

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

SUNDAY 12th November 2023 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Visitors,

Throughout centuries, countries and cultures have celebrated wedding ceremonies differently. In a place like Nigeria, there are not a one-size-fits-all ritual. As the most populous country in Africa, as well as the most populous black country in the world, Nigeria is a nation with a rich tapestry of cultural diversity. It is blessed with more than 300 distinct ethnic communities, each boasting its own exclusive nuptial customs. In my part of Nigeria, the "Igbo or Ibo tribe" (Biafra), the paying of a dowry is an essential part of wedding preparation. The bride's family often presents the potential groom with a dowry list which he is expected to fulfil before he gets the blessing and approval of the bride's family. The list often includes but is not limited to, money, clothes, uncooked food, goats, cows, bicycles, motor bikes and sometimes a car. In fact, a bride's dowry price is often determined by the level of education she has acquired. This might look like objectifying a human being or the selling of the bride, but it is what people are required to do to marry in a place like Nigeria. I remember my dad saying to my oldest brother when he complained of how much he paid to marry his wife: 'if you think marriage is expensive, try divorce'. Marriage is an expensive adventure. It requires not only money, but also time, energy, and in fact, the investment of the human person.



The parable told by Christ in the gospel this weekend is reminiscent of Jewish wedding customs. A wedding ceremony among the Jews at the time of Christ was preceded by a week of preparations. Part of the preparations leading up to the celebration was the exchange of gifts and traditional rites performed at the home of the bride. This could take time and could delay the arrival of the bride and groom at the wedding party. The ten bridesmaids in the parable are the escort of honour appointed to greet the bridegroom and the bride when they arrive to celebrate their wedding. In preparing for this role, the five wise bridesmaids anticipated the possibility of a delay and were able to take extra oil with them. The five foolish bridesmaids did not.

Like many of Christ's parables, this parable has immediate, as well as universal implications. It was first directed to the Jewish people who longed for the coming of the Messiah and yet when the Messiah came among them, they were not prepared to accept Him and His message of the kingdom.

Christ wrapped up this parable with the caveat: "stay awake, because you do not know either the day of the hour," (Matthew 25:13). This parable has been placed towards the end of the gospel for a reason. It is to remind us and every reader of Matthew's gospel that there is an end which is inevitable for every human being. There is a pilgrimage every one of us will undertake someday, sometime, when our time comes. It is a pilgrimage to our Creator and Maker.

This is the universal truth or implication which this parable holds for us. "Fools say to themselves, "there is no God." (Psalm 14:1). Regardless of some human rationalisation about God's existence, 'we are destined to die once, and after that face judgment,' (Hebrews 9:27). The ten bridesmaids represent us as Christians and the invitation we have received by virtue of baptism. We have received the invitation, but like the bridesmaids, there is an obligation on us to provide

(Contd. P2)

PARISH PRIEST

FR John Echewodo

Email: echewodoj@bne.catholic.net.au

Mob: 0493 636 632 (only urgent or after hours calls)

PARISH ADMINISTRATION: Phone: 07 3359 0239

Margaret Gee (Parish Secretary)

Email: chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au

SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR

Larissa Skuce

Email: sacramental.chermside@bne.catholic.net.au

LOCAL SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE & WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY COORDINATOR

Compliance Officer: Carmela Knauth

Email: l.sr.chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au

Phone: 0493 655 502

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Alice Grogan & Antonio Cunha

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

PARISH OFFICE

146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermside West 4032

Phone: (07) 3359 0239

Office Hours: **Monday-Friday 9am to 3pm.**

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

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@stoline.com.au

(Contd. from P1.)

ourselves with the oil of holiness and to do our very best every day to live as God's children. At the end of this transient life, there are things which cannot be acquired or borrowed. In our daily journey of life, it will be tragic if, like the foolish bridesmaids, we doze and snore contentedly while holding an empty lamp. We need to be prepared with our lamps lit. Therefore, let us live each moment of our life on this earth as if it is our last moment since we do not know when the command: "behold, the bridegroom is here. Go forth to meet Him," will come.

The invitation to the banquet of love is waiting for us, but what we do and how we live every day, aided by God, will determine our admittance to the eternal banquet in heaven with God our Father, the Virgin Mary our Mother and all the angelic hosts.

Wishing you all a blessed new week ahead.

God bless you all, Fr. John

Volunteer Thank You Evening

All volunteers in any ministry in our Parish are invited to attend the Parish Volunteers Thank You Evening to be held at St Gerard's on **Friday 24 November at 6pm**. These ministries include the usual Mass ministries as well as morning teas, children's liturgy, RCIA, Sacramental team, collections, counters, greeters, op shop volunteers, florists, musicians, maintenance, and any other task you can think of.

