

PARISH OFFICE AND CONTACTS

Parish Office Address: 134 Somerset Road, Kedron Qld 4031

Ph: (07) 3357 6640 Email: kedron@bne.catholic.net.au Website: www.kedroncatholicparish.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday 8.30am - 3.00pm Friday 8.30am - 12.00pm

PARISH TEAM Fr Joseph Nguyen ofm Parish Priest

Mrs Sandra Di Francesco Parish Manager Email: kedron@bne.catholic.net.au

Mrs Maria Hopes Sacramental Coordinator sacramental.kedron@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH SCHOOL St Anthony's School *Mr Martin Wilkie - Principal* Ph: 3357 6185 Email: pkedron@bne.catholic.edu.au www.stanthonyskedron.gld.edu.au

RECONCILIATION Saturday 4.00 - 4.30 pm

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday (Vigil) 5.00pm Sunday 7.30am, 9.30am & 5.30pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday8.00am and Tuesday 8.00amWednesday9.00amThursday8.00am and Friday 8.00am

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday: For one hour after the 8am Mass Thursday: For 24 hrs after the 8am Mass until the start of Friday 8am Mass

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS 1st Wednesday of the month at 9.00am

BAPTISMS 2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month at 11.00am (unless of another event that day) (Booking is essential)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 1st, 2nd and 3th Sunday of the Month - 9.30am (School Term Only)

FAMILY MASS 4th Sunday of the Month at 9.30am (School term only)

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs Sandra Di Francesco Ph: 0448 356 599 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time—19th February 2023 (YEAR A)

Warfare and the Church

One cannot choose which passage of scripture is going to really hit home, make an impact, and become a huge challenge in your life.

This passage of scripture, today's Gospel, changed my life – completely. Revelation became revolution!

I had always read 'Be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect' as advocating rather static anaemic fault-less-ness. Not very appealing!

But, sitting in my room one day, I realised that the Greek word we usually translate as 'perfect' is closer to the idea of a perfect wine – one that has matured and has reached its full potential, everything it was capable of being.

So, Our Lord is saying, 'Be a person who is becoming fully mature, someone who is everything you are capable of being.'

Our Lord gives a striking example of the challenge. It is far from static or anaemic! '...your Father in Heaven ... causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike.' And then Our Lord commands us to be everything we are meant to be as human beings in exactly the same respect.

We are to be gracefully mature adult disciples of Jesus by imitating God who does not withhold life-giving sun and rain from people because they are bad or dishonest. God does not extinguish the life of human beings because they are evil, because they are enemies.

This exploded in my consciousness like a bomb! We are to be the same as God in this regard. *That* is how we are to love our enemies.

To cut a short story short, I became a Christian Pacifist. I revered the Church of the first three Centuries, the Martyr Church which refused to bear arms. Dr Martin Luther King became my hero. He had practised active non-violence precisely in following the Sermon on the Mount, and had transformed a segregated and racist United States.

I purchased a black and white poster of King, hanging it on the wall above my desk. On my return to Australia, I got involved in politics.

The rest is history. I was elected to the Senate and was Minister for Justice for six years. Everything was going swimmingly, and I had the satisfaction of a certain superiority. *I* knew what it was to be a true follower of Jesus Christ, and I was living the dream.

The dream was shattered in January of 1991. Iraq's Saddam Hussein had invaded and occupied Kuwait. The Prime Minister required a vote in the Senate supporting the despatch of naval units for a UN Security Council-authorised military operation to expel Iraqi forces.

To cut a very long story short, after an anguished weekend I voted for the motion. I was sure that *that* first Iraq war was justified by the teaching of the Church for the last sixteen hundred years – the "Just War" doctrine.

But my heart broke. I realised that I had betrayed the Divine Teacher of the Sermon on the Mount. I turned the photo of Martin Luther King to the wall. I could not bear his eyes gazing into my soul. I could not open Matthew's Gospel for fear of opening it at today's passage.

I am still not entirely at peace. I derive some consolation from the fact that Pope John Paul II, usually a Pope of great certainties, experienced the same turmoil of heart and mind in wrestling with this issue. No-one can read his Encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* without seeing the struggle. [see especially *Evangelium Vitae* 55]

We need two things to happen.

