

St. Rita's Catholic Parish

*Incorporating the areas of Victoria Point, Thornlands south, Redland Bay,
Mount Cotton, Coochiemudlo Island and the Southern Bay Islands*

37-39 Benfer Road, Victoria Point Q. 4165

22nd January 2012



Parish Priest: Fr. Leo Burke
Parish Pastoral Associate: Elaine Strati
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Website: www.stritasparish.org

Parish Secretary: Patricia Watson
Finance Secretary: Beverley Van Schie
Parish Office Hours:
Mon—Thurs 9.00am- 3.30pm
School Principal: Anne McKenny
Ph: 3207 6628 Fax: 3207 6734

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year B

Next week's readings: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time— Deuteronomy 18:15—20; 1 Corinthians 7:17, 32—35; Mark 1:21—28

Repentance: God's Loving Gift of a New Beginning



The key word, and response asked of us, in today's scripture is repentance. We hear it often through the year. This word has become so familiar and clichéd to our hearing that we run the risk of being deaf to it. The result is the sad possibility that we gradually become set in our lukewarm or sinful ways. Our hearts gradually grow coarse and hardened to God's call.

Yet if we are to find redemption, repentance is absolutely necessary. Repentance does not begin with us. It is not that we repent and then God forgives. Rather it begins from God's heart who fully loves us and desires life for us. Repentance is God's loving gift of a new beginning.

Today's scripture shows us that gift of repentance can be received in two practical ways. The first is to turn away from our sinful lifestyles and choices and return to the ways that God wants us to live. This is very clear from the Book of Jonah. God asked the prophet Jonah to preach the message of repentance to the Ninevites. If they did not change and mend their ways, then divine retribution will surely come.

Much to the displeasure and anger of Jonah who wanted to see the Ninevites severely punished, the Ninevites heeded the message and decided to change even if fear of punishment was their primary motive. But their fear is tempered with hope and longing for forgiveness. "Who knows, God may yet repent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish?" (Jonah 3:9) Jonah learned that God takes particular delight in the repentance of sinners. It is an occasion of immeasurable joy for God. As Jesus declared, "There is more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance." (Luke 15:7)

Whatever our reasons for wanting to repent, the bottom line is that all of us need to take the first step in the direction of accepting God's invitation to renew our lives with Him. As with the Ninevites, we can live with the confident hope that God will be touched by our repentant hearts and welcome us in a joyful embrace. The second practical way of repentance is to let our lives be swept up by Jesus and everything he stood for. It is about the reordering of our life's values and priorities to God's ways.

This is very clear from our Gospel story. For the disciples, following Jesus was a totally new beginning – life with Jesus and being with Him. Before meeting Jesus they were fishermen. They had different lives and different priorities. After meeting Jesus, their lives were turned upside down and inside out. Everything about their lives was focused on Him, His teachings and His works. Christ is everything. St. Paul is the best example of this. For him, to live is Christ. Everything about his life is Christ, breathing Christ, knowing Christ, and union with Christ. So are the lives of many saints. Let us pray that our hearts will always be open to God's invitation to receive His gift of a new beginning.

Source: Bernard Teo C.Ss.R. © Redemptorists 2012

We ask that you pause for a moment to offer a prayer for the sick in our community, especially for:



Prayer Concerns

Therese Thomas, Robyn Holmes, Marko Volarevich, Rita Peck, Neil Leone, Kaleb Love, David Ayre, Molly Daniel, Annie Weston, Elly Lendering, Ron Ghidella, Joan Lennon, Chris Smith, Kath Surridge, Frances Knudsen, John Mullins, Les Bowden, Jack Lehfeltd, Silvio Zambelli, Hazel Quilty, Mark Phairs, Bernice Muir, Harry & Connie Chivers, Marie & Jack Conway, Cec. & Maureen Woodward (Albury), Catherine Kennedy, Jeanette Ricca.

