

REGULAR WEEKEND MASS LOCATIONS

St. Mary's Church, Woodend
1B Elizabeth Street, Woodend 4305.
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Leichhardt
22 Old Toowoomba Road, Leichhardt 4305.
St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich
42 Pine Mountain Road, North Ipswich 4305.
St. Brigid's Church Hall, Rosewood
Railway Street, Rosewood 4340.
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, E/Heights
33A Robertson Road, Eastern Heights 4305.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Parish Office Hours
Monday to Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm
1C Elizabeth Street, Woodend 4305 | 07 3281 2133
ipswich@bne.catholic.net.au | ipswichcatholic.com
Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Bliss OFM
Assistant Priest: Fr. Minje Kim
Operations Manager: Benjamin Leschke

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

1st October 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Have you ever thought to yourself that in the Gospels, Jesus seldom teaches doctrine. Rather, the stories themselves provide examples of how we are to model our lives after him. He was a man for others, a compassionate healer, an understanding friend. As clear as such stories might be, and because we can be selfish people, the example they offer us is difficult to follow. If it is hard to follow a man who lived a human life with others, how are we to follow the example sketched by Paul in today's second reading?



Paul writes to the Christians in Philippi: "Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus" (2:5). What attitude is he talking about? Jesus emptied himself of the pre-eminence that was rightly his as possessing "equality with God" (2:6). He did not demand that they treat him with the reverence and veneration that was due him. Rather, "he emptied himself... he humbled himself" (2:7, 8).

Why does Paul insist on this? It seems the Philippians were having internal problems that were threatening their unity. Various forms of arrogance were tearing them apart: Don't you know who I am? I am a celebrity. I have more money. I know the right people. And who are you? Who do you know? What can you do? These attitudes of arrogance infect our communities today. To this Paul proclaims: If Jesus, who, "though he was in the form of God" (2:6), could empty himself of such dignity for the sake of others, you certainly should be able to put aside your trivial vainglory and be "united in heart" (2:2). Can we? Something to ponder In what circumstances are you arrogant? What can you do to strengthen the bonds of unity in your family? Your workplace? In our parish? Have a great week, the feast of St Francis is this week – 4th October. May St Francis inspire us!

Stephen ofm

PARISH FUNDRAISING – BUSH DANCE

When: Saturday, 7th October – Dancing from 7pm – 11pm

Sausage Sizzle from 6:15pm **Where:** St Joseph's School Hall, North Ipswich

Admission: General \$12.00, Primary Students \$6.00, Family \$30.00.

Music – **Ridgee Didge Bush Band**, with our very own Kathy Bianchi! Tickets open now – visit the link for more information! trybooking.com/CLHCR



39 TICKETS SOLD; WE NEED MORE PEOPLE

PARISH CALENDAR

THIS WEEKEND

Fri 29 9:00am Mass at Miraculous Medal Church, Eastern Heights
NO FRIDAY NIGHT YOUTH – RETURNS 6TH OCTOBER

Sat 30 8:00am Mass at St. Michael's Church, Pine Mountain
4:30pm Mass at Immaculate Heart Church, Leichhardt
4:30pm Reconciliation at St. Mary's Church, Woodend
5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's Church, Woodend
6:00pm Mass at Miraculous Medal Church, Eastern Heights

Sun 01 7:30am Mass at St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich
8:00am Mass at St. Brigid's Parish Hall, Rosewood
9:00am Mass & Children's Liturgy, St. Mary's Church
10:30am Baptisms, St Mary's Church, Woodend
5:30pm Mass at St. Mary's Church, Woodend

NEXT WEEK

Mon 02 PUBLIC HOLIDAY – KING'S BIRTHDAY (OFFICE CLOSED)
No Mass at St. Joseph's Church, North Ipswich

Tues 03 9:00am Mass at Immaculate Heart Church, Leichhardt

Wed 04 **FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**
8:30am Rosary, 9:00am Mass, 10:00am Adoration St Mary's
No Mass at St Brigid's, Rosewood
5:00pm Prayer Group at Parish Office, Woodend

Thur 05 9:00am Mass at St Mary's Church, Woodend
6:30pm Finance Council, Parish Office

Fri 06 9:00am Mass, Miraculous Medal Church, Eastern Heights
6:30pm Connect Youth (Primary & High) – St Mary's Primary Hall



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PASTORAL

Please pray for those in our parish who are unwell. We also pray for ...