First, the Church as a whole has to keep wrestling with the issue. Jesus' command: '*You* must be' is directed to *You* in the plural. It is communal, social. The Holy Spirit is moving the Church as the community of Christ's faithful in a direction not experienced since its first three Centuries.

It will be interesting to see what Pope Francis has to say in his homily on today's Gospel, should he choose to focus on this point.

Second, Our Lord insists in this passage that we pray *on behalf of* those who want to do us harm. If they are evil, if they are aggressors, if they are willing to harm the innocent, they *need* prayer. We have to pray on their behalf that they be rescued from the deforming, dehumanising, diabolical ideology which impels them.

To pray for such as these is to share in the perfection of 'Our Heavenly Father who causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike.' It is to move towards becoming *perfectly mature* followers of the Divine Teacher, those who might better hear His voice: 'Blessed are the peacemakers.

© Fr Michael Tate

"We acknowledge the Turrbal and Jagera People in Brisbane, and the Gubbi Gubbi People at Pomona as the traditional custodians, past, present, and emerging, of the land and waters where Kedron Parish stands. We pay our respects to them".

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 20 February Mass 8.00am Adoration after Mass Taekwondo 4.30, 5.45 & 7.00pm Padua—Rufino House Eucharist 6.30pm SVdP Meeting 7.00pm (Parish Office)

> **Tuesday 21 February** Mass 8.00am **Rosary after Mass** Samaritans 9.30am

Wednesday 22 February (Ash Wednesday)

Mass 9.00am Mass 7.00pm JPCCC Group 7.00pm

Thursday 23 February Mass 8.00am 24hr Perpetual Adoration Encounter 6.00pm

Friday 24 February Mass 8.00am Stations of the Cross after Mass Divine Will Prayer 8.30am Intercessory Prayer 8.30am Christian Meditation 9.00am (Delamore) Mass Padua 11.50am

> Saturday 25 February Reconciliation 4.00pm Mass 5.00pm

> Sunday 26 February Mass 7.30am, 9.30am SFO 9.30am Baptisms 11.00am Mass 5.30pm

Please pray for our recently deceased:

Vincenzina Cavallaro, Margaret Collis(Sullivan), Raymond Ranario, Henry Milton, Giuseppe (Joe) Anello, Teresita Ranario, Arthur Pitty, Dorothy Smith, Patricia Pipe, Sr Patricia Sullivan rsm,

and those whose Anniversaries occur about now.

Norine Mullins, Bernadette Okely,, Sarina Caruso, Eileen Stevens, Jack Lindau, Arch McKellar, Paul Hotchkis, Audrey Robson, Bernie Butler, Catherine O'Malley, John Hegarty, Tracey Ihle, Clair Brown,

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

First Sunday of Lent 26 February 2023 — Yr A

1st Reading - Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7 2nd Reading - Rom 5:12-19 or Rom 5:12, 17-19 Gospel - Mt 4:1-11



Ash Wednesday 22 February 2023

Mass times 9.00am and 7.00pm

This Season of Lent is a time of fasting, almsgiving and consciously making room for God in

our busy lives. Whatever image comes to your mind, with the distribution of ashes this Wednesday we begin another Lenten journey together. Once again there are many opportunities to grasp hold of during these coming 40 days.

FASTING & ABSTINENCE: Ash Wednesday is one of two days of fasting and abstinence set down by the Church, the other being Good Friday.

In current Catholic practice, Fasting means having only one full meal a day. Smaller quantities of food may be eaten at two other meals but no food should be consumed at any other time during the day. The law of fasting applies to those who are 18 to 59 years old.

Abstinence is the practice of abstaining from the use of certain kinds of food. Everyone aged 14 years and older is required to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

The spirit of the law may invite us to extend the fast to things other than food – tweeting, surfing the net, gambling or gossiping. The minimum fasting requirements make most sense when they are combined with prayer and almsgiving.

The Catholic practice of fasting and almsgiving aims at leading us to interior conversion. We fast in order to share our time and our treasure with an attitude of love towards God and others.



Project Compassion Sunday 18 & 19 February

Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and For All Future Generations. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2023 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come.



