

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
(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
Email: yc.chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH OFFICE
146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermside West 4032
P: (07) 3359 0239
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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
APA: Mr Sam O'Leary
APRE: Mrs Kirsten Karey
PLL: Mrs Liz O'Brien
Email: pwavellheights@bne.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES 20 Feb - 26 Feb 2023
St Gerard Majella - 146 Maundrell Tce, Chermside West
TUE: 8:30am WED 7:00pm 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

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SUNDAY 19th February 2023

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Homily by Fr. John Echewodo

This weekend we continue to reflect on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. It appears that Jesus was quite determined to expand and perfect the Mosaic Law. There is no doubt that He continues to broaden human interpretation and application of that Law. In the gospel this weekend, Jesus said to His first disciples and to us, His new disciples: 'you have heard how it was said 'eye for eye and tooth for tooth,' but I say this to you: offer the wicked person no resistance....' Again, you have heard how it was said: 'you must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...' Jesus began His teaching by citing one of the oldest laws in ancient Israel, the Lex talionis, the law of 'tit for tat.'



In the Old Testament, for example in Exodus 21:23-25, the Lex talionis states that: if a man had a fight with a woman and the woman died, the man should be executed. If the woman survived the fight but suffered an injured eye, the man's eye must be injured too; if her tooth was knocked out, the man's tooth must be knocked out as well. Give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.' This law applied to anyone and everyone and was not limited to disputes between a man and woman. The law of 'tit for tat' can appear savage unless it is viewed from its historical setting. Rather than being savage, it actually prevented people from vindictiveness. In ancient Israel, before the advent of the law of 'tit for tat,' vendetta was characteristic of tribal society. People took laws into their own hands, and inflicted pain and injuries randomly, even on innocent people. But although the law of 'tit for tat' was introduced to limit vengeance, Jesus feels that it is still incongruent with the Christian message of forgiveness and mercy.

The Mosaic Law as understood and interpreted by the Pharisees and the Scribes was narrow and restricted. While the Mosaic Law insisted that the law of mutuality should regulate human love, Jesus opposes anything that limits the human capacity to love. Jesus presents us with new and radical ways of living and looking at reality which lay the foundation for genuine Christian living.

I have always thought that to be Christians in the genuine and true sense of the word, we essentially need to be walking through life with our heads down - as though we continually need to turn the ideals of the world upside down. As Christians, we are in the world but not of the world - we are both light of the world and salt of the earth. If our light is to shine and we are to continue to add beauty and flavour to the lives of those we encounter, we must do as Christ directs. "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you poorly, give to all who ask, do to others as you would have them do to you, stop judging or condemning, forgive.' These directions are challenging. It is not easy to show love unconditionally, especially towards people we don't like. Even when we try to love our enemies, our efforts can be overlaid with fear and doubt.

Christ appears to have given us one of His most difficult teachings on the practical ways and means of living out our faith and enriching our humanity. Our world lacks compassion, and nastiness and wickedness abound. We, as Christians, need to be different if we are going to make a difference. We need to swim against the tide.

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continued from p1.

Many workplaces and families and even our ecclesial gatherings will cease to be spiteful if we, as Christians, set no boundaries on our love. The grace of baptism instils in us an inherent capacity to be more and do more. We can forgive - if we make honest efforts not to retaliate when we are hurt. We can be agents of mercy – if, in the midst of pain and injury, we choose not to seek revenge. Let us not limit the grace of God in us - for whenever we limit the grace of God, we limit what God can do in us and through us.

*God bless you all.
Fr. John*

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group will be starting up again on Friday 24th February at St Gerards, 6-8pm . If you would like to join the group you can contact Abbey Coman the Youth Group Co-Ordinator via email : yc.chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au

International Women's Day

Catholic Mission and the Archdiocese of Brisbane invite you to celebrate the difference women are making in diverse areas of mission.

Date: Wednesday 8th Mar 2023
Time: 10.00 am – 11.00am
(9.45am for a 10.00am start)
Venue: Francis Rush Centre,
277 Elizabeth St, Brisbane

GUEST SPEAKER
Josephine Cullen



International Women's Day  catholic mission  #EmbraceEquity

Please RSVP by Monday 27th Feb 2023 by emailing Brisbane.admin@catholicmission.org.au

Position Vacant – Parish Secretary (Chermside Parish)

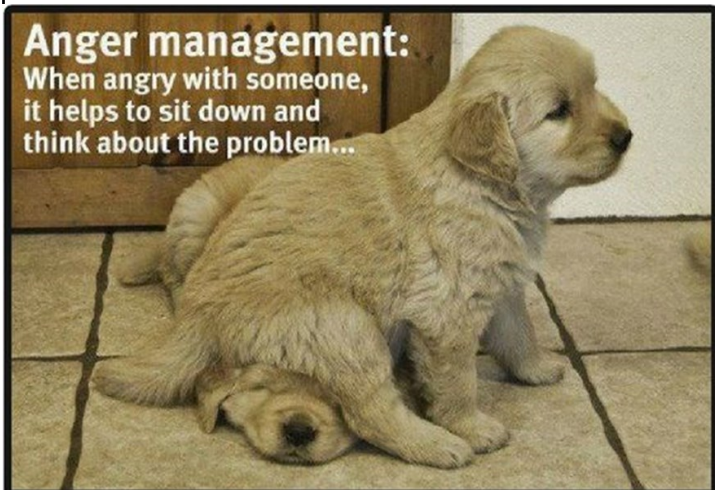
Applications are open for the above position at the Parish. The position is flexible in that we could accommodate a part time or casual applicant (ideally 9am to 3pm).

For additional information, please contact the parish on 3359 0239.

To apply, please use this link - <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/careers/?ja-job=609284>

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 referencing 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.

