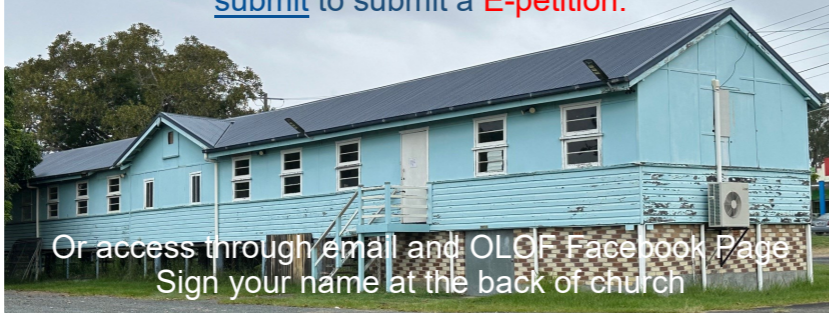


Feb. 18. - 1st Sunday of Lent Reflection

"Here I am!" he answered," - Genesis 22:11
It is easy to say, "Here I am, Lord," when we are kneeling in church. But how easy is it to say "Here I am, Lord," when a neighbour needs our help, or when we are invited to join a parish ministry, or when we are asked to provide financial support? Often times we are called when it's most convenient for us. Discipleship is not easy, most of the time it will make us uncomfortable and vulnerable.

Blue Hall remove from heritages listing
Click www.epetitions.brisbane.qld.gov.au/petition/submit to submit a E-petition.



OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Acacia Ridge | Algester
Calamvale | Parkinson
| Larapinta | Pallara

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

- Fr Dang Nguyen**
Administrator
nguyend@bne.catholic.net.au
- Steffanie Le**
Director of Ministries
- Ellen Tran**
Youth & Pastoral Coordinator
- Lizet Sanchez**
Parish Assistant (on leave)
- Virginia Sharpe**
Acting Parish Assistant (Volunteer)
- Efren Altez**
Liturgy/Newsletter (Volunteer)
- Bernadette Maguire**
Digital Media Communications & Ministry Development

PARISH OFFICE

Located in Presbytery
350 Mortimer Road
Acacia Ridge QLD 4110
Hours Monday to Friday
9.30am to 4.30pm
Telephone 07 3274 5513
Email
acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au
Postal
PO Box 12 Acacia Ridge QLD 4110
Website

www.fatimaacaciaridge.org.au

MASS TIMES
Tue | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat 9 am
Saturday 4.30pm (Vigil)
Sunday 9am & 5pm

CONFESSIONS (by appointment)

BAPTISMS
3rd Sunday of the month 10.15am

PIETY STALL
1st Sunday each month

AWAKEN IN CHRIST MINISTRY
admin@awaken.org.au
0437006264

RISING YOUTH | RISING HIGH MINISTRY
hello@risingyouthministry.org
0488220606 (Ellen)

SCHOOLS
Our Lady of Fatima School
Acacia Ridge
www.ourladyoffatima.qld.edu.au
07 3275 1152

St Stephens School Algester
www.ststephens.qld.edu.au
07 3711 4911

FATIMA NEWS

1st and 2nd Sundays in Lent Year B, 18 February 2024

Greetings to all,

This past Wednesday, hundreds of our parishioners gathered here in the church, morning and evening, to be marked with ashes. Ashes symbolize our mortality and vulnerability; our acknowledgement of our sinful condition and dependence on God's mercy; most importantly our openness to conversion that Christ desires to work in us.

In this first Sunday of Lent, we meet Jesus in Mark's Gospel, fresh from his Baptism in the Jordan, "driven" by the Spirit into the wilderness. Unlike Matthew and Luke, who give us a clear description of Jesus' wrestling with the temptations of pleasure, power, and possessions in the desert, Mark's version is stark. No high theological debates between Jesus and Satan about turning stones to bread, jumping off the pinnacle of the Temple, or selling your soul for fame and power. Just the barest of details: wilderness, temptation, wild animals – and in the midst of all this, the occasional consolation of God's messengers.

Who knows what struggles Jesus himself endured, in that time in the wilderness? Although we believe that Jesus was without sin, the Gospel tells us clearly that Jesus experienced temptation. In every respect, Jesus confronted the same kind of temptations we would in a place of isolation, deprivation, and danger. Jesus had to contend not only with physical hunger, thirst and discomfort, but with all the other human limitations we might encounter in a similar situation: sadness, loneliness, loss of hope, attachment to all that was familiar and comfortable to him.



Interestingly, Mark leaves out lots of details, but he includes something crucial that Matthew and Luke omit: what happened immediately after this time in the wilderness. Jesus emerges from the desert neither broken and self-pitying, nor boasting of his strength and self-reliance. Jesus comes forth with a clear and compelling sense of his mission, the task that now awaits him: **"The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the Good News."**

Jesus comes out of the desert strengthened for his mission. Jesus emerges confirmed in his knowledge that even when hungry, empty, and lonely, he has a Father who loves him, a God whose fidelity can be counted on.

