

acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which our parishes stand.

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 10th March 2024 - Year B

#### My dear friends,

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy's opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

The Sunday Gospel reading is taken from John's Gospel, where we are made aware of God's immense love and the priceless gift He gave us in His son, Jesus Christ. In the Gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that the Son of Man will be raised up exactly as Moses raised the serpent in the desert. This potent image explains to us how Jesus frees us from sin, just as the bronze serpent healed those who gazed upon it with faith.

God's immense love for us is the reason Jesus entered the world. He desired to demonstrate to us how to live with him for ever. He desires for us to follow His instructions, have faith in Him, and believe in Him. When we make the decision to live in the light of God's love, we decide to follow and believe in Jesus. This implies that, as Jesus taught us, we try to treat people kindly, to forgive those who have

#### wronged us, and to assist those in need.

Jesus is the light and following Jesus will bring change in us. We're to be the light of the world so that we can spread God's love to others and provide people with the light of happiness and hope. It is essential to keep in mind that God still loves us despite our mistakes. When we sincerely apologise and make effort to return to the Lord, He is always willing to forgive us. Let us thank and praise God for sending Jesus to save us and for His love. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

Peace and blessing, Fr Ravi

# Happy Birthday Fr Ravi!

May your birthday this Saturday, be filled with God's blessings, thanking God for the gift of your faith-filled life, and praying that the Holy Spirit will strengthen you as you serve the Church.



#### **Welcome to New Parishioners**

Please make yourselves known to our Priests and to the parishioners who greet you as you arrive. For more information about our parish or how to volunteer in the Church ministry or our activities, please contact the Parish Office below.

#### MASS TIMES

#### **St Mary's** (20 Merivale St, South Brisbane)

- Mon-Fri: 7am | Sat: 8am (Rosary after Mass)
- Sunday: 9am and 5pm
- St Francis of Assisi (47 Dornoch Tce, West End)
- Sunday: 9am
- St Ita's (Pope St, Dutton Park)
- Saturday (Vigil): 5pm
- Sunday: 10.30am (Indonesian)

#### **Our Lady of Perpetual Succour** (68 Victoria St, Fairfield)

• Sunday: 7am

# CONFESSION

**St Mary's:** Sat: 8.30am-9am | Sun: 4.15-4.45pm St Ita's:

By appointment (contact parish office)

# More information: Websites: - <u>www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au</u> - www.duttonparkcatholic.org.au

FB: - www.facebook.com/stmaryssouthbrisbane/ www.fb.me/duttonparkwestendcatholicparish

# PARISH ADMINISTRATION

47 Dornoch Tce, West End, Q 4101 **Ph:** 07 3324 3734 **Postal:** PO Box 3857, West End, Q 4101 <u>southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au</u> stitaspar@bne.catholic.net.au

- Parish Priest: Fr. William Aupito Iuliano aupitoiulianow@bne.catholic.net.au
- Assistant Priest: Fr Ravi Koyya kumarr@bne.catholic.net.au
- Parish Deacon: Deacon Adam Walk walka@bne.catholic.net.au
- Pastoral Coordinator: Sr. Salvation Bunao SFI
- Parish Secretary: Niken Westerman
- Finance Officer: Kevin Bhasin

# Safeguarding Officers:

- St Mary's Church : Chris Bolger (0407 480 205)
- St Francis of Assisi: Liam Cunnane (0477 306 166)
- St Ita's Church: Liam O'Rourke (0411 033 321)
- OLPS Church: Paul Hogan (0418 742 760)

# ST ITAS'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 247 Gladstone Rd, Dutton Park, Q 4102 Ph: (07) 3838 8400 Email: pduttonpark@bne.catholic.edu.au Web: www.stitasduttonpark.qld.edu.au

#### First reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up.""

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 136(137):1-6

#### R: Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion; on the poplars that grew there we hung up our harps. **R**/

For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy. 'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.' **R**/

O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil? If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! *R* 

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys! **R**/

#### Second reading: Ephesians 2:4-10

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

#### Gospel Acclamation: John 3:16

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

#### **Gospel:** John 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

#### **Communion Antiphon:**

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.

