

REFLECTION: 21 January 2024
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The phrase “fishers of men” is a metaphorical expression used by Jesus in the Gospel of Mark 1:17. It refers to the act of spreading the message of Jesus Christ and inviting people to follow him. The metaphor is based on the idea that just as fishermen cast their nets into the sea to catch fish, so too should Christians cast the message of Christ into the world to catch people’s hearts and souls. *The phrase is often used to describe the role and mission of Jesus Christ and his disciples in evangelism and spreading the message of God’s love.*



Who is your grace friend?
 None of us have to walk alone.

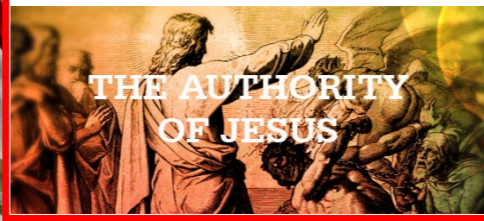
*Let grace go
 around and around.*



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

REFLECTION: 28 January 2024
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In Gospel of Mark 1:21-28, Jesus teaches in the synagogue and heals a man with an unclean spirit. The people are amazed by his authority. Jesus’ authority is not just a matter of his words, but also of his actions. He teaches with authority and heals with authority. The people are amazed by his authority because it is not like the authority of the scribes. Jesus’ authority comes from his relationship with God. He is the Son of God, and he has come to reveal the Father’s love to us. *We are invited to humbly accept the authority of Jesus as we listen to his Word.*



**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
pacaciaridge@bne.catholic.edu.au
- St Stephens School** Algester
www.ststephens.qld.edu.au
 07 3711 4911
palgester@bne.catholic.edu.au

FATIMA NEWS
 3rd and 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time B, 21 January 2024

Greetings to all,

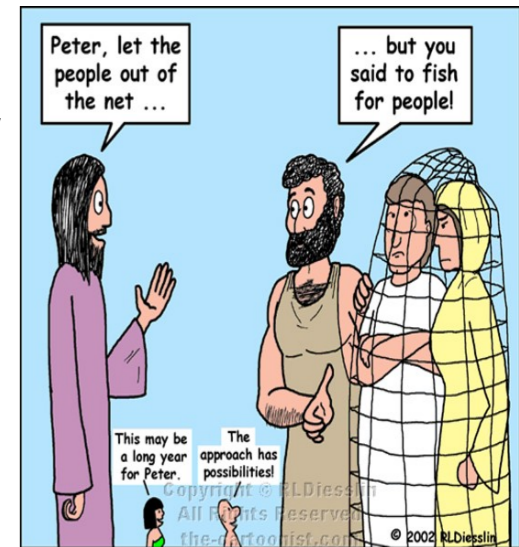
The Lord’s call most often comes to us in the context of our daily lives. That was certainly the case for Simon, Andrew, James and John in this Sunday gospel reading. They were engaged in their daily tasks as fishermen when Jesus called them to follow him. Simon and Andrew were casting a net in the sea of Galilee. James and John were in their boat, mending their nets. This was the stuff of their daily lives. When the Lord’s call came to them in the midst of their daily tasks, it resulted in their taking a completely new direction. They left the business of catching and selling fish and became fishers of people. Jesus would henceforth work through them to gather people into the nets of God’s kingdom.

What I like the most in this reading is the way of how Peter, Andrew, James and John, respond to Jesus’s call. Mark very clear telling us that Jesus calls to them saying, “Come after me”. They immediately left everything and follow him.

By saying yes to Jesus, we all know that Peter and Andrew, James and John don’t just leave behind stuff, they leave behind their most comfortable identities—the work and family relationships that give them value in the eyes of society and, probably, in their own eyes as well. They follow Jesus—whatever that is!

