well informed in the faith of old Israel. But this is of no consequence in Mark's narrative. We who are called together to form the community of the Lord's disciples come from different backgrounds and outlooks, young and old, rich and poor; united in our discipleship of the one Lord we must show the world all that a generous following of Christ has to offer the human family – nothing less than a foretaste of the final Kingdom.

'I will make you fishers of men' – the call to discipleship is an invitation to share in the mission of Jesus, to share his responsibility for the whole human family. If the Church in which we believe is the community of those who have responded to this call, Mark's account presents Jesus as beginning to create the Church at the very outset of his ministry.

The contrast between the relationship entered into by Jewish rabbi of the time of Jesus, and the relationship the Saviour entered into with his disciples has often been remarked upon. 'Follow me' – these words give expression to a decision made from all eternity, a decision that will never be revoked, as he leads us to share in his own eternal destiny.

John Thornhill sm



The Holland Park Mt Gravatt Catholic Parish acknowledges the Jagera people, the traditional Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

Readings – 3rd Sunday Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

2nd Reading: Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

1st Reading

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9

Response: Teach me your ways, O Lord

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **R**

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
Because of your goodness, O Lord. **R**

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
He guides the humble in the right path;
He teaches his way to the poor. **R**

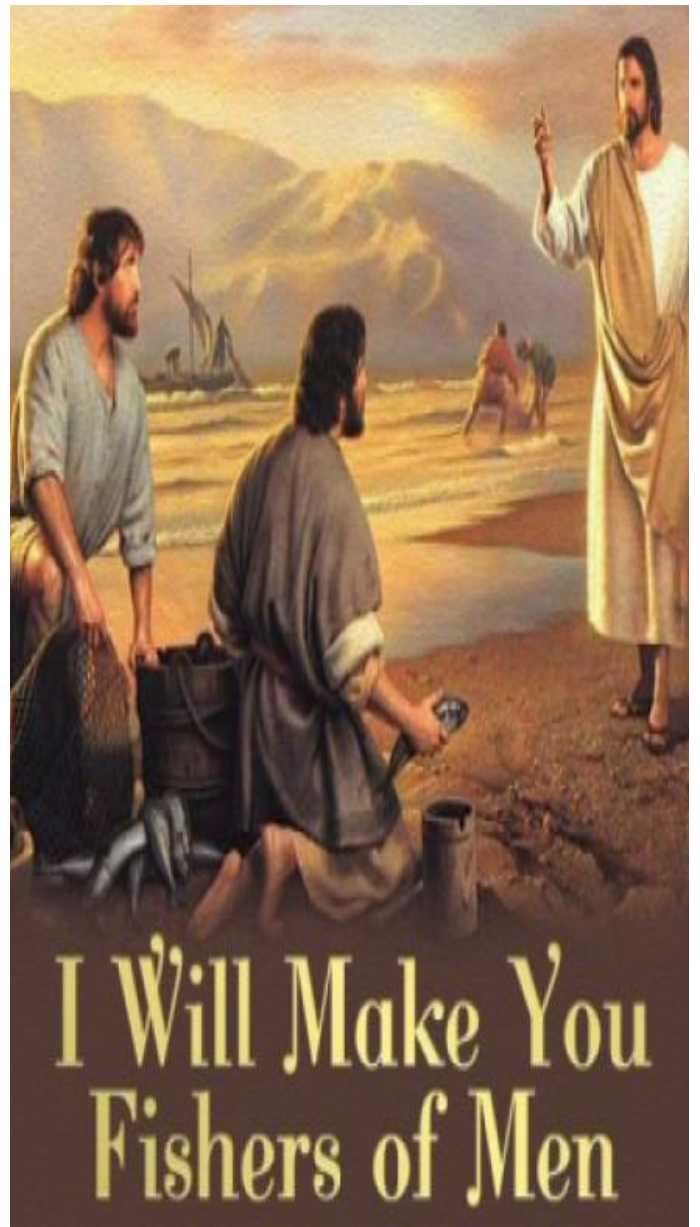
Second Reading

Corinthians 7:29-31

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
The kingdom of God is near:
Believe the Good News!
Alleluia!



Gospel

Mark 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus went to Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

From the Sacramental Program Coordinator

I am delighted to announce that I have commenced in the position of Sacramental Program Coordinator for our Parish.

I am very much looking forward to the opportunity to contribute to the spiritual development and growth of our community through the Sacramental Program.

I would like to acknowledge my predecessor, Rachel Marchesini, for her outstanding work, dedication and valuable contributions to the role over the past six years.

Before stepping into this role, I worked as Parish Secretary at Cannon Hill Catholic Parish for over six years and now look forward to working in my home parish of which I have been a parishioner for over 20 years.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to anyone who may wish to volunteer in supporting the Sacramental Program as both parish and family have crucial roles in journeying with the individuals and families as they participate in the sacramental life of the Church.

Please feel free to reach out to me at any time.

I look forward to the journey ahead and extend my thanks to the parish for entrusting me with this role.

Mary Ginty

Email: sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au

Phone: 07 3349 2280.



Parish Diary

Monday, January 22nd

Mass St Joachim's Church 8:00am

Wednesday, January 24th

Mass St Agnes Church 6:00pm

Thursday, January 25th

Mass St Agnes Church 9am

Australia Day Friday, January 26th

Mass St Joachim's Church 9:00am

Saturday, January 27th

Reconciliation St Joachim's Church 5:30pm

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, January 27th

Mass St Joachim's Church 6:00pm

Sunday, January 28th

Mass St Joachim's Church 7:30am

Mass St Agnes Church 9:00am

Mass St Agnes Church 6:00pm

PARISH NEWS

WE REJOICE

With the McKee and Bradford families as they celebrate the baptism of Joseph and Eliana in the parish this weekend.

COUNTERS

Elisabeth's team.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Tuesday, January 23rd at 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

SUNDAY HOSPITALITY

There will be hospitality after the masses at St Joachim's next weekend.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

All primary school children are invited to attend CLOW at St Agnes' Church on the first Sunday of the month. Our first CLOW for 2024 will be held on the 4th February at the 9am Mass..


COFFEE AND CHAT

On Monday, February 5th, join other parishioners for morning tea and fellowship at BrizStar Café, Mt Gravatt Plaza commencing 10:00am. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Barbara on 3349 6334. You can also just turn up.

CATHEDRAL OF ST. STEPHEN INFORMATION DAY

An information day for anyone who would like to find out more about becoming a guide and/or a welcomer at The Cathedral of St. Stephen will be held on Thursday 1st February from 9.30am until 1pm in the Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre. Refreshments will be provided. Please register your interest with Carmel Devery at the Cathedral Office on 07 3324 3006 or by email cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au.


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St Joachim's Outside School Hours Care

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Binh Nguyen

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St Joachim's

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makes the world less
cold and more just.**



POPE FRANCIS

*"We must restore hope to young people,
help the old, be open to the future,
spread love. Be poor among the poor. We
need to include the excluded and preach
peace."*

Pope Francis



Continuing on our faith journey during changed times; when our faith will sustain us through our challenges.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION POLICY



We are committed to the
**NATIONAL CATHOLIC
SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS**

... for it is to such as thee that the kingdom of God belongs.

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.

This means that everyone in the church must ensure that the fundamental rights of children, young people and vulnerable adults are respected. This will be achieved through the development of respectful relationships and a commitment to safety embracing appropriate boundaries, behaviours and practices, in accordance with the Archdiocesan Code of Ethical Behaviour and adherence to legislative imperatives of the State. This policy applies to Clergy, Religious, Staff, Parishioners, Volunteers, Students on placement and Visitors to our sites.