Recently Deceased: Eva Douglas, Maureen Dowdle, Gloria Ryan, Samuel Dickfos, Deborah Anderson (Finlayson), Colin Parsons.

Anniversaries: Ann Heck-Norma Hogan, Fr Jim Elmore, Frances Elmore, Anne Lennon, Mary Cavanagh, Doris Lawson, John Crowson, Margaret Long, and those in our Book of Life.

**PRAYER
WORKS.**

Thank you for the lovely card from those in our parish at St Joseph's. Thank you for the prayers and kind thoughts. God Bless, Phyllis Bradley

A Word from Pope Francis - Conversion, changing the heart, is...at times a painful process, because there is no path of holiness without some sacrifice and without a spiritual battle....Conversion is a grace we must always ask for: "Lord, give me the grace to improve. Give me the grace to be a good Christian." ANGELUS, ROME, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020.

OPERATIONS UPDATE – Benjamin Leschke

ST MARY'S CHURCH – FRONT LAWN & GARDENS - We have commenced repair work on our lawns from the recent lawn grub infestation. How can you help? I am glad you asked! Please keep off the grassed area in the front 4 sections of the church. If you see someone on the grass, please gently ask them to hop off the grass. We need to give it some rest time! Thanks for understanding!

FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING – The Finance Council will meet Thursday 5th October in the Parish Office from 6:30pm.

SACRAMENTS | FORMATION | LITURGY

Feast of St. Francis (October 4)



He wanted to be a warrior like King Arthur - Francis was enamoured with the Arthurian legends of France, and desired to be knight in the same vein. Francis even fought in two wars, one a civil war in Assisi, and the other as a mounted soldier against the city-state of Perugia. In the second battle, he was captured and was a POW for over a year.

He travelled into Muslim territory to convert the Sultan - During the 5th Crusade, Francis travelled to Egypt to convert the Sultan Malik al-Kamil. He even challenged the Islamic religious leaders to a trial by fire where he would walk through fire with them to prove the truth of Christianity. Though the Sultan did not convert, Francis and the Sultan became true friends, and ten years later, al-Kamil freely gave Jerusalem to the Christians.

He was the first record person to receive the stigmata - During a 40-day retreat, dedicated to the Archangel Michael, he had a vision of a six-winged Seraph attached to a cross. He miraculously received at the same time a painful wound of the heart, which seemed to pierce it. When the vision ended his own hands and feet bore the marks of the angelic crucifixion which he had seen in the vision.

The Franciscans got papal approval after Innocent III had a vision - Francis' biographer, Saint Bonaventure, recounts that Pope Innocent III had a dream in which he saw "the Lateran Basilica almost ready to fall down. A little poor man, small and scorned, was propping it up with his own back bent so that it would not fall. "I'm sure," he said, "he is the one who will hold up Christ's Church by what he does and what he teaches." After having this dream, Innocent III approved the rule of Francis and the founding of the Franciscan order.



MASS READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

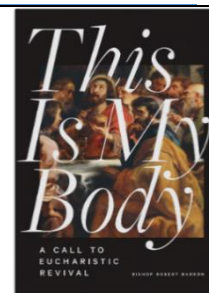
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Yr A

1st Reading	Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm	79:9. 12-16. 19-20. R. Is 5:7
2nd Reading	Philippians 4:6-9
Gospel	Matthew 21:33-43

This is My Body – The Eucharist - \$8 each

Bishop Barron offers a threefold analysis of the Eucharist as sacred meal, sacrifice, and Real Presence.

