

# 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

27<sup>th</sup> November 2011



Parish Priest: Fr. Leo Burke  
Parish Pastoral Associate: Elaine Strati  
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Email: victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au  
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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

## First Sunday of Advent - Year B

Next week's readings: Second Sunday of Advent—Isaiah 40:1—5, 9—11; 2 Peter 3:8—15; Mark 1:1 - 8.

### Be Warned



Early this year the weather bureau warned that the 'La Nina' weather phenomenon might have a potentially catastrophic effect. The warning was largely unheeded and we saw disastrous flooding in Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales. It seems that a perverse peculiarity of human nature is to neglect to take warnings seriously. I suppose it is because so many of them have turned out to be alarmist 'fizzers' and we tend to be blasé about warnings. So, smokers keep on smoking; surfers regularly bathe outside the flags; motorists dash past speed cameras. 'She'll be right! It won't happen to me,' is the mantra of many.

There are some warnings that we neglect at our peril. One such is delivered by Jesus in today's gospel passage. He instructs his disciples that the world will one day come to an end; nobody, not even the angels, knows when that day will be; but, that day will come suddenly and without warning. Since this is so, Jesus emphasises, each disciple should live in such a way as to be always ready to meet his or her end. This means living heedfully attentive to his teachings and vigilantly aware of those influences that might lead us away from him.

Jesus emphasises his concern by telling us the parable of 'the doorkeeper.' The doorkeeper is a man who is given authority by the master of the household to manage his house in his absence. Part of his contract is to be always ready to receive the master when he returns. Sadly, the doorkeeper fails to honour his contract. The master arrives but there is nobody there to welcome him home. It is not a good idea to lock the boss out in the cold while you are snug in bed asleep!

The parable implies that we disciples act in the role of 'doorkeeper'. The Master gives us authority to look after God's house – the whole of creation – until he returns at the second coming. This is not a passive role. It is an active one. We are to act. Our actions are to be acts of service and love. We are to act as worthy representatives of Christ and in union with his plan for the redemption of all creation. Our time here on earth is wrapped in God's eternal love and our task is to live and to work in harmony with that love.

This week we begin Advent. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of Christ – his coming as a babe in Bethlehem and also his coming at the end of time. Today's gospel challenges us to be ready, to develop an ardent desire to meet the Christ when he comes. Such readiness requires diligence. It asks us to keep his house in good order and be always ready to meet him.

Be warned: it will not do to leave 'The Boss' out in the cold when he comes.

Source: Michael Gilbert C.Ss.R, *Redemptorists*.



**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 LehfelDT, Silvio Zambelli, Hazel Quilty, Mark Phairs, Bernice Muir, Harry & Connie Chivers, Marie & Jack Conway, Anne Maree Reed, Ann McCann (Elaine Strati's mother), Cec. & Maureen Woodward (Albury), Catherine Kennedy, Janette Ricca.

**Recently Deceased:** Patricia Heath, Bernard Kirkwood (Barbara Payne's brother)



## PARISH NEWS



### Don't miss this Wonderful Opportunity — Mothers Prayers

Mothers' Prayers was started in England in November 1995 and has spread rapidly throughout the world with contacts in over 90 Countries and has the approval, support and blessing of Christian leaders of all denominations. There are now thousands of groups around the world, supporting each other in prayer. "Mothers' Prayers" is intended for small groups, meeting in Church or at member's homes.

The gathering will be held on **Wednesday, 30th November** in the Church starting at 8.30am with a cuppa. Session goes from 9am to 11am. For more information contact Elaine at the parish office.



### Parish Junior Choir

This weekend our Junior Parish Choir will be singing at the 6pm Vigil Mass.

Junior Choir practice is held on Wednesday afternoons from 3.00pm to 4.00pm in the 'Ruby Function Room'. (The last rehearsal for this term will be held next week.). Afternoon tea is provided. All children from our parish are welcome to attend, we have children from Grade 1 to Year 12. If you have not been involved previously come and join us in the new year.

For more information contact the parish office.



On the first Saturday of each month, the 9am mass will be in honour of Our Lady of Fatima. Please join us on **Saturday 3rd November** at 9am in the Chapel to celebrate this Mass.



