

OUR *Lady* OF THE *Angels* PARISH

Chermside West Wavell Heights

St Gerard Majella
146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermside West

St Paschal Baylon
30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights

PARISH PRIEST
FR John Echewodo
Email: echewodoj@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

SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR
Mrs Dianne Trudgian
Email:
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
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PARISH OFFICE
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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
APA: Mr Sam O'Leary
APRE: Mrs Kirsten Karey
PLL: Mrs Liz O'Brien
Email: pwavellheights@bne.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES 13 Feb - 19 Feb 2023
St Gerard Majella - 146 Maundrell Tce, Chermside West
TUE: 8:30am FRI: 8:30am
SAT: 4:30pm
SUN: 8:00am & 5:30pm

St Paschal Baylon - 30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights
WED: 8:45am THU: 9.00 am
SAT: 6:00pm SUN: 9:30am

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 12th February 2023
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

An Introduction to Fr. John Echewodo

John Ikechukwu Echewodo is my name. I am Nigerian by birth, an Australian by naturalisation and a Brisbane Priest by virtue of Priestly ordination. I was born on 31st October 1975. I am blessed with five brothers, an older sister and a twin Sister. My Parents, Cletus and Felicia, have both passed on. My dad, Mr. Cletus Echewodo Ajah, died in 2006 and my Mum, Mrs. Felicia Uloji, in 2009.



My journey to the priesthood started in Nigeria and with it came many years of seminary training, academic studies and qualifications. As part of my formal studies, I obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from Imo State University, Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria and another degree also in Philosophy from Seat of Wisdom Major Seminary, Owerri, which is an affiliate Institute of the Pontifical Urban University, Rome.

When I arrived in Australia in 2007, I started and completed a Bachelor of Arts in Theology from the Brisbane College of Theology and later a Masters of Arts in Theology from the Australian Catholic University. I also hold a Graduate Certificate in Management of Not-For-Profit Organisations which I obtained through Australian Catholic University in 2019. I was ordained to the presbyterate on 8th December, 2010, at the Cathedral of Saint Stephen, Brisbane, on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God and our Mother.

After my ordination, I was appointed to Surfers Paradise Parish, where I spent two and half years as an Associate Pastor. My time there was filled with wonderful and memorable experiences. Next came Saint Mary's, Beaudesert, where I found a home among the country people for over 3 years. At the completion of my time at Beaudesert, I was appointed as Parish Priest of Saint Mary's, Coomera where my pastoral ministry was further deepened and enriched. While the seminary may, perhaps, be regarded as the nursery grounds for priestly training and formation, it is my view that is in the Parish among the People of God that the heart and soul of the pastor is prepared for pastoral ministry. My time at Coomera shaped and formed me to a large extent into the pastor I think I am becoming, and I have no doubt that my ongoing formation and training will continue as I pitch my tent amongst you here on the north side of Brisbane.

As I was packing my gear for the big move to Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Chermside West and Wavell Heights, I came across some of my old files which contained stories of my earliest days in Australia. One of these was in the Courier Mail entitled: "Church turns to Africa for priests of future." The story evoked deep of feelings of nostalgia for my earliest days in Australia and the warm welcome and hospitality I received from parishioners of Saint Paschal's, Wavell Heights. Interestingly in 2007 when I arrived in Australia, I lived in the house where I am living now, and Saint Paschal's was my first Parish in Australia. Thus, there is a sense of inner peace and comfort in coming to Our Lady of the Angels as Parish Priest. The inner peace I feel stems from knowing that I am not coming as a total stranger but as one of you. My appointment is like a home-coming as I am returning to my roots, my first home in Australia.

Continued on p2.....

I have read the reports which came out of the parish consultation facilitated by some members of the College of Consultors before my appointment. From the reports, there are noticeable and understandable pains and sadness over the sudden and unexpected departure of Fr Paul Chackanikunnel CMI from the Parish.

This is a testament of your love for Fr Paul. With his departure, Mons John Grace maintained the administrative and pastoral life of the Parish with the help of Very Rev Fr Dan Ryan. We are grateful to these pastors for their dedicated ministry.

As your Parish Priest, I come to you not only as one of you, but also as your spiritual leader, a steward of your temporal goods, a son, a brother, a friend and your servant-leader. The first time I came to the Parish office, I was warmly welcomed by Kerstin, Dianne and Margaret. I also received an overwhelming welcome on the night of the casual meeting with some members of the parish. I cannot say with any sense of certainty what the future holds for us; however, I can say with great conviction, that God holds our future. Faith is not knowing what holds the future, but knowing **Who** holds the future, and for us, it is always God. With your help and cooperation and, of course, by the grace of God, I will do my best to serve you as together we will continue the good works God has accomplished through the ministry of Fr. Gerard, Fr Paul and Mons John Grace and those who preceded them.

I am quite humbled by the honour and the privilege, Archbishop Mark Coleridge and the College of Consultors, have given me to lead and serve you, as your Parish Priest. I am grateful. May the Blessed Virgin Mary under whose patronage this parish thrives always accompany us on our journey of faith. May her loving and maternal hands and intercessions always lead me as I serve you as your Priest and Pastor.

God bless you all,

Fr John Ikechukwu Echewodo.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Jesus continues to instruct the disciples in the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven. The readings for today focus our attention on the nature of true wisdom. It is this true wisdom which prompts us to choose the right course of action. It is true wisdom that directs us in our interpretation of the law.