Another beautiful thing that in the yeses of Peter and Andrew, James and John often we missed. They were not just following the worldly trends of the time. Their decision wasn’t a decision made out of boredom or disdain for their present state. This was a decision awaiting them after years of

preparation. They were faithful Jews, who lived and breathed the Word of God and who were eagerly awaiting the Messiah. They were prepared to meet Jesus and follow him until death. In other words, they actually lived their ordinary lives, but was indeed extraordinary way and it was this way of living that allowed them to answer Jesus immediately, in a very extraordinary way.



So how does this apply to us? Today we may find ourselves in what we think as ordinary times. Instead of another day fishing, it’s another day of class or another day in the office. If Jesus were to call us to “come after him” in our present state, would we drop everything and follow?

Like Peter, Andrew, James and John, how do we live our ordinary life and prepare ourselves to courageously say yes to Jesus when He calls us? May this “Ordinary Time” find us redefining ordinary by the way we live for Jesus extraordinarily.

God bless,

Fr Dang



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

IN TRANSITION

AS A PARISH FAMILY WE WELCOME

ELI CARMELO LIMPIN CRUZ

MILLIE-ROSE MARIE MCINTYRE

VIOLET-LILY MARIE MCINTYRE

KHAELDEN SAIGE ALEJANDRIA TING

WHO WERE BAPTISED THIS WEEKEND.

Our Lady of Fatima Primary School
 350 Mortimer Road, Acacia Ridge, QLD 4110

5 Scholarships are available for the children of our parish.

If you have children from prep to year 6 who are interested in the scholarship,

Please contact the Parish Office
 On 3241 5513

acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au

School Office

On 32751152

pacaciaridge@bne.catholic.qld.edu.au



Called to *Serve*

As reader, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Music Ministry?

The Liturgy Committee is organising an orientation and/or seminar to support our lectors by offering a program to further develop their skills in proclaiming the Good News and to our extraordinary ministers for holy communion to further their knowledge in their ministry of distributing Holy Communion. **Tentative Date: Saturday, 17 February 2024 9:30am**

We will also provide formation for those who serve in **Music Ministry** and to invite more people to share their musical gifts. **Tentative Date: Saturday, 24 February 2024 9:30am**

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

MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY

Catechism classes

every Sunday
 after 9 am Mass, School term
 from 10 am - 10.30 am

for more info, contact sister Hanna.

Have your say?

Plan to move Tuesday morning mass to evening: first to encourage people who are working during the day can come and participate Holy Mass. Also, as it moves to evening, we can have Eucharist Adoration and confession before mass.

5pm starts with Eucharist adoration - confession are available for those who would like to receive the sacrament, *Holy Eucharist will start at 5:30pm*

Some changes during the Holy Eucharist celebration:

Greeting and prayer of the faithful from the stand in front of the altar (as it is done now)

Liturgy of the Word, Gospel, and Homily to be proclaimed back from the Ambo.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

THERE'S NOTHING ORDINARY ABOUT ORDINARY TIME

The feast of the Baptism of the Lord is the last day of the liturgical season of Christmas Time. The Church's liturgical calendar then moves into Ordinary Time.

There are two parts to Ordinary Time. The first falls between the end of the Christmas season and the start of Lent, and the second between the Monday after Pentecost and the Saturday before the first Sunday of Advent. Previously these Ordinary Time Sundays were designated Sundays "after Epiphany" or "after Pentecost".

The name "Ordinary Time" for that part of the church year outside the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter is rather an unfortunate one. The word "ordinary" normally means something unexceptional or uninteresting. There is no such thing as "ordinary time" in Christian worship. The word "ordinary" as used in "Ordinary Time" means that the Sundays after the seasons of Christmas and Easter are counted in order, using *ordinal* numbers.

Ordinary Time is one of the liturgical seasons – the longest season of the church year. Its liturgical colour of green points to our Christian hope and life, entering into the mystery of Christ in all its fullness. Ordinary Time calls us to celebrate the presence of God in the ordinary patterns of human life. - Elizabeth Harrington

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Rite of Communion is the culmination of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The elements that make up the rite are:

Lord's Prayer – this is one part of the Mass in which everyone participates fully, consciously and actively.