### Craft Sale

Next weekend, the **3rd/4th December**, our Craft Group will be holding their annual Christmas Craft Stall. There will be a lovely array of handcrafted gifts, festive decorations and tasty delicacies to assist you with your Christmas shopping! So, don't forget your purse or wallet!!

This year our Christmas Cakes will be made to order. If you would like a cake, please place your orders with either Margaret Burkett 3207 8672 or Christine Wells 3207 7220 by this **Sunday, 27th November** to enable the orders to be ready for the 3rd/4th December.



### Care & Concern News

Come and enjoy a Christmas lunch on **Monday, 5th December** at 11.30am at Pelican's Nautical Treasures, 293 Esplanade, Redland Bay. Kindly RSVP to Janet on 3820 6115 to enable bookings to be made.



### Aria Angels - Music, Movement, Art and ...More

Reaching out to parents before and after Baptism, through the parish, it offers a special time for children from birth to 5 years with parents/grandparents. We will gather in the Ruby Room at the parish office every second Thursday, the next one is on **8th December** from 9.30am to 11am. The cost is \$5 including morning tea. For more information please contact Elaine at the parish office.



### *Keep Christ in Christmas—St Vincent de Paul*

*Christmas cards & Columban Calendars will be available after masses.  
The price of the cards is @ \$2.20 per pack and Columban Calendars are \$8 each.*



**Second Collection & Donations last week: \$3 389.90 Envelopes, Loose, Direct Debits, Credit Cards)**



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



### Welcome to St Rita's Catholic Church

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 and collect a New Parishioners pack which can be found on the back table of the church.

*We'll be in touch soon!*





## PARISH NEWS



### St. Vincent de Paul Society needs your help



**FOOD BASKETS**

It's that time of year again when the Society needs your help in making up Christmas Hampers for the families who seek our assistance. This year we expect to need to cater for around 50 families in our Parish area and this would include 100 - 150 children.

We need donations of all manner of non-perishable groceries and especially tinned hams, Christmas cakes and Christmas puddings as well as all the usual Christmas goodies.

This year we especially also need toys and gifts for children of all ages up to 16yrs as our stocks are totally depleted.

If you would like to make a financial contribution - we'll be very happy to shop for you. Donation envelopes are available on the back table of the Church and can be left on any of the collection plates. If you would like a receipt for taxation purposes, please give us your details and it will be mailed to you.

Help us make a difference and give a "lift" to the many families who are under even more pressure at this time of year to provide the basics, let alone any of the Season's luxuries.

We are sure you will all be blessed for your generosity.



### Spoil yourself and your friends this Christmas!

#### Ruby's famous jams & Chutneys on Sale this weekend!!

For those that haven't tasted these wonderful homemade delicacies—here's your opportunity! There are an array of jams, chutneys and relishes on offer after Mass. To avoid disappointment be sure to stop, browse and purchase these wares!



### Children's Liturgy News:

No Children's Liturgy will be held during the school holidays. Thank you to all the volunteers in this very necessary ministry, your time and efforts are greatly appreciated.



### Lectio Divina - Praying the Scriptures in Advent, Year B

Do something special for Advent this year. Break open the Advent Scriptures. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference invites you to partake in this exciting and unique journey. The innovative lectio programme is an exploration of the Sunday scriptures for Advent 2011. The Bishops will provide their insight into the Gospel each week. The booklet is available from the back of the church until they run out or you can order it online from [leanne.kermond@dbb.org.au](mailto:leanne.kermond@dbb.org.au) This is a free publication and postage is also free.

### New Liturgy Books available

The following books are now available for purchase from the back table of the Church:

- The Little Blue Book for Advent and the Christmas season — It offers a daily 6 minute meditation and reflection. The price of this wonderful companion is \$4 each, or for large orders of 10 or more, the price is only \$3 per book
- Break Open the Word for Year B—2012— All ministers of the Word please ensure you have access to a copy of this publication as it will enable you to prepare for your ministry. The price of the book is \$14.

### Welcome to the Family

A warm welcome into our Catholic Community to Lara Keenan the daughter of Peter & Robyn who was baptised recently. We wish Lara and her family many blessings as they continue their faith journey.

*Congratulations!*



### The Advent Wreath and Candles

'Advent wreathes are a tradition used to mark the four weeks of Advent. Its usual form is a horizontal evergreen wreath holding four candles. Each week a candle is lit. The underlying symbolism is that the accumulation of light is an expression of the growing anticipation of the birth of Jesus Christ who is the light of the world. Three of the candles are violet-coloured to symbolize faithful expectation and the one rose candle symbolizes joy and hope. Finally, the circular wreath represents God's eternal love which has no beginning or end.' *From the Catholic Enquiry Centre* <http://www.catholicenquiry.com>



## DEANERY NEWS



### RETREATS AT THE PRESENTATION SPIRITUALITY CENTRE



26 Kooralgin Street, Manly

Phone: 3396 3290 or email [pscadmin@qld.pbvm.org.au](mailto:pscadmin@qld.pbvm.org.au)



#### AWAKE NEW LIFE

*7 Day Guided Retreat with Erica Marshall*

**Saturday 3 December 6pm - Sunday 11 December, 2011 9.00am**

A seven day retreat taking us gently along creative Advent paths in the spirit of the liturgy, exploring the themes of advent in prayer and reflection. We savour the gift of time & awaken the new life that is growing within us.

Cost: \$650.00 (includes all meals and accommodation)

#### O BRINGER OF JOY

*7 Day Directed Retreat with Ann Maree Thompson & Marie Thompson*

**Saturday 3 December 6pm - Sunday 11 December, 2011 9.00am**

Advent is a season of deep joy. This is an opportunity to leave the busyness of the season and to ponder the gentle birthing of God's word in our lives.

Cost: \$650.00 (includes all meals and accommodation)



**Retreat**



### Around the Archdiocese



#### **CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL BARDON OUTREACH**

Invites you to

Our Final Special Healing Mass for 2011

**Friday 2nd December** from 7.45pm

At St Mary Magdalene's Church, 24 Cecil Road, Bardon

A night of Praise, Worship, Thanksgiving and  
Christmas Celebration.

Supper provided, All Welcome

For more information call Norma 3369 3832  
or Bruce 3325 0359

#### The Iona Passion Play—Easter 2012 - in Brisbane

Experience Easter as part of the cast or crew of  
The Iona Passion Play.

All are welcome - you can involve the whole family!  
Plenty of speaking, non-speaking and support roles  
available.

If interested please contact

Veronica on **3333 1993** or [info@ipp.org.au](mailto:info@ipp.org.au)



*The Tara Singers present*

#### **IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS**

*Come along and enjoy many of our favourite Christmas Carols such as:*

*Away in the Manger, Silent Night, O Come all ye Faithful*

*And join in with the community singing*

**CONDUCTOR:** Rosanna Napur

**VENUE:** Irish Club, 175 Elizabeth St.

**WHEN:** Sunday 4th December 2-4 pm

**BOOKINGS:** Phone Anne Lunney 3274 3649

*Tickets \$10*






#### One day Presentation on Domestic Violence

Joint Churches Domestic Violence prevention project invite you to participate in an important community event on **Wednesday, 7th December** at the Ipswich Library complex, Barry Jones Auditorium from 9am to 3pm.

RSVP by 30th November to Quest Care on 3281 1100 or email [questc@tpg.com.au](mailto:questc@tpg.com.au)

## Rosters for 3rd/4th December – 1st Week Team

Ministry	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 7am	Sunday 9am	Sunday 6pm
<b>Mass Co-Ordinators</b>	Anne Maree Reed	Bernie Sturdy & Shaun Hennessy	Peter Cawley	Glenys Dowling
<b>Ministers of the Word</b>	Anne Saverin Anne Maree Reed	Kay Grieve Bernie Sturdy Eleanor Aitken	Doris Williamson Jennifer Fielding Frances Connor	Ross Cooper Angela Cooper Averil Maree
<b>Communion Ministers</b>	Moya Taylor	Stephen Croyden Marlene Corbin Barbara Elliot	Julie Steel Carmel Taylor	Glenys Dowling Leanne Dyer
<b>Altar Servers</b>	<i>Help needed</i>	<i>Help needed</i>	Dainah Egan Maddie Egan	<i>Help needed</i>
<b>Projector Operator</b>	Tim Surridge	Agnes McCloskey	Margo Bodley	Anoop Alapatt
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	<i>No Children's Liturgy in School Holidays</i>			
<b>Ministers to the Sick</b>	<b>Group 1:</b> Larry Minton <b>Group 2:</b> Marlene Corbin			
<b>Rosevale Ministers</b> Thurs, 1st December	John Tresillian & Tricia McNamee.			
<b>Other Volunteers</b>	<b>Church Cleaning</b> Team 1 Saturday, 3rd December	<b>Church Flowers</b> 3rd December	<b>Office Reception</b> Friday 2nd December 9.30am–12.00noon	
	Elaine Prestney Christine Gordon Chris Paul Anne Wigan 	 Betty Eaton Flower Schedule	Cathy Turner Ronnie Pozzo 	

