

St Rita's Newsletter



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



Fifth Sunday of Easter 3rd May 2026 Year A

JESUS CHRIST: THE WAY, TRUTH AND LIFE.

This weekend is the Fifth Sunday of Easter; the liturgy invites us to continue living in the joy and hope of the Resurrection. This season reminds us that Easter is not just a day, but a journey, a call to live as people transformed by the risen Christ. In the Gospel (John 14:1-12), Jesus speaks words of reassurance to His disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled." He knows their fears and uncertainties, just as He knows ours. In the midst of life's challenges, Jesus offers Himself as our peace. He reveals that He is the way that leads us forward, the truth that anchors our faith, and the life, that fills us with hope.

Often, we search for direction in many places - success, relationships, or personal achievements. Yet Jesus gently reminds us that true fulfillment is found in Him. To follow His way means to live with trust in God, even when the path is unclear. To embrace His truth means to listen to His word and allow it to shape our choices. To receive His life means to remain connected to Him through prayer, the Sacraments, and acts of love.

The first reading shows the early Church responding to challenges by working together in unity and service. This reminds us that faith is not lived alone; we are called to support one another and build a community rooted in Christ's love.

This week, let us make a simple commitment: to spend a few quiet moments each day with the Lord, to act with kindness in our families and workplaces, and to trust Him with our worries. When we walk with Jesus, our hearts find peace, and our lives become a witness to his presence. How can we live this message practically? By spending time daily with Jesus in prayer and Scripture, allowing His way to shape our decisions, being truthful and authentic in our relationships, reflecting His truth in our words and actions. And by choosing life-giving attitudes, encouraging others, forgiving quickly, and serving generously.

May the risen Lord continue to guide us, strengthen us, and lead us ever closer to the Father.

May God bless you
Fr. Joseph Kanatt mcbs

Parish contacts:

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

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 6:1-7

Psalm: Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19

Psalm Response: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. or Alleluia.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 14:1-12

Event News

Parish Collection Volunteers Needed

With the Parish Finance Services team at the Archdiocesan offices taking over our recording and reporting functions, we need volunteers to count the weekly collections and bank them in Cleveland — tasks that can be performed separately if needed. Both take place each Monday: counting should take around an hour, followed by banking (including travel to and from Cleveland) within another hour. With enough volunteers, a roster will ensure no one is called on more than a couple of times a month. If you are available most Monday mornings and would like to help, please contact our Parish Secretary, Hayley, to get started.



Church of the Holy Spirit — Macleay Island 21st Anniversary Celebration Mass

Sunday, 25 May 2025 at 3:30 pm

Please join us for a special Sunday Mass to celebrate the 21st Anniversary of the opening of the Church of the Holy Spirit on Macleay Island.

All are most welcome!

Ferry times
Russell Island departs 2:35 pm
Redland Bay departs 2:45 pm
Return ferry (both) 4:50 pm

A cuppa will follow Mass

Mass & Confession Times

SATURDAY

St Rita's Church

Confessions — 4:15pm
Vigil Mass 5pm

Russell Island

Confessions before Mass
9th May 7:30am Mass Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Sunday at 10am

Coochiemudlo Island

Confessions before Mass 16th May
11am Mass Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Saturday at 11am

Macleay Island

Confessions before Mass
2nd May 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. 13th May



Please note the **Parish Office** will be **closed on Monday 4th May** for the Labour Day public holiday. We will return on Wednesday 6th May during normal hours. Thank you for your understanding.

Welcome back to Term 2, St Rita's students! We hope you had a wonderful break and are ready for another great term ahead. St Rita's Parish is so glad to have you back, and we're excited to see all the amazing things you'll accomplish this term. May God bless you all!

Mother's Day Masses – Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th May

This Mother's Day, we warmly invite you to join us for Mass as we give thanks for all mothers, grandmothers, and the maternal figures who have shaped our lives with love and faith.

All are welcome



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: 18th May**



HOSANNA PRAYER and PRAISE GROUP



VISION: Hosanna is to be vibrant Holy Spirit-guided prayer and praise group serving the church through evangelisation, worship and healing prayer.
Meets on Tuesdays at 7pm in St Rita's Church All are welcome!

Craft & Chat Afternoon

Next Session: **Saturday, 2nd May 2-4pm** Ruby room Join us!
Bring your own projects.
Looking forward to seeing you there!

Eucharistic Adoration Every Saturday for personal silent prayer time

Exposition: 9.30am-3.30pm
Benediction: 3.30pm
Stay for Confession: 4:15pm
Vigil Mass: 5pm



Thank you to everyone who spent time with Our Lord. As we enter a new year, we need committed Adorers for one hour per month to ensure Jesus is never left alone during Adoration (Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.-3:30p.m.).

Sign-up sheets are at the front of the church. All are welcome anytime, but the roster ensures every hour is covered.
"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.

PARISH BUS TRIP TO KILCOY – Thursday 7th May 2026

A great day out through the Somerset Dam Region — morning tea, sightseeing in Kilcoy, and lunch at the Exchange Hotel.

Departs Saint Rita's at 8:00am.
\$45pp including lunch.
Tickets after Mass: 18th/19th & 25th/26th April, 2nd/3rd May.
Enquiries: Marie – 0411 459 014

Annual Mass Attendance Count — May 2026

During May, our parish will take part in the Archdiocesan Mass attendance count.
Thank you for your cooperation.

Meditation Group — Coming to a Close

After 18 months together, the Meditation Group will be ceasing sessions. If you're interested in resuming at a future date, or would like transport to attend Star of the Sea in Cleveland, please contact Lorr Popple

PIETY STALL

Our Piety Stall is open after 5pm Mass (Saturday) and 9am Mass (Sunday). Come along and browse our range of religious goods.

A volunteer is needed to run the stall after the 7am Sunday Mass — please contact Geraldine if you can help.

STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR PARISH FAMILY

St Rita's is moving to a digital register to keep you better connected with parish life. By signing up, you'll receive timely updates about Mass times, events, newsletter and important announcements directly to your inbox or phone. It takes just 2 minutes to register: Visit stritasparish.flocknote.com/register or scan the QR code below.



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

Faith Formation Group – Little White Book

Our Thursday faith formation group using the Little White Book has now concluded. We would like to thank everyone who joined us in the Ruby Room — it was a wonderful time of reflection and community.

The Little White Books are still available for purchase at \$5 each for anyone who missed out or would like a copy. Please contact the parish office for more information.

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, Paul Trubody, 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 especially Kathleen Berton & Colleen Ashe.

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



Feast Days of May

Monday, May 4

- Monday of the Fifth Week of Easter

Tuesday, May 5

- Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter

Wednesday, May 6

- Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Easter

Thursday, May 7

- Thursday of the Fifth Week of Easter

Friday, May 8

- Friday of the Fifth Week of Easter

Saturday, May 9

- Saturday of the Fifth Week of Easter

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Pope's Monthly Intention for April

For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

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://bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com>

STOPLine Service: Ph. 1300 304550 | Email: AOb@stopline.com.au | Online Report: bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com



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Thank you for reading!