Following Jesus, may our Lenten journey foster within us a deeper trust in God's covenant love, and a willingness to respond to His invitation to conversion and change. Not somewhere else, but here; not later, but now. Then as we walk through the storms of life, our eyes will be opened to the manifestations of God and be sure that we are not alone, that our God walks with us – right here, right now – leading us from death into life.

God bless, *Fr Dang*

Follow us on **facebook**

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am! Is 58:6-9

Get Ready for Healing Light

Jesus, this is what Lent is about, getting ready for Easter, for days of reconciliation and sorrow, for remembering your death and resurrection.

Yet I believe your light can break forth every dawn of my Lenten days, and your healing can spring up daily. For in every prison of my life there is a seed growing into the light. For the next forty days. I will call for help and know you will answer, 'Here I am'.

FRIENDS of JESUS
john 15:14

Join us for a Morning Tea on 7 March at 9:30am at Parish Office/Presbytery. Bring a plate of food to share and a friend.

BEWARE OF SCAMMERS!

This week we were alerted to a new scam where a parish priest received a phone call from someone pretending to be a new priest with the Air Force and asking for the mobile number of another local priest. He also sent an SMS asking for the phone number. Please be on alert that calls like this are likely to be a scam. A reminder to all our parishioners, please be cautious of emails falsely claiming to be from your parish priest, requesting personal or financial support. Verify the authenticity of such emails and remember, official parish communications will never solicit sensitive information in this manner. Should you receive any suspicious emails, please do not respond. Instead, contact the parish office directly to report the incident and for further guidance.

PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM

Embark on a transformative Lenten journey every Friday during Lents from 23rd of February 2024 after the 5:30pm Station of the Cross. The book includes short Sunday Scripture reflections, readings, responsorial psalms, prayers and reflection questions that are traditionally part of group Lenten programs.

Lent IS A TIME TO GET CLOSER TO JESUS

Caritas AUSTRALIA PROJECT COMPASSION
FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. While from three different corners of the world and facing vastly different challenges, they are all united by one dream: to create a better world for all future generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available Fat the church or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

OLOF parishioners explore the vibrant identity of faith community during Ash Wednesday Masses

9:00 AM MASS **6:00 PM MASS**

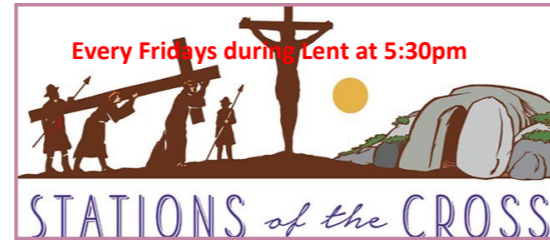
To receive the Parish eNewsletter, please email to acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au

Our prayers are with those who are suffering illness at this time. May God's presence nourish and strengthen you.

First Sunday of Lent: The first section of the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass – the part that comes after our “It is right and just” and before the “Holy, holy” – is called the Preface. The Preface can sometimes be over before we are aware of it which is a pity because it helps connect us to the feast or season being celebrated.

The Missal provides Prefaces for each of the six Sundays of Lent which reinforce the Gospel reading of the day. For example, on the first Sunday, the Gospel is about the Lord being led into the wilderness for forty days and tempted by the devil. The Preface takes this up and proclaims:

By abstaining forty long days from earthly food, he consecrated through his fast the pattern of our Lenten observance and, by overturning all the snares of the ancient serpent, taught us to cast out the leaven of malice, so that, celebrating worthily the Paschal Mystery, we might pass over at last to the eternal paschal feast.



The Way of the Cross: Stations of the Cross is a popular practice in parishes during Lent. This form of devotion arose after pilgrims began to visit the Holy Land from the end of the 4th century to follow the path that Jesus trod in his last week of life. Christians who were unable to travel to Palestine themselves reproduced a parallel devotion at home.

The Franciscans popularised the practice during the Middle Ages, but the number and subject of the stations was not settled until the 18th century. The fourteen stations that were established were a blend of biblical and legendary material.

There is no set way of praying the Stations and the Church has never provided an official ritual for the celebration. In 1975 the Congregation for Sacred Rites suggested a list of Stations of the Cross that is more in keeping with the gospel accounts than the traditional form. It begins with the Last Supper and concludes with Christ’s resurrection. Recent popes have used yet another set of Stations when celebrating the Way of Cross at the Colosseum during Holy Week.

The terms “Stations of the Cross” and “Way of the Cross” refer to the same devotional practice. The latter may be better as it emphasises the spiritual journey aspect of the prayer. Official guidelines for celebrating the Way of the Cross suggest that it is always preferable to choose texts written in a clear simple style and to end the celebration with a commemoration of the Lord’s resurrection “to leave the faithful with a sense of expectation of the resurrection in faith and hope”.