### Point to Ponder

Drive carefully - it's not only cars that can be recalled by their maker.

### Date Claimer: A Summer Retreat

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

### Zero Gravity (Thursday 13 to Sunday 15 January 2012)

An annual outreach camp for high school aged teenagers. This camp is designed for young people at all levels of faith, not just the 'already committed'. It offers an excellent and unique ministry opportunity for your young people to hear the Gospel message and discover more about themselves and their faith in a safe, positive environment, and has proven to be a turning point in many teenager's faith journeys. The camp sells out each year, with over 150 teenagers and 40 leaders attending. The camp is run by a team of experienced young adults and parents drawn from Emmanuel Community and other Catholic ministries across the Church.

### **THE CATHOLIC LEADER: Your Church, Your Life, Your Paper - only \$2.00**

For more information on the articles in this publication - Check out the website at [www.catholicleader.com.au](http://www.catholicleader.com.au)



### **A VOCATION VIEW:**

It's Advent; almost Christmas! A Season of dreams come true. Be on guard. The Lord may call you to follow Him. To talk to someone about your vocation, contact the Vocation Office: (07) 3336 9203. [vocation@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:vocation@bne.catholic.net.au). [www.bne.catholic.net.au/vocation](http://www.bne.catholic.net.au/vocation)



vocation



## WEEKLY DIARY

*Rosary 30mins before Mass Mon-Sat.*



### Monday 28th November

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

### Tuesday 29th November

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

### Wednesday 30th November—St Andrew

8.30am Mother's Prayers (Church)  
3.00pm—4.00pm Junior Choir Practice (Ruby Function Room)  
7.00pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

### Thursday 1st December

9.00am Mass  
9.00am—11.00am Craft Group (Ruby Function Room)  
1.30pm Pro Life Rosary Crusade (Chapel)  
7.30pm Scripture Reflection Evening (Chapel)

### Friday 2nd December

9.00am Mass followed by Friendship Group and Holy Hour (Chapel)

### Saturday 3rd December—St Francis Xavier

9.00am Mass in honour of Our Lady of Fatima (Chapel)  
11.00am Mass Coochiemudlo Island  
5.00pm — 5.30pm 1st Rite of Reconciliation  
6.00pm Vigil Mass, No Children's Liturgy

### Sunday 4th December — Second Sunday of Advent

7.00am Mass  
9.00am Mass, No Children's Liturgy  
6.00pm Mass

### Time to Smile

Teacher: Cathy, what would you do if you were being chased by a man-eating tiger?

Cathy: Nothing, I'm a girl!



### SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Yr B

**First reading:** *Isaiah 63:16-17; 64: 1, 3-8.*

Here the people have just returned home from years of exile. Isaiah asks God to restore hope to his people. He asks God to mould them as a potter moulds his clay. Can I do the same at this Mass?

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Ps. 79.*

The same theme follows here. Can I too ask God to help me to strengthen still further my relationship with Him, - today, - as I await the coming of Christ?

**Second reading:** *1 Cor. 1: 3-9.*

Here Paul reminds his people that God is faithful, and that he will sustain them on their journey, - which is now my journey. Do I trust my God in this regard?

**Gospel:** *Mark 13:31-37.*

This gospel presents warning and urgency, - with the phrase "stay awake" repeated four times! Will I be alert enough to notice my God when He comes?

### Piety Store

Books - Cards -  
Bibles - Medals  
Rosary Beads -

Open After All  
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Masses

If we don't have it  
we will order it in  
for you.



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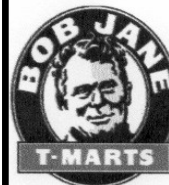
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