Remaining books are now in our churches for purchase.



The 2023 St Mary's College Dance Spectacular will take place on Saturday 7 October at 6.30pm in McAuley Hall (doors open at 6.00pm).

The Spectacular is a ticketed event so please register your attendance via the Eventbrite site.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/858179718649868>

Entry on the night is via gold coin donation. We will also be selling raffle tickets to win a variety of dance and performance related prizes.

THE ATRIUM



Infant Toddler Age Group

Our new time table for the sessions will be as follows: (Age 0-3) from 9:00am and will conclude at 9:45am; (Age 3-5 years) from 9:45am for a 10:00am start and will conclude at 11:15am. The older children will join the younger children for prayer time at 9:45am.

Parents with a baby, toddler and older child can still come at 9:00am with all of your children as we understand that it is not always possible to juggle children in and out of cars. We would rather accommodate to your needs than see your children not returning to the Atrium. However, if you only have a child in the age bracket from 3-5 years, we ask that you come at 9:45am. We look forward to an exciting term ahead!

Primary School Age Group

It is with great excitement that we will be recommencing the sessions on a Tuesday afternoon for term four. We will commence on Tuesday 10th October from 3:30pm. If you arrive early at the Atrium this is not a problem because the adults will be at the Atrium from 2:30pm, so come on in!

This term we will focus on some Old Testament work for the older children and our younger ones will experience some of the parable stories. All of the group will celebrate Advent and a Christmas celebration towards the end of the term. We look forward to greeting the children on the 10th October and if your child won't be returning during term four can you please let us know.

Bernadette McAndrew

SAVE THE DATE – October is the month of the Holy Rosary. As we begin the month of October, you may want to pray the rosary, or look into a devotion to Our Lady. We will celebrate this important month with a public rosary in St. Mary's Church on Saturday 28th at 12pm. More information next week!



WHAT'S COMING UP – NOVEMBER MASSES (START PLANNING NOW)

During November, Mass will be offered each day for those whose names have been written in the Book of Life in each church. We also have special "**November Mass Envelopes**" for parishioners and visitors to use. Please write the names of your deceased family members and friends clearly and place them in the collection plate. Envelopes available in churches.

ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS DAY MASSES

1st Nov Wednesday (All Saints Day)

- 8:30am Rosary - St. Mary's Church, Woodend
- 9.00am Mass - St. Mary's Church, Woodend
- 9:45am Adoration - St. Mary's Church, Woodend
- 9.30am St Brigid's Hall, Rosewood

2nd Nov Thursday (All Souls Day)

- 9.00am Mass - St. Mary's Church, Woodend
 - 7.00pm St. Mary's Church, Woodend
- (Remembrance Mass)

CEMETERY LITURGIES

5th Nov Sunday – Prayer Service

2:00pm at Warrill Park Cemetery

11th Nov Saturday – Prayer Service

10:00am at Ipswich General Cemetery

11th Nov Saturday – Mass & Blessing of Graves

10:30am at St. Patrick's Church, Rosevale

18th Nov Saturday – Mass & Blessing of Graves

10:00am at Glamorgan Vale Cemetery

25th Nov Saturday – Mass & Blessing of Graves

9:00am at St. Michael's Cemetery, Pine Mountain

SOME NEWS

Words from Pope Francis - Message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation 2023

So too, like a river basin with its many tiny and larger tributaries, the Church is a communion of countless local Churches, religious communities and associations that draw from the same shared waters. Each source adds its unique and irreplaceable contribution, until all flow together into the vast ocean of God's loving mercy. In the same way that a river is a source of life for its surroundings, our synodal Church must be a source of life for our common home and all its inhabitants. In the same way that a river gives life to all kinds of animal and plant life, a synodal Church must give life by sowing justice and peace in every place it reaches.



