

St Rita's Newsletter



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



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 5TH July 2026 Year A

GOD REVEALS HIMSELF TO THE HUMBLE.

This weekend's Scripture readings invite us to discover the gentle and life-giving presence of God in our daily lives. In a world that often values power, success, and self-reliance, Jesus offers us a different path - the way of humility, trust, and peace.

In the Gospel (Matthew 11:25-30), Jesus gives thanks to the Father because the mysteries of God's Kingdom are revealed not to the proud or self-sufficient, but to the humble and childlike. He then extends one of the most comforting invitations in all of Scripture: "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest." These words speak directly to each one of us. We all carry burdens - worries about our families, work, health, finances, or the future. Jesus does not promise a life without difficulties, but He assures us that we do not have to carry our burdens alone. When we walk with Him, our hearts find peace and our strength is renewed.

The first reading from Zechariah reminds us that the promised King comes not with military power but with humility, riding on a donkey. Jesus fulfils this prophecy perfectly. He is a King who conquers not through force but through love, mercy, and sacrifice. As His followers, we too are called to choose humility over pride, forgiveness over revenge, and service over selfish ambition. In the second reading, St. Paul encourages us to live according to the Spirit rather than according to the desires of the flesh. The Holy Spirit dwelling within us enables us to overcome fear, selfishness, and sin, leading us instead to a life of joy, hope, freedom in Christ.

This week, let us accept Jesus' invitation to place our burdens before Him. Spend a few moments each day in quiet prayer, entrusting your worries to the Lord. Allow His gentle presence to guide your decisions, strengthen your faith, and fill your heart with peace. As we experience His rest, may we also become instruments of His compassion, bringing comfort and encouragement to those who are struggling around us.

May the Lord bless you and your families with His peace, refresh your spirits with His love, and give you the courage to walk faithfully with Him each day.

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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FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

Psalm: Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14

Psalm Response: . I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God or Alleluia!

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 11:25-30

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/8014C RONrwfopAAZh9fnc1CJLm?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

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE HOLDERS

Our 2026 planned giving envelopes have arrived and can be collected from the church.

If you donate through registered planned giving envelopes, we kindly ask that you take a moment to register your envelopes in Flocknote, our parish communication system. To do so, please complete the questionnaire using the link or QR code below.

<https://stritasparish.flocknote.com/signup/261000>



Thank you for your continued generosity and support .

Mass & Confession Times

SATURDAY

St Rita's Church

Confessions — 4:15pm

Vigil Mass 5pm

Russell Island

Confessions before Mass

11th July 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

4th July 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

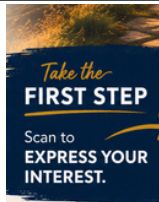
DURING THE MONTH

Estia Health 1st Wed of Month

Eucharist Healing Mass Wed. 8th July

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.



Sponsor a Seat – Church Pew Fundraiser

The response by parishioners to our first week of this campaign has been very encouraging. At the Masses on the weekend 27/ 28 June, we received payments and commitments for 6 complete pews and for more than 55 individual seats. A reminder that the PPC team will be in action again this weekend (4 and 5 July) when we trust further seats and pews will be sponsored. Both EFTPOS & cash options available.

You can also donate at the Parish Office during business hours. Donations can be anonymous or acknowledged on a donations plaque that will go on the back wall of the church.

Thank you in anticipation of your generous support to help us improve and beautify our sacred space. PPC

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: 20th July**




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!



13th Anniversary Thanksgiving Mass
14 July 2026, Tuesday at 7pm

St Rita's Parish
CELEBRANT:
Fr Joseph Knatt

All are welcome to join
(Cup of tea to follow)




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

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, 1:00pm.-4:00p.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.

Ministers for Masses

Volunteers are needed for our Mass Ministry in the roles of Readers, Communion Ministers, Data Projector Operators, and Mass Coordinators. Please consider and pray about being involved in one of these roles. Training will be given for all new ministers.

If you are interested or need more information, please write your name and contact details on the Mass Ministry Forms at the back table. Then place it in the locked box at the back table.

We ask everyone to please pray for our parish - that people with the gifts and skills required, may hear God's call to serve our community at Mass and respond generously.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday
5 July 2026

Walking Together in Christ:
40 Years On!



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.

Join us for Healing Mass at St Rita's Church

8th July
9:00am

St Rita's Church


All are welcome to come and receive God's healing grace. We hope to see you there!

Family and friends of Anne Norman - late of Coochiemudlo Island and Murwillumbah, share with the community the news of her passing on 30th June 2026. The Requiem Mass St. Rita's Church Victoria Point - Monday 6th July at 11am.

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, especially Jim Sheppard.

DECEASED: We commend our deceased to the loving care of the Lord, especially Anne Norman.



Feast Days of July

Sunday, July 5

- Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 11

- St. Benedict, Abbot (MEMORIAL)
- Patron Saint of Europe
- Saturday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Sunday, July 12

- Fifteenth 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://bncatholic.stoplinereport.com>

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

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Thank you for reading!