OF THE CAngels PARISH **Chermside West Wavell Heights** 

OUR Lady

St Gerard Majella 146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermside West

St Paschal Baylon 30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights

#### PARISH PRIEST FR John Echewodo

Email: pp.chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au Mob: 0406 712 621 (only urgent or after hours calls)

#### PARISH ADMINISTRATION: Phone: 07 3359 0239 Mrs Kerstin Knott (Parish Secretary)

Email: chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au

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sacramental.chermside@bne.catholic.net.au

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS: Compliance Officer : Carmela Knauth Email: lsr.chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au

WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER:

Mrs Isabelle Watt Email: lsr.chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Ms Abbey Coman Email: yc.chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au PARISH OFFICE 146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermside West 4032 (07) 3359 0239 P· Monday-Friday 9am to 5pm. Office Hours: Mail: PO Box 859, Aspley Qld 4034

Email: chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au Website: www.olaparishchermside.org.au

#### PARISH SCHOOL **Our Lady of the Angels Primary School**

30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights Q 4012 P: 07 3359 9198 Leadership Team: Principal: Mr Matthew Beacroft Mr Sam O'Leary APA: **APRE:** Mrs Kirsten Karey PLL: Mrs Liz O'Brien pwavellheights@bne.catholic.edu.au Email:

#### MASS TIMES 06 Feb - 12 Feb 2023

St Gerard Majella - 146 Maundrell Tce, Chermside West					
TUE:	8:30am	FRI:	8:30am		
SAT:	4:30pm				
SUN:	8:00am & !	5:30pm			
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St Paschal Baylon - 30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights 9.00 am 6:00pm

#### **RECONCILIATION IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** Contact the Parish Office to book

#### STOPline Service 1300 304 550

STOPline receives information about suspected abuse, harm and other serious misconduct by Archdiocesan workers (including priests, religious, employees and volunteers). Information can be shared anonymously. AOB@stopline.com.au www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

SUNDAY 5th February 2023 Word of God Sunday

# HOMILY by Richard Leonard

Doctors and dietitians would have some difficulty with the first part of today's Gospel. Jesus does not seem to know that salt is bad for hypertension and cholesterol! Just as health professionals are encouraging us to be careful in using salt, Jesus is telling us to keep it up. Salt in Jesus' day, and for centuries before and after, was the primary preserving agent for food. That day-to-day usage gives us a clue as to the challenge being laid before us.

We are told that if salt has lost its taste it's good for nothing. So the challenge is to keep it fresh so it can keep doing its job. Jesus suggests that, in the same way, we have to be on guard to make sure that our faith remains fresh so it's able to do its job as well.

The fifth and sixth chapters of Matthew's Gospel are devoted to describing the elements of Christian faith. At the start of the fifth chapter we have the Beatitudes that tell us that the presence of God can be discovered in all of life's situations. It reminds us that as Christians we can find God wherever we want to. The rest of these two chapters go on to give us specific directions about the dangers and aides to faith.

Jesus tells us that a hollow attachment to the letter of the law, unbridled anger, an inability to forgive, being unfaithful in marriage, seeking revenge on our enemies, not being true to our word and being enslaved by money are all examples of bad faith. Think for a moment of people you know who are trapped by any of these vicious forces. It's sad to see the energy it takes them to remain angry, greedy, legalistic, fraudulent and unforgiving.

More positively Jesus tells us in these chapters that prayer, being generous to the poor, being discerning about whom we spend time with and what we see and hear, and going without things we often consider essential are helpful to living a faith-filled life. Think for a moment of people you know who live lives like this. Their detachment, sense of generosity and ease with others stands out in our stress-ridden world.

My professor of liturgy used to say 'Good liturgy enlivens faith and bad liturgy deadens it.' This is the same message Jesus gives us today about faith in general. It's crazy for us to keep spending time with people and doing things that deaden our faith. We know the impact of these people or activities by the bad taste they leave in our mouths. After an encounter with them or it we usually tell ourselves that we must not go back for more, but the bad spirit seduces us into repeating the entire episode with frightening frequency. St Ignatius Loyola tells us that in these situations we have to deal with the bad spirit quickly and consistently and learn a new pattern of behaviour that will lead us away from darkness into the light.

The job of faith is to enable us to live out and build Christ's reign of justice and love in this world as a foretaste of what awaits us in heaven. May this Eucharist enable us to seek out the people and places that will see the saltiness of our faith remain fresh and interesting so that we will have every chance of preserving our faith in the dryer times, and of our faith in Jesus preserving us in the face of the trials and tests that come © Richard Leonard SJ our way.

# Welcome Gr John Echewodo

This weekend we welcome Fr. John Echewodo to Our Lady of the Angels Parish. Fr. John's 1st Mass will be the 5:30pm Mass this Sunday afternoon, and then we have a long list of items to discuss when he comes to the Office on Monday.

We are very much looking forward to having Fr. John on board so we can start moving forward again.



Please remember to wear your name badge if you have one so Fr. can get to know everyone more easily.

Our Lady of the Angels Parish has been truly blessed with the many wonderful priests that we have had looking after us over the past few years, and I'm sure Fr. John will be no exception.

ST JAMES COLLEGE, SPRING HILL is a progressive multicultural Catholic Coeducational Secondary College for Years 5 - 12 in the Edmund Rice tradition. The college reintroduced Year 5 and Year 6 in 2023 and welcomes students from all backgrounds and abilities so they can flourish in their learning and realise their potential.

#### Bursaries available.

ENROLMENT INFORMATION EVENING on Monday, 6 February from 6.00pm. ENQUIRIES to Maria Young, Enrolments Officer, <u>MYoung@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au</u>, 3230 8600. Visit <u>www.jta.link/SJC</u>.

# **HELP NEEDED**

We have a couple of older parishioners who are no longer able to drive but would still love to able to attend Mass if they can get a lift.

- There is a lady who lives in Sylvan St, Nundah who usually attends the 9:30am Mass at St Paschals
- There is a gentleman who lives in Bigi St, West Chermside who usually attend the 8:00am Mass at St Gerards

Please contact the Parish Office if you are able to be of assistance to either of these parishioners. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

## **YOUTH GROUP**

Term 1 Dates for Youth Group Meetings are as follows:

Friday 24 Feb St Gerards Friday 10 Mar St Gerard's Friday 24 Mar St Gerard's Friday 30 Mar St Gerard's

#### Our Lady of the Angels' Parish

warmly welcomes new members through Baptism:

The 1st Baptism for 2023 will be on Saturday 11 February at St. Paschal's

Baptisms are celebrated on Saturday mornings at 10:00am alternately at St Gerards' and St Paschals'.

Bookings to be arranged in person at the Parish Office Monday - Friday between 9am - 5pm. Please check the Parish website for documentation required when making a booking.

#### Pope asks parishes to be open communities

2 February 2023 - Cath News

In his prayer intention video for February, Pope Francis asks parishes to truly be communities – places of listening and welcome whose doors are always open to all, no one excluded. Source: *Vatican News*.

In the video, which begins with an image of the outside of a beautiful but empty parish church, followed by that of the same church full of people, Pope Francis notes that every parish should put a sign on their door saying, "free admission".

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer network explained that with these words Pope Francis wants to remind people there are no special requirements for entering, because, as he says, "parishes are not a club for the few, which give a certain kind of social belonging". Indeed, in Pope Francis' vision, parishes are "close-knit communities, without bureaucracy, people-centred — a place where the gift of the sacraments can be found."

This idea is conveyed by the images of the video coming from parishes around the world, which show get-togethers, talks, the distribution of aid to those most in need, visits to the elderly and the sick, pageants, and internal or external events.

Pope Francis insists that parishes continue along the path of being a centre of welcome and listening: "They have to become once again schools of service and generosity, with their doors always open to those who are excluded. And to those included. To all." Parishes can succeed, the Pope says, by being "daring": rethinking "the style of our parochial communities" and "placing communion – communion of people, ecclesial communion – at the centre."

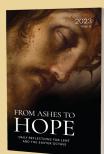
FULL STORY<u>Pope's February prayer intention: For parishes to be open</u> <u>communities</u> (*Vatican News*)

## PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Planned Giving envelopes for 2023 are now available, they can be collected from the entry at both St. Paschals and St. Gerards. If you cannot find a box of envelopes with your name on it please contact the Parish Office and we will ensure that you are issued with envelopes asap.

#### EASTER REFLECTION BOOKLET

With Ash Wednesday only a few weeks away we have secured a limited number of the 2023 Easter Reflection Booklet *"From Ashes to Hope".* For each day there is a double page spread with: the date, a Scripture verse; a short reflection; and a short prayer. You can pick up this great book from the Piety Shop for only \$5.00 per copy.



### **STEWARDSHIP**

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." MATTHEW 5:16

The generosity of being a good steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people and it is contagious!Good works encourages more good works.Generosity is a by-product of a grateful lifestyle.The more we recognize God's gifts, the more we want to share them.Good stewards recognize that God is working through them and they don't put themselves above the people they have been called to help.

Accessed on 02.02.2023 https://www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/ bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections

# LAST CHANCE TO GET YOUR 2023 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

We still have a few 2023 Columban Calendars for sale in the Piety Shop at St Gerards. Any calendars not sold by Friday 10 Feb will be returned for credit.

Columban Calendars are \$10.00 ea. so get in quickly before it's too late.

#### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY - St Gerard's**

The Children's Liturgy Group are looking for more volunteers to help with the little ones at Sunday Morning Mass. If you would like to become a member of the team please contact the parish office or Marisa McGarry via email: mcgarry@bigpond.net.au



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#### CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS

A beginning point for discussion of this week's Gospel with children:

Who has ever tasted chocolate that doesn't have sugar in it? What do you think it would taste like?

Jesus tells us we are like flavour in food.

What might that mean?

Who has seen a bright light outside?

How far away can it be seen?

Jesus asks us to be a light for the whole world. How big would that light have to be?

Others can see our light when they see the good things we do. What are some good things that we can do to make our light shine brightly? © Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

#### **REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Salt is a preservative and a flavour agent for food. Salt used to be rare and difficult to mine, but it is found in almost every kitchen today.

Why does Jesus compare us to salt?

Who is an adult that is like salt to the world – someone who makes life more flavourful? How have you learned from this adult?

Because salt is a key ingredient in the many instant, canned and prepared foods they consume, most Australians eat too much salt, and many are at risk of high blood pressure.

Do you know what your blood pressure is? When did you last have it checked?

What are your favourite foods? Are you aware of how much sodium (salt) they contain?

Do you put salt on food before you even taste it?

When it comes to salt, it is possible to have too much of a good thing. If we are like salt, what might be the 'good things' we have too much of?

Light is essential in order for us to see. When the sun goes down, we generally rely on electricity to light up our life. What is the longest your home has ever gone without electricity? How did you cope?

Besides electric lights, what things would you have to do without if your home lost electric power for a week? Why does Jesus compare us to light?

Who has been light for you – who has helped bring you out of the darkness? How have you learned from this person? How did that learning take place? © St Mary's Press



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#### WE PRAY FOR **Recently Deceased:**

Anniversaries: Please pray for all those whose names appear in our Parish Books of Remembrance. .

Sick: Please pray for all those whose names appear in our Parish Books of the Sick.

#### **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

12th February 2023 - 6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

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1st Reading: Sir 15 : 15-20 Psalm: Ps 118 : 1-2, 4 2nd Reading: 1Cor 2: 6-10 Mt 5: 17-37 Gospel:

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS PARISH

1st Coll 2nd Coll TOTAL Weekend Loose 29.01.23 363.00 692.20 1701.85 \$2757.05

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Turrbal Peoples, who have walked this Country in ages past, who walk it now and will walk it in the future. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and acknowledge their profound connection and respect for the land and waterways of this Country. Spirit and Creator God, may you guide us in the traditions of this land as we walk gently and humbly, in kinship with all of creation.



DAILY GOSPEL REFLECTIONS Stay centred in your faith with this daily series of theological reflections on the Gospel of the day. Sign up to receive a one page reflection each week day in your inbox. Sign up here: https:// evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/dailyreflections/

#### **Regular Parish Activities**

What's on This Week: 6 Feb - 12 Feb 2023

Mon 06/02 Christian Meditation St P 5:45pm **Op-Shop OPEN - Monday to Friday** 9:30am to 1:30pm Piety Shop OPEN - Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm



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