Here at OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

First Reconciliation Celebrations - 6-7pm, Wednesday 6th March
First Holy Communion Mass - 4:30 pm Saturday 16th March



Being a member of St Vincent de Paul is more than just helping the poor and disadvantage in Acacia Ridge it is a spiritual journey aimed at deepening one’s faith.

Frederick Ozanam the founder of St Vincent de Paul stressed that the “chief work of the Society is the saving of souls”, to support, to encourage with compassion and to be empathetic advocates for each other and for those voices crying in the wilderness. If you would like to join please contact Noel Sweeney mob 0423550052

Our Lady of Fatima Class Covenants

Each class creates a Class Covenant, an agreement which they will follow in the classroom throughout the year.

Shrove Tuesday: On Shrove Tuesday our students had the opportunity to purchase pancakes cooked by Mr Gambley. The money collected from the pancakes will be donated to Project Compassion.

Ash Wednesday: On Ash Wednesday, our whole school attended the Parish Mass to mark this special occasion. We received the ashes and joined in prayer with our Parish community.

Lent and Project Compassion: During the 40 days of Lent, we will focus on raising funds to support the work of Caritas through Project Compassion. Your child will receive a Project Compassion box this week to collect money to support this worthy cause. Please remember to return your Project Compassion box to school in Week 10.



CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NETWORK



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD ONLINE WORKSHOP

LEARN HOW TO FACILITATE CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD, PLUS DISCOVER NEW AND INNOVATIVE IDEAS FOR 2024

DATE: WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2024
 TIME: 6:00PM – 7:30PM
 COST: \$10
 SCAN QR FOR MORE DETAILS & TO REGISTER



JOURNEY WITH JESUS THROUGH CALVARY TO EXPERIENCE THE GLORY OF THE RESURRECTION

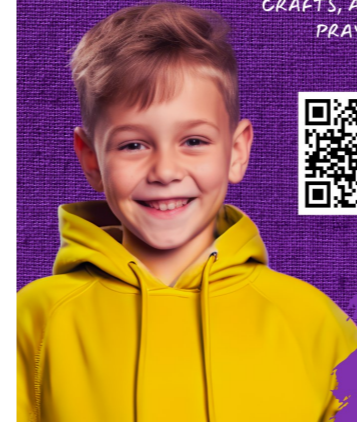
Open to Ages 16-40
 Free Event with Lunch Provided
 RSVP via Email by 17 March at srs.spc.australia@gmail.com
 More information at srspcaustralia.org.au



St Pauls Convent
 28 Fedrick St. Boronia Heights

LENT IDEAS for KIDS

CRAFTS, ACTIVITIES, VIDEOS, PRAYERS AND MORE!



SCAN HERE TO ACCESS FREE LENT RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN



150 BENEDECTUS
 a Photographic Exhibition
 by Alan Edgecomb
 Purple Moon Photography
 grand opening by Archbishop Mark Coleridge

exhibition duration: 10 am - 4 pm
 location: 16 - 22 March
 cost: Harly Room free

Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours.

Communities in Africa, Asia, Australia and the Pacific are looking for qualified and experienced Australians from ALL sectors to share their skills with those who have had little opportunity for formal training. You too will learn and grow within a most welcoming community. Experience the joy as you assist to change lives.

Learn more: Join our [Mission Webinar](#) March 5th, 2024, 6:00 - 6:30 pm.

Palms Australia 63 years preparing Australians for enduring global relationships to build sustainable, self-reliant, community development.

Learn Even More: Join our [two-week tour to Timor-Leste](#) on 06/05/2024 to see Palms program participants our local partner communities in action together.

Contact: 02 9560 5333
palms@palms.org.au



Ageing Wisely
 FREE SEMINAR
 The greying years are often a difficult time for parishioners as we try to navigate changing living arrangements, health and financial circumstances.

The Archdiocese of Brisbane's free Ageing Wisely seminar provides advice and information on a range of pertinent matters, as a service to older parishioners.

The seminar will feature professional guest speakers from Thyne & McCartney, Archdiocese of Brisbane, Holy Cross Funerals, Centacare etc who will provide information on estate planning and legal advice, retirement planning and financial advice, charitable gifts in Wills and perpetual endowments, funeral planning and in-home support services.

Please join us

Date: Tuesday, 12th March
 Time: 9:30am - 1:30pm
 Venue: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 121, Mains Road, Sunnybank

Agenda

- 9:30am Welcome by Parish Priest
- 9:45am Charitable gifts in Wills
- 10:15am Legal advice and Estate Planning
- 10:45am Morning Tea
- 11:15am Retirement & Financial Planning
- 11:45am Pre-arranging funerals
- 12:15pm In-home community support
- 12:45pm Lunch and Fellowship
- 1:30pm Finish

Morning tea and lunch will be provided free of charge. To register your attendance at the event please email sec.sunnybank@bne.catholic.net.au and you will be sent an RSVP form. Please RSVP on or before Thursday, 7 March.

Sponsored by Holy Cross Funerals