Parish Pilgrimage – A couple of years ago I had planned on leading a pilgrimage to Assisi, however COVID prevented this from happening. I am considering leading a Parish Pilgrimage in August 2024 "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop". If you are interested, please let the Parish Office know so they have your name on the list of interested people. I want to firm up some numbers before making any plans. **Stephen ofm**



CONNECT YOUTH

All Year Levels
St Mary's Primary
School Hall
6.30pm-8.30pm

Friday 6th October

This week we hear from our 'Youth'! The leaders are taking a break from writing articles, as I feel it is important to hear from our youth and young adults!

I reached out to those who attended the Ignite Conference and asked them to share their thoughts and experiences. Please keep our youth and young adults in your prayers.

A reminder that Friday Night Youth starts again next week, Friday, 6th October. On behalf of Grace, Sineli, Jean, Stewart, and Isaac, I am excited for Term 4 and hope you will come along and join them. All are welcome!!

Stephen ofm

The ignite conference was a wonderful experience; it really enlightened me to open my eyes and follow the path of the Lord Jesus. I was encouraged and persuaded to embrace all the blessings he has and is going to give me. This experience provided me with the chance to meet new people like me". **Joe Ronald**



I embarked on a journey at the Ignite Conference to make friends, grow my faith, and become more connected to the church. In the rallies, speakers told their inspiring stories about them going through rough times and how they were connected to Jesus. There were meaningful dances, live music sung by Emmanuel Worship, and videos to show what other people experience. The first Mass was led by Archbishop Mark Coleridge, and the second Mass was led by a newly ordained Brisbane priest, Fr. Isaac from Maroochydore Parish. The workshops/keynotes were inspiring as the guest speakers spoke about how they connected with Jesus, as well as encouraged us to grow our faith. My favourite part of the Conference was the adoration on Friday night. It was great to experience the feeling of reflection, connection, and worship. I have developed friendships with my peers and value the opportunities experienced in this journey. Can't wait for next year, Rise Up! 😊 **Hannah Currey**



The Ignite Youth conference was an interesting and rewarding experience. The conference provided insight into how people were able to reconnect with Jesus and our faith. This event was well planned and was relevant to the youth in our area. It had a modern twist with Rallies, music, and young speakers in which we could relate with. **Emma Davies**

Hi! My name is Modesta, I am Solomon Islander, currently living in Tivoli, Ipswich. I want to thank the Lord for the opportunity to have crossed paths with the Ipswich Parish and to be part of the Ipswich youth. Thanks Fr. Stephen and the team for supporting me! It has been an enriching experience to encounter Christ being present during the Adoration and reconciliation. A new beginning, a change of heart and a glimpse into a new start. A life fulfilling experience to me personally, to have been able to listen to a lot of spiritual enriching talk by Priests and conference leaders, inspired by living testimonies, graced by the Emmanuel band music, meeting new people and be able to share with was so phenomenal.

It was so intriguing to see young youths making a personal decision by turning to God in prayer. The Holy Spirit is moving in this land especially the young generation and I look forward to actively participate and encourage younger youths to come to Ignite conference, to experience the opportunity to talk to God, encounter Jesus in the blessed sacrament, go to reconciliation and be able see Christ in others and discover what the lord has in store for you! **Modesta Hasiaiu**

I had an amazing time at the Ignite Conference. It was special and inspiring to be around lots of other Catholic youth who were excited to be together and passionate about their faith. I was surprised to see how many people attended from different backgrounds and different walks of life. The theme of Wonder resonated throughout the whole conference, through stories of how people turned to Jesus during difficult times in their lives, the workshops, and rallies, and through the beautiful music throughout the Conference. I enjoyed connecting with the youth from Caboolture, Springfield, and Kedron to share prayers and meals every day. A highlight for me was the performance by the St Mark's Samoan Catholic Youth group on Day 3 because they showed me how I can express my faith through my own Samoan culture and my passion for Samoan dance. I left the Conference feeling more enriched in my faith, proud to be a young Catholic, and excited and more curious about what lies ahead for me on my faith journey. I can't wait for #RiseUp2024! **Mya Risati**