Anger management:
When angry with someone,
it helps to sit down and
think about the problem...



Our Lady of the Angels' Parish

warmly welcomes new members through Baptism:

*Aurora Duffy, Iyla Ying,
Kai Natividad, Audrey Roberts*

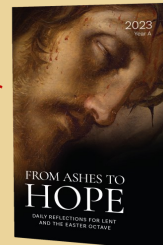
Baptisms are celebrated on Saturday mornings at 10:00am alternately at St Gerards' and St Paschals'.

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.

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.



Attention – Ladies of the Parish

Once again it's that time of the year which is about to begin – LENT. You are invited to set aside a few hours to reflect on what is at the heart of our Lenten journey through the stories of Jesus. The day will be led by Sr Carmel Dwan RSM.

Date: Wednesday 22nd March

Venue: Meeting Room at St. Gerard's Church

Time: 9.30 am – 3pm

Cost: \$20 (but that can be negotiated for those who maybe struggling with the current cost of living)

RSVP: by Friday 17th March to Parish Office



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"Farewell Kerstin, and A Big Thank You"

Kerstin and Jeff are long-term parishioners and have always been very involved in the social, fund-raising and other activities of the Parish life. Kerstin answered the call to assist in the Parish office on a part-time basis and became full-time when Fr Paul arrived. Since then, she has been the face of the Parish, welcoming all on the phone or in person, working long and often extended hours and sharing Christian hospitality with everyone. We thank you so much, Kerstin. You will be greatly missed. We wish you every blessing in your 'retirement'. and will welcome you back with open arms whenever you come to visit.

We have a parishioner who lives in Bateman St, Geebung who requires a lift to 4:30pm Saturday Mass, if there is anyone in the Parish who is able to assist please contact the office on 07 3359 0239.

BISHOP TIM TO PRESIDE AT INSTALLATION MASS FOR FR JOHN - SUNDAY, 12 March 2023.

Notice of Mass Schedule Changes

As mentioned at Masses last weekend and in our Newsletter, Bishop Tim will preside at the Installation Mass for Fr John on 12 March as part of his visit to Our Lady of the Angels Parish from 10 to 12 March.

To focus Our Lady of the Angels attention on this significant event in our parish life, and to encourage all parishioners to gather, the Installation Mass will be the only Mass celebrated in the Parish on Sunday 12 March. The Saturday Vigil Masses at 4:30pm and 6:00pm will proceed as normal, however there will be no 8am or 5:30pm Mass at St Gerard's on 12 March. The Installation Mass will be held at St Paschal's at 9.30am - Fr John's first Australian home - after which we are all welcome to gather as a community for morning tea.

Fr John is seeking our support, understanding and acceptance of this change for Mass times on 12 March. Further information will be provided at Masses to ensure all parishioners are aware of this "one off" change and the unique opportunity the Installation Mass provides for us to gather together as Our Lady of the Angels Parish Community.

Our Lady of the Angels, Leadership Team.

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

During Lent Christians really intentionally prepare for the celebration of Easter, and we do this in three ways:

1. We pray and spend time with God
2. We make room for God by fasting from things that usually fill our time or our bellies
3. We reach out through alms-giving which puts our love for others into action

It doesn't matter how old you are, Lent is a time that even our youngest disciples can embrace! So, pick up your 2023 Lenten Calendar from the entry of the church, it has lots of great ideas on how you can engage the young ones in Lent.

CHILDRENS LITURGY—St Gerards

Children's Liturgy will re-commence at St Gerards at the 8:00am Mass on Sunday 5th of March. So parents, grandparents bring the little ones along to begin their journey to knowing God better.

CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS

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

If someone is unkind to you, or takes something that is yours, how do you respond?

Jesus asks us to be kind to the person who is unkind to us. Is that easy or hard?

Jesus tells us that it is easy to love those who love us, but he asks us to love our enemies as well.

What would the world be like if everyone loved their enemies? © Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

The old law about taking 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth' was never meant to be a justification for excessive violence. It started out as a law *limiting* violence – take *no more than* a tooth for a tooth – because people were ready and willing to kill someone over a broken tooth. Jesus put a stop to that. To return violence for violence only continues its cycle, and it justifies violence instead of non-violence when settling conflicts.

- Why is the command 'Love your enemies' hard to follow?
- Why is our culture so familiar with methods of violence, yet so ignorant of methods of non-violent conflict resolution?
- What do you think might end the cycle of violence?
- If someone is angry and wishes to do physical harm to you, what are your nonviolent options?
- When it comes to choosing between violent and nonviolent methods, does gender make any difference? If so, why? If not, why not?

St Mary's Press

STEWARDSHIP

"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..." MATTHEW 5:44

Love your enemies, easier said than done. But, remember, the foundation of stewardship is prayer. When we are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it turns our attention away from "me" and moves it towards God and others. It changes my heart and actions, allowing for a little more empathy for "my enemy." When we pray for others, even our enemies, it may soften their hearts as well.

Accessed on 13.02.2023 <https://www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections>

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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

26th February 2023 - 1st SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

1st Reading: Gen 2 : 7-9, 3: 1-7

Psalm: Ps 50: 3-6, 12-14, 17.

2nd Reading: Rom 5: 12-19

Gospel: Mt 4: 1-4

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS PARISH

Weekend	1st Coll	2nd Coll	Loose	TOTAL
05.02.23	296.30	640.00	1972.50	\$2908.80

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: 20 Feb - 26 Feb 2023

Mon 20/02 Christian Meditation St P 5:45pm

Wed 22/02 Ash Wed Mass St P 8:45am

Wed 22/02 Ash Wed Mass St G 7:00pm

Thur 23/02 Thursday Ladies Group St G 10:00am

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Piety Shop OPEN - Monday to Friday

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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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