

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.

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 4th August 2024 - Year B

Becoming a new creation in Christ is one of the central themes of the Christian faith. It signifies a profound transformation that occurs when a person accepts Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. As we read in today's second reading from Ephesians 4:22-24, this transformation involves putting off our old self, and being renewed in the spirit of our minds. Here's how we Christians can become new creations in Christ:

1. Recognising the Need for Change: The journey to becoming a new creation begins with recognising that we need change. The Bible teaches that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). This sin separates us from God and leaves us in need of His redemption. Therefore, we must reflect on our lives and acknowledge areas where we have fallen short and recognise our need for God's grace and for-giveness.

2. Accepting Jesus Christ: The fundamental moment in becoming a new creation is accepting Jesus Christ as our Saviour. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross paid the price for our sins, and through His resurrection, we are offered new life. By placing our faith in Him, we are reconciled with God. If we haven't already, we should take the step of faith to accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour, confess our sins, and invite Him into our hearts.

3. Receiving the Holy Spirit: Upon accepting Christ, we receive the Holy Spirit, who dwells within us and begins the work of transformation. The Holy Spirit renews our minds, convicts us of sin, and empowers us to live according to God's will. Therefore, we should cultivate a relationship with the Holy Spirit through prayer, asking for His guidance, conviction, and empowerment in our daily lives.

4. Renewing the Mind: Transformation into a new creation involves the renewal of our minds. This means changing our thought patterns and aligning them with God's truth. Romans 12:2 encourages us not to conform to this world but to be transformed by the renewal of our minds. Therefore, we should engage regularly with Scripture, allowing God's Word to reshape our thinking and attitudes.

5. Putting Off the Old Self and Putting On the New Self: Ephesians 4:22-24 instructs us to put off our old self, which is corrupted by deceitful desires. This involves turning away from sinful behaviours and habits that characterised our lives before Christ. As we put off the old self, we are called to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. This means embracing a new way of living that reflects God's character and values.

6. Living Out the New Creation: Becoming a new creation is not a one-time event but a lifelong journey of growth and transformation. It involves daily choosing to follow Christ and allowing His Spirit to guide and transform us.

Fr Ravi

Welcome to New Parishioners

We welcome any new Parishioners among us. Take the time to meet with our priests and get connected to the broader community.

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 Parish Deacon: Deacon Adam Walk

 Pastoral Coordinator: Sr. Salvation Bunao SFI

 Parish Secretary: Stephanie Rogers

Safeguarding Officers:

• St Mary's Church : Chris Bolger (0407 480 205)

- St Francis of Assisi: Liam Cunnane (0477 306 166)
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First reading: Exodus 16:2-4,12-15

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our heart's content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them in this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your heart's content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.""

And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That,' said Moses to them, 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord gave them bread form heaven.

The things we have heard and understood, the things our father have told us, We will tell to the next generation: the glories of the Lord and his might. **R**/

He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven. **R/**

Mere men ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food. He brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won. **R**/

Second reading: Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 6:24-35

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat. Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: *He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'*

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly,

it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.'

Jesus answered: 'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord says: I am the bread of life. A man who comes to me will not go away hungry, and no one who believes in me will thirst.

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THIS WEEK'S Psalm Responses

Monday 5th: Ordinary Time 18 Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Tuesday 6th: The Transfiguration of the Lord *The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.*

Wednesday 7th: Ordinary Time 18 The Lord will guard us, like a shepherd guards his flock.

Thursday 8th: St Mary of the Cross *My soul clings to you, your right hand hold me fast.*

Friday 9th: Ordinary Time 18 It is it who deal death and give life.

Saturday 20th: St Lawrence Happy the merciful who give to those in need.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1st reading: Exodus 16:2-4,12-152nd reading: Ephesians 4:17, 20-24Gospel: John 6:24-35

PARISH EXCURSION TO TOOWOOMBA

St Francis Table is organising a bus to visit the Toowoomba Festival of Flowers on the 14th of September. Cost will be \$15, including lunch. Seats are limited, please RSVP your interest by the <u>16th of August.</u> Scan the QR Code to rsvp.



ST MARY'S CHURCH FEAST DAY The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Mass & Celebration Sunday, 11 August - 9 am You are invited to join us for Mass and a celebration afterwards. Please bring a plate of food to share and join together in celebrating St Mary's Feast Day.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you or anyone you know, is interested in becoming Catholic, we're inviting you to register your interest for the RCIA Program. **Sessions will begin on the 14th September.**

BIBLE REFLECTIONS

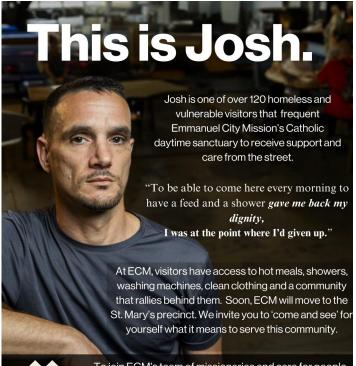
Delve into the richness of God's Word. This week we will be reflecting on Genesis 10 and 11. If you have a Bible, bring it along.

21st August 6pm at St Francis' Hall RSVP via the Parish Office



Support St Francis' Table through Containers for change

If you wish to support St Francis' Table Ministry through the **Containers For Change**, please use this account number **C11452798** when you depositing your containers. Your support is greatly appreciated.



To join ECM's team of missionaries and care for people like Josh, we'd love to hear from you: contact@ecm.org.au

EMMANUELCITYMISSION.COM



St Francis Table

The St Francis Table Ministry has offered supported to the elderly and families in need for over 8 years. This ministry would not be what it is without the dedication of our incredible volunteers who help cook and deliver meals, and connect with those who come. This week, we had the chance to welcome 6 new volunteers to the St Francis Table team.

ST MARY'S CHURCH RESTORATION FUND

Many thanks to all who have supported the restoration of St Mary's Church over past years. There is still an opportunity to sponsor a Perpetual Pew. This provides a way to not only remember your loved ones but also assists with the funding of our restoration projects.

To sponsor a pew; \$1,000 for short pews. Engraved in Perpetuity "In Memory of" or "In Honour of".

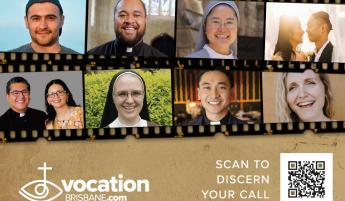
Please contact the Parish Office to organise this. *Note: donations are not tax deductible*

COMMUNITY PICNIC IN THE PARK

SAVE THE DATE! Our next picnic in the park is on Sunday the 18th of August. When: Sunday 18th August 10:30am Where: Orleigh Park, West End



Called by Name National Vocation Awareness Week 4-11 August 2024



National Vocation Awareness Week is a crucial opportunity to promote the importance of vocations and discernment in the Church, allowing people to explore their calling, and encourage their next step in following the call of God. How will you respond to God's call this week? How will you encourage others in their call?



To make an anonymous report call 1300 304 550. For more information visit <u>brisbanecatholic.org.au/s afeguarding</u>