Sign of Peace – a symbolic gesture of imparting to others the blessing of Christ's peace. We share the sign of peace deliberately and sincerely with those around us.

Breaking of the Bread – the name by which the Eucharist was first known, it signifies that the many faithful are made one body through the Body of Christ which is broken and shared. The 'Lamb of God' is sung until the breaking and pouring (Fraction Rite) are complete.

Communion Procession and Receiving Communion - we walk together to the Lord's Table where we share the paschal meal with Christ and with one another as fellow members of the body of Christ. - Elizabeth Harrington

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & FIRST RECONCILIATION OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

If your child has completed their Confirmation and is now preparing for First Holy Communion and sacrament of Reconciliation, please be reminded that Our parish sacramental program will take place shortly.

If you haven't already registered, please remember to do so at your earliest convenience.

Registrations: Please contact the parish office through email at acaciарidge@bne.catholic.net.au

Sacramental Program 2024 - First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation (For Grade 4 or older)

Parents Information Evening	6pm, Wednesday 31 st January
First Week: Class on Holy Communion	6-7pm, Wednesday 7 th Feb
Second Week: Class on Holy Communion	6-7pm, Thursday 15 th Feb *
Third Lesson: Class on Holy Communion	6-7pm, Wednesday 21 st Feb
Fourth Lesson: Class on Reconciliation	6-7pm, Wednesday 28 th Feb
First Reconciliation Celebrations	6-7pm, Wednesday 6th March
Fifth Week: Rehearsal and recap on HC	6-7pm, Wednesday 13 th March
First Holy Communion Mass	4:30 pm Saturday 16th March

Due to Ash Wednesday being on 14th Feb, the class for the 2nd week will be on Thursday 15th February

Parish Schools: Communities of Faith, Hope and Love. Welcome back!

For School Staff: We pray for all staff members at our parish Schools. They have been called to the ministry of Catholic Education. Help them to look to Jesus as their model and guide.


For our schools: Our Church is a "Community of Disciples." We strive to "think like Jesus, talk like Jesus, and act like Jesus." There is no better way to live up to our calling than to be a people of faith, hope, and love. Let them have faith in God, hope in God's promises, love for God and solidarity with everyone.

First Friday Anointing Mass
9.00 am Friday 2 February
At Our Lady of Fatima Church

Parish Financial Council Meeting
6pm Wednesday 31st January
At our Parish Office

CLERGY AND PARISH BULLETIN

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28



Healing Retreats
with Fr Antony Parankimalil VC
in Brisbane

Dates: 30th Jan, 31st Jan & 1st Feb
Time: 7.00pm-9.00pm

These retreats are a great opportunity to come into the Lord's presence and offer up all our worries, sicknesses and family burdens. You are welcome to bring those who are sick to experience His mercy and healing.
Come along with your family and friends and experience the healing touch of our Mighty God.

Holy Cross Church,
110 Nottingham St, Kippa Ring, QLD, 4021

Admission is FREE, No registrations needed
Contacts: Gabrielle 0432 833 439, Steve 0435 590 630