PASSIO

As St Pope John Paul II said, "The future starts today, not tomorrow."

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

Friday Intercessory Prayer Group

If you would like to be part of an intercessory prayer group and help make a difference, you are invited to join others following the Parish 8.00am Mass every SECOND FRI-DAY, in front of the Tabernacle in the church. Spontaneous prayer will be encouraged. for the many needs of our Parish, our world, families and friends, indeed for many issues which need holy intervention. It is intended that the prayers will go no longer than twenty minutes or so and will conclude with the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet.



Piety Store— "The Triumph Lenten Program Books are now availability at the piety store. The cost will be \$8 each.

Divine Will Prayer Group meets monthly (last Friday of every month) in St Clare Room at the church. Meeting starts after mass (8:45am). All welcome. Study the 'Book of Heaven, The Hours of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ and The Virgin Mary in the Kingdom" as told by Jesus to Luisa Piccarreta. Phone Sue 0419731780"



Food Item Donation St Vincent de Paul Society

We truly appreciate all items that you donate to assist local people doing it tough. Last year, your Kedron Little Flower conference made many visits, most requiring food assistance. Any items that you generally buy for your own household will be useful and appreciated but, in response to questions about the items we commonly run low on, see the following list:

Breakfast cereals	Pasta sauces	Tinned vegeta- bles and beans
Long-life or Powdered milk	Pasta	Tinned salmon, tuna etc.
Spreads e.g. jam, vegemite	Noodles	Soup
Tea	Rice	Tinned baked beans, spaghetti
Coffee – smaller bottles	Toilet paper and Toiletries of all sorts	Meal in a tin options e.g. stews

.... and any clean plastic shopping bags cluttering up your car or kitchen we can also put to good use!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILATION PREPARATION 2023

Our Sacramental Program is parish-based, family-centred and schoolsupported. The preparation thus relies on your commitment to attend activities that we offer, and upon your enrolment, we have clear expectations that you will participate fully in the program. The First Reconciliation program is for children in

School Year 5 and above.

If you would like to enrol your child or require any further information please contact Maria Hopes, Sacramental Coordinator at:

sacramental.kedron@bne.catholic.net.au or call the parish office for an enrolment form. Enrolments will be closing Monday 20th February.

We welcome you and your child and look forward to being part of their preparation for this sacrament. Please note these important dates:



Reconciliation Evening: Monday 6th March 4.00pm - 6.30pm (at the Parish Church)

HEALING MASS - BARDON

Are you in need of healing? Come to the first Friday of the month Healing Mass at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, 51 Cecil Road, Bardon, Friday, 3rd March, 2023 at 7.30pm. Fr. Joe McKay, Chaplain to Padua College and National Spiritual Assistant to the Secular Franciscan Movement, will be the celebrant. Personal prayer for healing will be offered during Mass. For further information, contact Len Airey on 0421 977 849 or by email to <u>lenpatairey@gmail.com</u>

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

"The WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Ecumenical Service for 2023 will be held on Friday 3rd March, 2023 at the CKCC Uniting Church which is located on the Cnr of Rode Road and Gympie Highway Chermside. It will commence at 10.30am and will be followed by Morning Tea. TAIWAN is the focus of our prayers this year. This is an opportunity to join in prayer with other Christian denominations in our region.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Contact Mary Anne Lucas on 0412 323 669.

catholic mission

Reach out. Give life.

The Samaritan Community Tuesday Morning Activities at 9.30am in the Parish Hall is a morning of activities, games, laughter and sharing which everyone enjoys.

Welcome on behalf of the Samaritan Committee.

Internationa lomen's Day

Catholic Mission and the Archdiocese of Brisbane invite you to celebrate the difference women are making in diverse areas of mission.

Date: Wednesday sth Mar 2023 Time: 10.00 am – 11.00am (9.45am for a 10.00am start) Venue: Francis Rush Centre, 277 Elizabeth St, Brisbane

GUEST SPEAKER Josephine Cullen





Stations of the Cross

will be held every Fri-

day after Mass at

8.30am starting

24th February

#EmbraceEquity

To receive the Parish Newsletter and other resources by email, please print your details here, tear off this section, and drop it in the suggestion box at the church door.

Name:

Email:

