

St Rita's Newsletter



VICTORIA POINT, THORNLANDS
SOUTH, REDLAND BAY, MOUNT
COTTON & SOUTHERN BAY
ISLANDS.



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 26th July 2026 Year A

LET US SEEK WISDOM FOR GOD'S KINGDOM

This weekend's Scripture readings invite us to reflect on what we value most in life. In the Gospel (Matthew 13:44–52), Jesus offers three short parables about the Kingdom of Heaven. It is like a treasure hidden in a field, a pearl of great price, and a fishing net that gathers fish of every kind. These simple images reveal a profound truth: the Kingdom of God is worth more than anything else we possess.

The man who discovers the hidden treasure and the merchant who finds the precious pearl both joyfully sell everything they, to obtain what they have found. Their actions are not driven by obligation but by the overwhelming joy of discovering something of incomparable value. Jesus asks us the same question today: What is the greatest treasure in my life? Is it success, wealth, comfort, or popularity? Or is it a deep and living relationship with God.

The first reading presents King Solomon, who could have asked God for riches, power, or a long life. Instead, he asks for a wise and understanding heart to govern God's people. Because Solomon sought wisdom above everything else, God blessed him abundantly. His example reminds us that true wisdom is the ability to recognise God's will and to place Him at the centre of our decisions.

St Paul, in his Letter to the Romans, assures us that "all things work together for good for those who love God." Even in moments of uncertainty, suffering, or disappointment, God is faithfully guiding us towards His purpose. Our confidence rests not in our own strength but in His unfailing love.

As we continue our journey of faith, may we ask the Lord for the wisdom of Solomon, the joyful commitment of the treasure seeker, and the wholehearted dedication of the merchant searching for the pearl. May we recognise Christ as the greatest treasure of our lives and be willing to shape our priorities according to His Gospel.

Let us pray for one another this week, that our hearts may remain open to God's wisdom and that we may joyfully witness to the priceless gift of His Kingdom in our families, workplaces, and parish community. God bless you and your family.

Fr. Joseph Kanatt MCBS

Parish contacts:

Parish Office Operating hours
Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri 9am to 2pm
Closed Tuesday

Ph: 3207 9177

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victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au

Web: <https://www.stritasparish.org/>
Fb: <https://www.facebook.com/stritasvictoriapoint/>

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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

Psalm: Ps Ps 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130

Psalm Response: . Lord, I love your commands.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-46

Event News

First Holy Communion 2026 – Enrolments Now Open

Families are warmly invited to enrol their children for First Holy Communion, which will be celebrated later this year.

Eligibility

Children are ordinarily eligible if they:

- have been baptised;
- have already celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation; and
- are in Year 4 or above.

Parent Information Evening

Wednesday 19th August - 5.30 pm in the Church

Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend this important session to learn about the programme, key dates, family participation, and preparation for receiving the Eucharist.

Enrol Now

Families can commence the enrolment process by scanning the QR code or completing the online form:

<https://url.au.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/8014CRONrwpAAZh9fncICJLm?domain=fs12.formsite.com>



Please complete enrolments by the end of August to ensure participation in the **Rite of Enrolment Masses on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th September.**

If you are unsure whether your child is eligible, please contact the parish office.

We look forward to accompanying your family as your child prepares to receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time

Chat Club – Ladies' Social Group On Thursday 30th July at Shark's Sporting Club, Victoria Point — 11:30am.

Come along, meet some wonderful ladies, share a laugh, and enjoy great company.

All welcome!
Contact Elaine Pascoe
0429 925 989 or
Sylvia Vassallo
0414 692 203.

St Rita's Men's Social Group

July Outing: Guided tour of Willard's Farmhouse and outbuildings, followed by coffee and cake at Ginger & Lime Café.

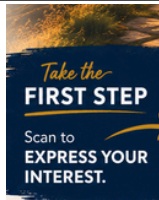
Save the Date – August: Friday 21st at 10am – hosted bocce at Redlands Sporting Club. All welcome!
Please let Mike know if you'd like to attend.

📞 Mike Duggan – 0429 629 211



Faith Starts with a Question

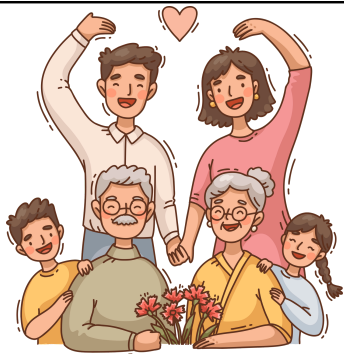
If you've ever been curious about faith, wondered about becoming Catholic, or simply wanted a place to ask life's bigger questions, our RCIA programme may be for you. No pressure. No obligation. Just an invitation to explore. Scan the QR code and submit an Expression of Interest to learn more.



World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly

Join us this Sunday 26 July as we celebrate World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly, coinciding with the Feast of Sts Joachim and Anne. A special blessing of grandparents will be given during Mass – all grandparents, families and parishioners are warmly invited, and recently confirmed children are especially encouraged to bring their grandparents along.

"Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children." – Proverbs 17:6



Mass & Confession Times

SATURDAY

St Rita's Church

Confessions — 4:15pm

Vigil Mass 5pm

Russell Island

Confessions before Mass

8th August 7:30am Mass Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Sunday at 10am

Coochiemudlo Island

Confessions before Mass 18th July
11am Mass Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Saturday at 11am

Macleay Island

Confessions before Mass

1st August 9am Mass
Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Sunday at 9am

SUNDAY

St Rita's Church

Mass 7.00am & 9.00am

MONDAY

St Rita's Church

8:30am Rosary, 9am Mass
Pro-Life Rosary after Mass

TUESDAY

St Rita's Church

No Mass or Rosary

WEDNESDAY

St Rita's Church

8:30am Rosary, 9am Mass

THURSDAY

St Rita's Church

8:30am Rosary, 9am Mass

FRIDAY

St Rita's Church

9am Mass & Holy Hour

DURING THE MONTH

Estia Health 1st Wed of Month
Eucharist Healing Mass Wed. 12th August

Support Your Parish

Our faith will sustain us through challenging times.

Please keep supporting your Parish by continuing your weekly offering if you can, either by using our periodic direct debit or credit card facility or by direct deposit.

Our planned giving bank account details for direct deposits are as follows:

BSB: 064 786 Account No: 100027374 Account Name: Parish Donation - kindly reference your deposit with your surname and your planned giving number/envelope number if you have one.

Please contact the parish office for further information on 3207 9177.

Community Highlights

St Vincent de Paul meet on **1st and 3rd Mondays** of the month, at **10am in the Ruby Room. Next meetings: 3rd August**



Craft & Chat afternoon update

A lovely relaxing afternoon with Jan, Annette and myself creating a little acrylic sunset on canvas. Mike was busy as usual creating lovely leadlight. Thanks Deb.

HOSANNA PRAYER and PRAISE GROUP

Mission

- Facilitate the experience of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit
- Encourage people to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- Empower people to use the charismatic gifts of the Holy Spirit in their daily lives

Meets on Tuesdays at 7pm in St Rita's Church — All are welcome!



Parish Office closed

Please note that the parish office will be closed this Thursday 30th July. Regular operating times will resume as normal from Friday 31st July. Thank you for your understanding.

Eucharistic Adoration Every Saturday for personal silent prayer time

Exposition: 1:00pm-4:00pm

Benediction: 4:00pm

Stay for Confession: 4:15pm

Vigil Mass: 5:00pm

We need committed Adorers for one hour per month to ensure Jesus is never left alone during Adoration (Saturdays, 1:00pm.-4:00p.m.).



Sign-up sheets are at the front of the church .All are welcome

"Could you not watch one hour with Me?" —Matthew 26:40

Join us for our weekly Art group every Wednesday morning at 10am in the Ruby room—all skill levels and creative spirits welcome!

Supporting St Rita's

Dear Parishioners,
Our beloved St Rita's needs your help. We are seeking donations for essential church maintenance and upgrades to ensure our sacred space remains welcoming and functional for years to come.

Your generosity, no matter the amount, makes a real difference in preserving our spiritual home.

How to Donate:

Donation envelopes are available at the back of the church

Direct bank transfer:

BSB: 064-786

Account: 100027374

Account Name: Parish Donation

Reference: Your surname

Thank you for your continued support of our parish community.

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP

St Rita's Parish is looking for generous hearts to help support our community!

We warmly invite parishioners to get involved across a range of ministries and activities — whether that's a few hours a month or more regular service, there is a place for you.

Sign up online at:



stritasparish.flocknote.com/signup/262926

Or contact the Parish Office for more information.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others."

— 1 Peter 4:10

STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR PARISH FAMILY

Don't miss a thing at St Rita's. Our new digital register keeps you connected with Mass times, events, newsletters, and announcements — right when you need them.

Register in 2 minutes:

Visit

stritasparish.flocknote.com/register or scan the QR code below.



Stay connected. Stay informed. Stay part of our St Rita's family.

Archdiocesan Alpha Journey

COME & SEE

Wednesday, 29 July 2026
Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre

Join the Archdiocesan Alpha Journey where we make and form missionary disciples together.



Scan for more info

LUMINOUS

LANTERN PARADE 2026

31 July 2026 | From 5:30pm | South Bank Parklands



Walk in the parade with the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission.

Email beache@bne.catholic.net.au to register

Prayers For all those who are ill, especially Br. Ray Ryan FSC, Denise Woosnam, Dorothy Byrnes, Helen Clarke, Mariano Molina, Claire Douglas, Keith Douglas, Miles Muscroft, Sebastian Ricca, Elaine Prestney, Maddy Brown, Lucas Bernal, Annette Doherty, Alfio Tomarchio, Chris Venter, Fr Jim Browne, Alan Williamson, Helen Stockwell, Marlie Meehan, Denise Fowler, Emma Heinrich, Jela Cicak, Matthew Scott, and those who seek healing in their lives and for all those who care for them.

ANNIVERSARIES: We pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time.

DECEASED: We commend our deceased to the loving care of the Lord.



Feast Days of July / August

Sunday, July 26

- Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly

Friday, July 31

- St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
- Founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits)
- Friday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

Saturday, August 1

- St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Saturday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

Sunday, August 2

- Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pope's Monthly Intention for July For respect for human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

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 policy applies to Clergy, Religious, Staff, Parishioners, Volunteers, Students on placement and Visitors to our sites.

Local Safeguarding Representative: Bob Snoke on 0419 247 698; Parish Office sa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au or <https://bneatholic.stoplinereport.com>

STOPline Service: Ph. 1300 304550 | Email: AOB@stopline.com.au | Online Report: bneatholic.stoplinereport.com

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Thank you for reading!