When in Sydney, please visit

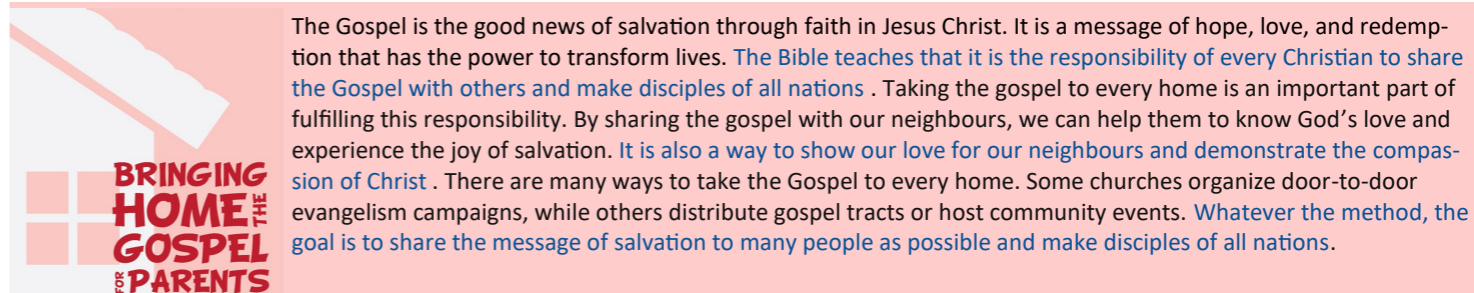


DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE
160 Hensons Road, Somersby, SYDNEY-NSW 2250.
Tel: 02 4372 1598, email drcsydney@gmail.com
www.divineretreatcentre.org - www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentresomersby


PARISH LENTEN GROUP(S)

You are invited to prepare for Easter by joining with fellow Our Lady of Fatima parishioners in reflection. Parish Group discussions will use a publication from the Archdiocese of Wollongong called "Pietà." The book includes Sunday Scripture reflections, readings, responsorial psalms, prayers and reflection questions that are traditionally part of group Lenten programs. The book costs \$9.90.

If you would like to join in the discussion, please sign your name at registered form which is available at the back of the church or please contact the parish office at : acaciарidge@bne.catholic.net.au

The Gospel is the good news of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. It is a message of hope, love, and redemption that has the power to transform lives. **The Bible teaches that it is the responsibility of every Christian to share the Gospel with others and make disciples of all nations.** Taking the gospel to every home is an important part of fulfilling this responsibility. By sharing the gospel with our neighbours, we can help them to know God's love and experience the joy of salvation. **It is also a way to show our love for our neighbours and demonstrate the compassion of Christ.** There are many ways to take the Gospel to every home. Some churches organize door-to-door evangelism campaigns, while others distribute gospel tracts or host community events. **Whatever the method, the goal is to share the message of salvation to many people as possible and make disciples of all nations.**



PRAYER REFLECTION FOR LENT:

Our Lenten season is approaching quickly. Lent is the 40-day season of preparation for the Paschal Triduum (Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday). The word "Lent" comes from the same root as the Anglo-Saxon word "lengthen". It was a word for springtime when the daytime lengthens rapidly. Therefore, Lent is in essence the Church's springtime.

We are encouraged to look at this period of Lent as a journey. Lent reminds us that this is the season to turn away from our worldly distractions and journey home to God. This should be a time of inner reflection, and at the end of the Lenten journey, we should expect to find ourselves at a different place spiritually than when we started. At the end of our Lenten journey, if we have truly humbled and submitted ourselves to the Lord, the grace of God working in our lives should have conformed us more perfectly to the image of Christ, who is, himself, the image and likeness of God the Father.

Evangelisation Brisbane have produced a book A Resurrected Life for 2024. The book provides an opportunity for each of us to reflect on the extraordinary hope that the Gospel bears. Copies can be purchased on <https://evangelisation-brisbane.myshopify.com/products/a-resurrected-life>

RETREATS AT SANTA TERESA SPIRITUALITY CENTRE

DATES & COSTS FOR 2024

A MORNING'S PRAYER

SATURDAY 9AM - 12 NOON

Saturday 2 MARCH

Saturday 27 APRIL

Saturday 8 JUNE

Saturday 3 AUGUST

Saturday 9 NOVEMBER

GUIDED RETREATS

FRIDAY 6PM - SUNDAY 1PM

Guided Retreat: 12-14 April

Guided Women's retreat: 19-21 July

Guided Men's retreat: 11-13 October