Recently Deceased: Doreen Ferguson (Lynn Bush's Aunty)



PARISH NEWS



Welcome to the family of St Rita's Catholic Community



*If you are a visitor, we are honoured to have you celebrate with us.
If you are interested in becoming part of this spiritual, faith filled community,
please put your name in the Newcomers Book & take a New Parishioner's pack -
both can be found on the back table of the church.
We'll be in touch soon!*



Mothers Prayers

To All Mothers, Grandmothers, and Spiritual Mothers. We have started a Mothers Prayers group here at St Rita's. It will be held weekly on a Wednesday mornings from 9.00am. If there is enough interest we will hold a second one on Thursday mornings from 9.30am. Please contact Elaine at the Parish Office if you wish to be part of a Thursday group. Each session takes about an hour. Come along and join us.
For more information contact Elaine at the Parish Office on 32079177.



Australia Day Mass

We are having a Mass at 9am on **Thursday, 26th January** to celebrate Australia Day. We would love to share this Mass with the St Rita's Parish family. Please join us.



Don't you love home made jams?

There will be an array of home made jams and pickles on sale next weekend the **28th/29th January** after Masses.
To avoid disappointment, be sure to stop, browse and purchase some jars of homemade fare!



Is Chaplaincy calling YOU?

Schools and communities have overwhelmingly embraced Chaplaincy, and the Federal Government wants to expand the program! Thanks to increased funding, we now have the opportunity to place up to 150 additional chaplains in Queensland schools. Do you have a heart for young people? Want to serve the community? Put your faith into action and join 500 other trained qualified Christian workers offering hope and making a difference in the lives of thousands of children across the state.
Phone 1300 478 753 or visit suqld.org.au/morehands.

Pilates Yoga Fusion has returned to the Ruby Dyer Room, **Mondays and Tuesdays at 4.30pm/5.30pm**. This gentle exercise aids injury rehabilitation, stress relief, control of back pain, pregnancy health, seniors' fitness, weight issues. Work to your own point of control in a friendly, non-threatening atmosphere. Wear loose clothing and bring a thick yoga mat, rolled up towel, empty tum and a smile.
Call **Marian on 0412 22 55 88** or just turn up.

HEAR MY VOICE ... BELIEVE

Thank You for hearing the voice of our indigenous brothers and sisters through your prayers and financial gifts under the recent Catholic Mission World Mission Day Appeal. Your faithful gift of **\$1 861** has helped raise up leaders and brought new hope to Indigenous communities. Please consider becoming a "Friends in Faith Partner" with a regular monthly gift to support local leaders, catechists and missionaries in communities in 1100 dioceses across the world.



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Second Collection & Donations last week: \$3 249.30 Envelopes, Loose, Direct Debits, Credit Cards)



Your offering of as little as one hour's wage will help us meet our daily needs.



Rosters for 28th/29th January — 5th Sunday—1st Week Team

Ministry	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 7am	Sunday 9am	Sunday 6pm
Mass Co-Ordinators	Anne Maree Reed	Bernie Sturdy & Shaun Hennessy	Peter Cawley	Glenys Dowling
Ministers of the Word	Anne Saverin Anne Maree Reed	Kay Grieve Bernie Sturdy Eleanor Aitken	Doris Williamson Jennifer Fielding Frances Connor	Ross Cooper Angela Cooper Averil Maree
Communion Ministers	Moya Taylor John Bowskill	Stephen Croyden Marlene Corbin Barbara Elliot	Julie Steel Carmel Taylor	Glenys Dowling Leanne Dyer
Altar Servers	Chloe McGrath	<i>Help needed</i>	Maddie Egan Dainah Egan	<i>Help needed</i>
Projector Operator	Tim Surrige	Agnes McCloskey	Margo Bodley	<i>Help needed</i>
Jnr Children's Liturgy	Debbie Tune Marianne Tune	<i>No Children's Liturgy</i>	Jodie Peters Tracey Cutler	<i>No Children's Liturgy</i>
Upper Primary Children's Liturgy	<i>No Children's Liturgy</i>	<i>No Children's Liturgy</i>	<i>No Children's Liturgy</i>	<i>No Children's Liturgy</i>
Ministers to the Sick	Group 1: Jack & Dorn Davis Group 2: Paddy Berrell			
Other Volunteers	Church Cleaning Team 4 Saturday, 28th January	Church Flowers 28th January	Office Reception Friday 27th January 9.30am—12.00noon	
	 Karen Crayford Clare & Keith Douglas Peter Hart	 Christine Murray	Frances Bamford 	