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# THIS WEEK'S Psalm Responses

#### Monday 11th:

*I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.* 

**Tuesday 12th:** *The mighty Lord is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.* 

**Wednesday 13th**: The Lord is kind and merciful.

**Thursday 14th:** Lord, remember us, for the love you bear your people.

**Friday 15th:** *The Lord is near to broken hearts.* 

**Saturday 16th:** *Lord, my God, I take shelter in you.* 

### **NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

5th Sunday of Lent 1st reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

**2nd reading**: Hebrews 5:7-9

Gospel: John 12:20-33

#### **ST MARY'S PASSION PLAY** Good Friday 29 March - 2.30pm



We are inviting all the children to participate in this year's Passion Play.

Rehearsal dates: Sunday, 17 March after 9am Mass Sunday, 24 March after 9am Mass

Please see Sr Salvacion after mass if your child is interested.



# LENTEN REFLECTION

Every Thursday during Lent - 6pm St Francis' meeting room All welcome!

# STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent - 7pm St Mary's Church All welcome!



#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED St Francis Table Ministry**

Volunteers with vehicle and capable of heavy lifting are needed to help with the collection of food supplies from Queensland Foodbank once a week.

Please contact the Parish Office for details.

**2024 EASTER TRIDUUM MASS TIMES** 

Second Rite: Tue, 26th March • St Mary's Church - 7pm

# Holy Thursday: 28th March

• St Mary's Church - 7pm

St Francis of Assisi Church - 7pm

## **Good Friday: 29th March**

#### • Stations of the Cross

• OLPS Church - 7am • St Mary's Church - 10am • St Francis of Assisi Church - 10am • Emmanuel Community, Mt Cootha - 10am • St Mary's Church - 2:30pm (Children's Passion Play)

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

• St Mary's Church - 3pm • St Francis of Assisi Church - 3pm • OLPS Church - 3pm

# Holy Saturday: 30th March

- St Ita's Church 5pm
- St Mary's Church 7pm

# Easter Sunday: 31st March

• OLPS, Fairfield - 7am

- St Francis of Assisi Church 9am
- St Mary's Church 9am
- Emmanuel Community, South Brisbane 9am

## Hello friends,

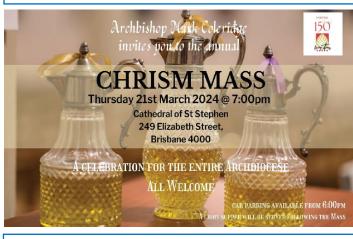
Some of you might already know of the good work that Emmanuel City Mission do for the homeless and the poor in the South Brisbane/West End area and beyond. With the recent skyrocketing of the cost of living within Australia, the need to assist those who find themselves on the streets has also increased. They realistically embody the call of Jesus to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and give drink to the thirsty. As fellow disciples of Christ, we too, are invited to be a part of this saving work within the world, 'for when you did it to the least of these, you did it to me (Mt 25:40).' With that in mind, we're proud to announce that being a part of this privileged work will now be easier as Emmanuel City Mission will be moving next door to St Mary's, South Brisbane. Pope Francis' vision of a 'Poor Church for the Poor' where communities collaborate in solidarity and mission urges us into this space.

This will be a new journey for the Parish of St Mary's and for Emmanuel City Mission, but we invite all of you to come along. More importantly, we invite you to pray for this new endeavour, that we may truly see Christ's reign present in South Brisbane. If you would like to learn more about Emmanuel City Mission and the work they do in the area, scan the QR code below. If you feel like volunteering in the work of Emmanuel City Mission, follow the links on the website.

May the Lord of the journey bless this new adventure and open our hearts to the work of salvation in the world.



Fr William



Caritas Fourth Sunday of Lent 9 & 10 March

As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, Memory faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her village.

# Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.





To make an anonymous report call 1300 304 550. For more information visit brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding