Chermside West Wavell Heights

St Gerard Majella

146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermside West

St Paschal Baylon
30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights

SUNDAY 20th August 2023 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Visitors,

"God couldn't be everywhere, so God had to make mothers," is a saying that is so ad rem when we reflect on the indispensability of a mother's love, as portrayed in the gospel of this weekend. The mother who approached Jesus Christ in the gospel may have belonged to the old Canaanite stock, which meant that she was an ancestral enemy of the Jews, and a heathen; however, the love she had for her afflicted daughter is a reflection of God's unconditional love for us His children. When she first approached Christ, it appeared she did not get much attention. This gospel pericope is quite unique given the fact that it describes the only occasion when Christ was outside Palestinian and Jewish territory. And the reason is simply because the good news must be preached to everyone and to the ends of the earth. When the woman first approached Christ, the disciples of Christ felt embarrassed that He seemed to have ignored a woman who needed help for her afflicted daughter. "Give her what she wants, because she is shouting after us," they said to Christ. We need to understand that the reaction of the disciples of Christ was far from being an expression of compassion. In fact, it was the reverse. They found the woman a nuisance, and they couldn't wait to get rid of her. As Christians in our journey of faith, when we engage in any act of charity and love, or when we grant a request to remove someone whom we might consider a nuisance, what we have done cannot be counted as a response to Christian charity. Our acts of charity and love must be genuine and must spring from the heart, and genuine willingness to help. Christ couldn't have done anything for this Canaanite woman unless He awakened in her heart a true and authentic faith.

"It is not fair to take children's food and throw it to the dogs," was the reply of Christ. We all know that to call a human being a dog regardless of one's status, is a contemptuous insult. But oftentimes, it is not what is said that causes pain and constitutes insult but how something is said. The tone and the facial appearance of the one speaking makes all the difference. Amongst family members, close friends and colleagues, words like 'rascal, idiot, bastard or a villain' are sometimes used with a smile and tone which takes all the sting out of it and which fills what is said with affection. We are certain that the smile on Christ's face and the feelings of compassion in the heart of Christ must have wiped away all the words of insults and rejection. Christ spoke with the woman with a smile. It was obvious that Christ's eyes lit up with joy at the woman's indomitable faith, and afterwards He granted the healing she desperately wanted for her afflicted daughter.

There is no gift or feeling in the world more beautiful than a mother's unconditional love and care for her children. It is the greatest gift life can offer. But sadly, in old age, some mothers don't receive love which is commensurate with the love they have lavished on their children. In the whole of my priesthood, the most inexplicable pastoral experience I have

PARISH PRIEST

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Ms Abbey Coman

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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

St Gerard Majella - 146 Maundrell Tce, Chermside West

Mon: 9.00am FRI: 9.00am

Sat 4:30pm **Sun:** 8:00am & 5:30pm

St Paschal Baylon - 30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights

Wed: 8.45am (During School Term)

Thu: 9.00am **Sat:** 6:00pm **Sun:** 9:30am

RECONCILIATION is available after Parish Mass
Please approach Fr John

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

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had was to observe the pitiable and dejected state of a woman who died in a nursing home without setting her eyes on her only son in 30 years. How an only child can turn his back against his mum is beyond comprehension. There are some mothers who are dumped like rubbish in nursing homes without phone calls, emails or even visits. "Listen to your father, who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old," (Proverbs 23:22). What goes around comes around. Daughters or sons who neglect their parents, especially their mothers in their old age, should not expect their own child or children to care for them when they too get old and frail.

May this story of the Canaanite mother who brought to Christ a gallant and an audacious love, a faith which grew until it worshipped at the feet Christ and an indomitable persistency which had sprung from a mother's love for her child, inspire in us all a genuine love and deep appreciation of every mother's love.

Wishing you all a blessed new week ahead.

God bless you all, Fr. John

Multicultural Mass 2023

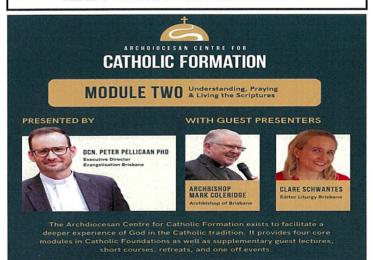
Mass will be presided by Archbishop Mark Coleridge and concelebrated by priests ministering to cultural communities throughout the Archdiocese. Cultural performances and refreshments in the cathedral grounds will follow.

When: 2:30pm, Sunday 24th September 2023

Where: Cathedral of St Stephen

(249 Elizabeth St, Brisbane City) **RSVP:** app.tickets.org.au/eb/MCM23

All are invited and all are welcome!



When: 7pm, Mondays starting 21st August Where: Xavier Hall, Holy Spirit Seminary

(487 Earnshaw Rd, Banyo)

Cost: Individual \$250 | \$150 pp for groups of 5+

Register at catholicformation.au

The first unit is not a pre-requisite for the second, so all are welcome to register for module two even if they haven't yet completed module one.

Our Lady of the Angels' Parish

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 - 3pm.

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

Baptism preparation sessions will be held on the 1st Sunday of the month at St Paschal's Church following a Welcome Mass at 9:30 a.m. During mass the family will be presented with their child(ren)'s Baptismal candle to keep for the day of their baptism.