Around the Archdiocese



Date Claimer Missionaries of God's Love Invitation

Mass for Healing and Prayer with Fr Bony Abrahams of the Missionaries of God's Love 10.30 am Saturday 28th January 2012 St Thomas' Catholic Church Stephen St Camp Hill, use hall entrance; Please invite others; tea/coffee provided. info Paul & Kay Bertini 33982963; 0417 104 460 ; Margaret-Mary Hayes hayesm@bne.catholic.net.au; Roy & Fiona Pires 0402 408 786.

Date Claimers:

- **A Summer Retreat**

The Dominican friars will be holding a retreat for young men aged 18—30 at the *Presentation Spirituality Centre*, 26 Kooralgin St, Manly from **10—12 February 2012**. It will be lead by Fr Dom Murphy OP & Fr Paul Rowse OP. Theme: "Wisdom". Cost \$200—includes meals & accommodation. \$180 for registration by 25 Jan, Registrations close 30 January. For more information contact Br James Baxter OP—james.baxter@op.org.au.

- **Rally for Life 2012**

The Rally for Life 2012 will be held in Brisbane on **Saturday 11 February**.

- **40 Days for Life Brisbane campaign**

40 day campaign from February 22 to April 1. Details to follow shortly.

A VOCATION VIEW:

Even a great person like Jonah turned away, at first, from what God called him to do. It is never too late to hear the Lord say, 'Come, follow me.' To talk to someone about your vocation, contact the Vocation Office: (07) 3336 9203. vocation@bne.catholic.net.au. www.bne.catholic.net.au/vocation



vocation



WEEKLY DIARY

Rosary 30mins before Mass Mon-Sat.



Monday 23rd January

7.00am Mass (Chapel)
9.30am—10.30am Christian Meditation (Chapel)
2.00pm Rosary Group (Chapel)

Tuesday 24th January—St Francis de Sales

7.00am Mass (Chapel)
4.00pm Choir (Church)

Wednesday 25th January—The Conversion of St Paul

9.00am Mother's Prayers (Chapel)
7.00pm Parish Pastoral Council (Ruby Function Room)

Thursday 26th January—Australia Day

9.00am Australia Day Mass (Church)
7.30pm Scripture Reflection Group (Chapel)

Friday 27th January

9.00am Mass followed by Holy Hour (Chapel)

Saturday 28th January—St Thomas Aquinas

9.00am Mass (Chapel)
11.00am Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service - Coochiemudlo Island
5.00pm — 5.30pm 1st Rite of Reconciliation (Reconciliation Room)
6.00pm Vigil Mass, Children's Liturgy

Sunday 29th January - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7.00am Mass
9.00am Mass, Children's Liturgy
6.00pm Mass

Ant Humour

- What do you get if you cross some ants with some tics?
All sorts of antics!
- What do you call an ant with five pairs of eyes?
Antteneeye



3rd Sunday in Ordinary time 22nd Jan 2012

First reading: *Jonah 3: 1-5, 10.*

This was the second time that Jonah was called to go to Nineveh! He finally responded, - and was successful in what God asked him to do. How stubborn am I at times when I know what I should do, - and fail to do it?

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps. 24: 4-9.*

Here David wants to know God's ways. Again listen keenly to God's reply, - and really hear what God will do, - for David, - and for me too!

Second reading: *1 Cor. 7:29-31.*

Paul thought that the world was going to end soon! Hence the urgency in this passage. But who knows when it is going to end? Let us be careful how we do live in this world each day of our life.

Gospel: *Mark 1: 14 -20.*

Here is Mark's account of the call of the first disciples. How conscious am I of the "vocation" that God has called me to follow in my life?

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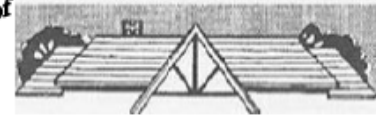
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