

Embracing the communities of: St Mary's South Brisbane, St Francis of Assisi West End, St Ita's Dutton Park and Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Fairfield



The community of St Mary's Catholic Parish and Dutton Park Catholic Parish acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which our parishes stand.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 8th April 2024 - Year B

Hello Friends,

We've ventured on a journey of new beginnings and in many ways, it ties beautifully with our Gospel reading on Jesus as the vine and, we, the branches. At the beginning of the Gospel it says, 'every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more'. I'm no gardener, but I know the process of pruning a branch (spiritually) can be difficult, but when done correctly, by the Lord Himself, it can also bear much fruit.

As we ask questions around the direction of our Parish, and what we would like to see happening, this process itself might feel like a pruning of sorts. I'll be the first to admit my fear and worry about leading this community during this time. My first ask above all then, is that we keep our community in prayer. Pray that we might be attentive to what the Lord wants to do in our local area and that we might have the courage and grace to respond.

Last week we began our Parish Update and I'd like to thank those who have already submitted their responses. I'd also like to take the time to explain amalgamation, there seems to be a bit of confusion around the topic.

What is amalgamation?

Amalgamation is the action of merging or uniting two or more parishes into one.

Aren't we already one Parish?

Whilst both Parishes have been under the previous care of the Capuchin's and now Fr William and Fr Ravi, they are currently two (2) separate parishes in administration terms of the Archdiocese.

Why do we need to form a new Parish?

Both parishes have been successfully administered by one Parish Priest/Administrator, Associate Pastor and Parish Office Staff who have achieved remarka ble results across both parishes while accepting a multiplicity of administrative tasks. With the growth in the local area, a decrease in Mass attendance and human resources, we've had to ask serious questions about the task of a Parish and its mission. The forming of one new Parish would:

- benefit both Parishes from the pooling of resources and achieving cost deficiencies through the elimination of duplication.
- Both Parishes share a Pastor, Administration Office and Parish Staff.
- St Ita's school educates many children from St Mary's Parish.

Will the Mass times change?

There will not be any changes to existing Mass times due to the formation of a new Parish.

When is this going to happen?

We have not begun the formal process with the Archdiocese yet. If this were to occur, the goal would be to have this done by the end of the year.

Fr Ravi and I are committed to these communities; you! If at any time you would like to talk about this further, please do not hesitate in contacting us. Fr Will: <u>AupitoiulanoW@bne.catholic.net.au</u> Fr Ravi: <u>kumarr@bne.catholic.net.au</u> T: (07) 3324 3734

Peace and Blessing, Fr Will



Are you in High School? (Grades 7 to 12)

Come and join us for Faith, Fun & Friendship at St Mary's Sunday, 28 April commencing at 10.15 am to 12 noon.

Enquiries: Fr Will or Dianne (0411869017)

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.

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> <u>stitaspar@bne.catholic.net.au</u>

Websites:

- <u>www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au</u> - <u>www.duttonparkcatholic.org.au</u>

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)

FB:

- <u>www.facebook.com/stmaryssouthbrisbane/</u> - <u>www.fb.me/duttonparkwestendcatholicparish</u>

First reading: Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 21(22):26-28,30-32

R: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people

My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever! R/

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him; They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **R**/

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: `These things the Lord has done.' R/

Second reading: 1 John 3:18-24

My children,

our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active;

only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people,

if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence,

and whatever we ask him,

we shall receive,

because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these:

that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ

and that we love one another as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments

lives in God and God lives in him.

We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation: John 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away - he withers: these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Jn 15: 1, 5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.

Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

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THIS WEEK'S Psalm Responses

Monday 29th: Memorial (St Catherine of Sienna) Not to us, O Lord, but to your name give the glory.

Tuesday 30th: *Your friends tell the glory of your kingship, Lord.*

Wednesday 1st: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Thursday 2nd: Memorial (St Athanasius) Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Friday 3rd: Feast (Sts Philip and James) Their message goes out through all the earth.

Saturday 4th:

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

6th Sunday of Easter

1st reading: Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48 **2nd reading**: 1 John 4:7-10 **Gospel**: John 15:9-17

PARISH UPDATE

Please take the time to complete our Parish Update Survey. We want to hear from you. The survey will close on the 6th of May.

> Thank You, Fr Will

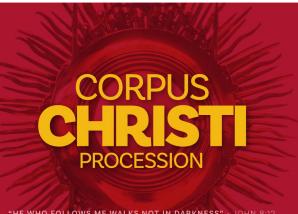




Reconciliation Action Plan Networking Workshop

SAT 4 MAY 8:30am-3pm

CALVARY CHURCH ATRIUM Cnr Santa Monica and Redondo Drive, Miami



"HE WHO FOLLOWS ME WALKS NOT IN DARKNESS" - JOHN 8:12



DUTTON PARK PARISH BANK ACCOUNT CHANGE

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of our Parishes. If you're contributing by direct transfer to Dutton Park Parish bank account, please note that the account number has changed (details at the back page).

Please make sure to change your record.



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024 For children in year 3 or older

ENROLMENT IS CLOSING SOON!

If you wish to enroll your child in this program in preparation to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in 2024, please complete the enrolment forms and return to the Parish Office by Tuesday, 30th April 2024.

Information Evening Wednesday, 1st May 2024 - 6pm St Ita's Church Dutton Park

Please download the forms from our websites:

www.duttonparkcatholic.org.au www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au

JOB VACANCY: Parish Secretary

Dutton Park Parish & St Mary's Catholic Parish invite applications for the part-time position of Parish Secretary (ideally Monday to Friday, but open to flexibility).

For more information and how to apply visit: https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/careers/?jajob=874147

The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for workers to maintain a safe and healthy environment for children. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct working with children checks and background refer-encing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children and young people (0 - 18 years) and/or vulnerable adults. The organisation is fully committed to child safety and has a 0 tolerance to abuse of children or vulnerable adults.

Your help is needed!

Getting involved with the **St Vincent de** Paul Society Queensland (SVdP OLD) as a volunteer is not just rewarding and fulfilling, but also enjoyable!



Volunteers not only have the chance to create positive change in their communities and help those in need but also acquire valuable skills and experience that can be beneficial for them in their personal and professional lives.

We are currently looking for volunteers to work in our retail stores on both the Northside and Southside. Volunteers are required to work a minimum of 4 hours per shift, once a week, for at least 3 months, in one of our stores.

If you are interested, please feel free to reach out to • Louise Brownfield (0439356871) for Northside stores or

• Elisa Govi (0457878969) for Southside stores

Alternatively go to your nearest store and have a chat with the Store Manager.



St Mary's Catholic Parish and Dutton Park Catholic Parish have zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and are committed to safeguarding everyone involved in their activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.



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