The longer we live, the more we realise that life experiences open up for us a series of choices. With these choices we chart the path that we will take. Circumstances might be thrust on us, but we can still make choices about how we will deal with them. Obedient people do what they are told; wise people choose what good they will do. True wisdom calls us to choose life and whatever enhances life. If we are truly wise, we will come to realise that what was acceptable and life-enhancing in one situation may not be appropriate in another. Life is fluid, and our thinking and acting must be flexible enough to adapt when necessary.

True wisdom, which comes to us through the Spirit, will enrich us with insight into life in ways we never thought possible. We will realise where and how we fit into the vast and interrelated ecosystems of the universe, and we will be overawed with the majesty and intricacy of its workings. We will understand once and for all that the value of anything is determined by its capacity to enrich life, and we will commit ourselves to and cherish every manifestation of that life.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

Our Lady of the Angels' Parish

warmly welcomes new members through Baptism:

Theo Child & Paige Ramscar

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.

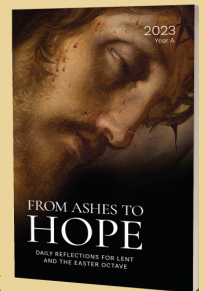
Please check the Parish website for documentation required when making a booking.

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.



HELP NEEDED

We have a couple of older parishioners who are no longer able to drive but would still love to be 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 Chermiside 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.

YOUTH GROUP

Abbey, our Youth Group Co-Ordinator along with 14 of our Youth Group members attended the Ignite Summer Camp in January. Everyone had a great time and the kids are all looking forward to catching up at Youth Group again soon.



STEWARDSHIP

"For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." MATTHEW 5:20

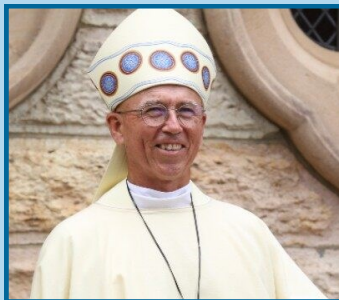
The Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear – it's the love that you have in your heart, for God and others, that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules to the letter and not out of love, does not necessarily put you on the path to heaven. Attending Sunday Mass and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of being a modern day Pharisee.

Accessed on 08.02.2023 <https://www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections>

BISHOP TIM IS COMING FOR A VISIT

Bishop Tim Norton SVD will be making an official visit to Our Lady of the Angels Parish from the 10th to 12th of March. While in the parish Bishop Tim will visit OLA Primary School, meet with members of the various councils and teams in the community and try to meet as many of the parishioners as possible.

Very importantly Bishop Tim will preside at the Installation Mass to officially install Fr John as our Parish Priest. We very much look forward to Bishop Tim's visit.



ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

Ash Wednesday falls on Wednesday 22 February
Morning Mass will be at 8:45am at St Paschals
Evening Mass will be at 7:00pm at St Gerards



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CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS

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

Have you ever felt angry with someone?

Is it easy to make peace after you have had an argument or a fight?

Do you feel happy or sad after an argument? Do you feel better after you make peace?

Jesus tells us to make peace with other people before we offer gifts to God.

This can be difficult but God will help us.

Praying for someone who has hurt us is a good step to take in making peace with them.

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REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

This Gospel reading urges us not to use abusive language and not to remain angry with our brothers and sisters.

- Do you have any brothers or sisters? If so, how do you get along? Do you ever exchange angry words? How do you reconcile?
- How about your parents or guardians – how do you get along with them? What happens after angry words?
- How about your friends – do you ever exchange angry words with them? How do you reconcile?
- Are your tolerance level and your apology style with your friends different from those with your brothers and sisters or with your parents or guardians? If so, how do they differ?

A lot of rage and violence are expressed in songs on the radio and in movies and TV shows. Many teenagers prefer to claim that watching violent shows or listening to violent songs has no connection to the violence in our world, but many others know better.

- What parallel do you see between the amount of violence and rage in the media and the amount of violence in the real world? What is the connection?
- What do you know of 'copycat crimes' that have occurred because someone is imitating an act seen on television, in the movies or in the news?
- How is Jesus' warning to avoid not only murder but even anger related to the level of violence in today's world? © St Mary's Press

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - St Gerard's 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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WE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Sam Giacomantonio, Dorothy (Dot) Abrahams, Thomas Wright

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

19th February 2023 - 7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

1st Reading: Lv. 19 : 1-2, 17-18

Psalm: Ps 102 : 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13

2nd Reading: 1Cor 3: 16-23

Gospel: Mt 5: 38-48

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS PARISH

Weekend	1st Coll	2nd Coll	Loose	TOTAL	
05.02.23	438.50	953.50	2023.05	\$3415.05	
Jan	Credit Card	D/Dep	D/Deb	Tap n Go	Giving App
	\$4997.00	\$315.00	\$5144.67	\$1330.00	\$458.93

All donations are greatly appreciated

Regular Parish Activities

1st Friday: Adoration after 8:30am Mass St Gerards

2nd Friday: Anointing Mass 8:30am St Gerards

Rosary : before Friday 8:30 Mass (but not during Lent)
: after Friday 8:30am Mass

What's on This Week: 13 Feb - 19 Feb 2023

Mon 13/02 Christian Meditation St P 5:45pm

Wed 15/02 OLA School Mass St P 8:45am

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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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/daily-reflections/>



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