Sacramental News

Information sessions for parents of children who are commencing the new 2023/24 Sacramental program are as follows:

Saturday 19th August at 3:00pm—St Gerard's Sunday 20th August at 10:30am—St Paschal's

Information Session on Marriage Annulments

There will be an information session on marriage annulments in the Catholic Church, given by staff of the Regional Tribunal for Queensland. What is an annulment? Who needs one? What's involved? FAQ's answered and the chance to have your own questions answered.

When: Tuesday 22 August 2023, at 7.45pm

Where: Mary Immaculate Hall, 616 Ipswich Rd, Annerley (parking adjacent)

Enquiries to tribbris@bne.catholic.net.au or 3324 3033.

Stewardship

"For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable."- Romans11:29

God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone. Each of us has apart in God's salvation plan.

(Accessed on August 7,2023 from www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-biblereflections)

Annual Catholic Campaign

The 2023 Annual Catholic Campaign, will take place on the weekend of **19—20 August 2023**.



Your gift today is a blessing to your local community

The face of the Church can seem ordinary enough, as can the face of each of us. But if we open the door of faith and allow God's mercy to flow through us into the lives of those in need, people will see in the Church and in each of us the face of Christ himself. May God, who is the giver of all gifts, bless you in every way.



A Big Thank You To Marea and all those who did so much to prepare for the wonderful POP's Orchestra Concert on Friday.



Op Shop NEWS

If there are any Parishioners that can spare a bit of time to help out at the Op Shop it would be very much appreciated. Please email or phone the office on 3359 0239.

Thank you.

St. Gerard's Ladies Group **Guest Speaker**

THURSDAY 24TH AUGUST at 10.00am in the Church Hall our GUEST SPEAKER will be Anne McDonald from UNIFORMS 4 KIDS. Uniforms 4 kids is a world first community programme repurposing Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Organisations uniforms (which otherwise would have been shredded and sent to land-fill) into beautifully tailored clothing articles made with love for children who have a need no matter who they are or where they are located. Please come along and hear Anne's story and how we may be able to assist. Everyone Welcome





Register now for the National Conference on Liturgy and Liturgical Music to be held in Brisbane from 28-30 September. It is rare to have expert liturgists, liturgical musicians, and educators together in one place for three days of focussed input. In addition to 6 keynote presentations and over 50 workshops, there will be opportunities to engage in facilitated discussions, and to participate in the Conference Mass as well as Morning and Evening Prayer.

visit https://mysteryandmission.com.au/ to register.

Women's Retreat

How do women of faith remain in Jesus and bear fruit? By staying connected. In the midst of our fast-paced lives, it is crucial to carve out moments of stillness and create space to hear the whispers of God. This weekend retreat, facilitated by the team at Evangelisation Brisbane, will provide an opportunity to remain, abide and stay with God who created you and longs to spend time with you.

When: 6pm Friday 8 September to 1pm Sunday 10 September. Where: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, 267 Wellington St.

Ormiston

Cost: \$425 live in/ \$230 live out RSVP: Monday 4 September

Register at https://tinyurl.com/abide23

Workplace Health & Safety News

The parish has had two audits this past week – WH&S audit and the Safeguarding audit. We are still awaiting the reports on these audits. I will keep you informed of the outcome from both of these reviews as they come to hand.

Carmela Knauth - Safeguarding and WH&S.



eSafetyeducation | August 2023



National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence virtual classroom

Australia's leading bullying prevention initiative, National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence, is on Friday 18 August 2023.

To support this event, eSafety is holding a virtual classroom for students in Years 3 to 6.

Register your class for Be an eSafe kid: Take action against online bullying, and help your students to identify cyberbullying and know what to do if they're bullied online.

https://www.esafety.gov.au/

Name Badges

Anyone needing a name badge please put your order in at the office. Cost—\$15.00

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WE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Greg Kelly, Maureen Egan, John

Sexton, Hazel Rushworth

Anniversaries: Please pray for John Kelly, Bryan Atchison, Ines Dwyer, Juliana Barreto and 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

27 August 2023 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading:

Isaiah 22:19-23

Psalm:

Psalm 137:1-3, 6-8

2nd Reading:

Romans 11:33-36

Gospel:

Matthew 16:13-20

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS PARISH

Weekend

2nd

Loose

TOTAL

13/08/23 \$

\$

\$3043.75

All donations are greatly appreciated

Regular Parish Activities

1st Friday: Adoration after 9.00am Mass St Gerards

2nd Friday: Anointing Mass 9.00am St Gerards Rosary: before Friday Mass (but not during Lent)

: after Friday Mass

What's on this Week: 21 -25 Aug 2023

Mon 21/08 Christian Meditation

5.45pm

Thurs 24/08 Thursday Ladies Group

10.00am St G

OP-Shop OPEN

Phone No. 0493 755 642

Monday to Friday 9:30am to 1:30pm

First Saturday of the Month 8.00am to 12 noon

Piety Shop OPEN

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm

Shortly before and after weekend masses



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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.



Local Agent helping Local Parishioners.

John Andrew - 0401 343 727 johnandrew@eplace.com.au





+ John Andrew