Please come along and enjoy an evening with refreshments and good company. To assist with catering, please reply by adding names to the lists at the doors of the churches.

OLA Youth Ministry Coordinator



Hello, my name is Antonio Ryan-Da Cunha, and I'm one of the new youth coordinators for Our Lady of The Angels Parish. I'm currently studying philosophy and criminology at the University of Queensland. At university, I've become the president of the Newman Catholic Society UQ, and my experience with the society has taught me how important it is to have a close Catholic community in a similar age range to yourself. I want to help build a strong young adult community in our parish. This parish is close to me as I attended OLA for primary school and had my first communion and confirmation at St. Paschal's.

Roster Training for Mass Coordinators, Ministers of Communion and Readers.

Training sessions will be held on three occasions over the next few weeks. It is essential that all who have nominated to be on a roster should attend one of these sessions.

The sessions will be at:

St Gerard's on Wednesday 14 November at 7pm

St Paschal's on Thursday 15 November at 7pm

St Paschal's on Sunday 19 November at 10.30am

Please select one of the sessions and mark it in your diary. The same material will be covered at each session and will include specific content for each ministry. It will enable everyone to have a common understanding of each of the roles.

Our Lady of the Angels' Parish

Warmly welcomes new members through Baptism

Eloise Rosa

Isabella Stanbrook

Norah Gardiner

Jack Walters

Baptisms are celebrated on Saturday mornings at 10:00am alternately at St Gerard's and St Paschal's. 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.

Stewardship

"Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour." - Matthew 25:13

Many of us have put off doing something because we think we are too busy. We've all said, "I'll do it later when I have time." Unfortunately, too many of us apply this attitude to our Faith. Jesus' call is urgent, in the here and now, in your current circumstances. How is God calling you to use your gifts today? Don't delay. None of us is guaranteed tomorrow.

(Accessed on October 23, 2023 from www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-biblereflections)



CAPPELLA CHORALE PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Join Cappella Chorale for an enchanting evening of choral music to celebrate the festive season.

Date: Wednesday 6th December 2023

Time: 7.00pm - 8.15pm (followed by light refreshments)

Venue: St Flannan's Catholic Church

(194 Handford Rd, Zillmere)

General Admission. Gold coin donation at door.

All funds raised will be donated to St Flannan's Catholic Church.



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Verse for Vinnies Final Concert for 2023

Now you really should go to our next Vinnies Show
as it's Suzie and Mel from the West.
It's four years since they've been which is almost obscene
for this pair are up there with the best.
But this two-sheila show 'round Australia does go
and they even do cruises at sea.
So to get them at last has been really a blast
and who knows when the next time will be.
They've both been Aussie Champs done the Festival Camps
and perform with the top echelon.
They'll be humour galore for what they've got in store
will resemble a huge laugh-a-thon.
So it's Suzie Carcary that you're coming to see
and beside will be Melanie Hall.
They're a scream, they are fun and you'll see when you come
these two-sheilas are not very tall.
So we'd love you to come to this Sunday of fun
as it's all Aussie Verse that you'll get.
And the doe from this show will all go as you know
to those battlers we're prone to forget.
Sunday Nov. 26, 1.30pm Cost \$15 Cash Only
St. Williams School, 67 Dawson Parade, Grovely
Book using noel@noelstallard.com

Rosters

Everyone is invited to take part in the ministries of Minister of Communion, Reader, Altar Server or Musician at our weekend Masses.

If you would like to do so and have not yet submitted your form, please do so **urgently**. This applies especially to those who were on the last roster. We need to know whether you are continuing. We are still very short of the numbers of Ministers of Communion required to allow us to return to receiving the Precious Blood. Please consider this essential ministry.

Altar Servers Roster Training for St Gerard's and St Paschal's

There are 2 *Altar Server training sessions* each an hour in duration. It is essential that all who have nominated to be on the roster should attend **both sessions**. Anyone interested in becoming an altar server are also welcome.

Session 1 St Gerard's

Sunday 19th Nov 9.30am – 10.30am **OR** 3pm – 4pm

Session 1 St Paschal's

Saturday 18th Nov 4pm – 5pm **OR**

Sunday 19th Nov 11am – 11.30am

Session 2 St Gerard's

Sunday 3rd Dec 9.30am – 10.30am **OR** 3pm-4pm

Session 2 St Paschal's

Saturday 2nd Dec 4pm – 5pm **OR**

Sunday 3rd Dec 11am – 11.30am

Please select a time and date for Session 1 and Session 2 and mark it in your diary. Each session contains different content and so it is important that you attend each session at either church.

For all enquires and concerns please contact Julie Herden on 0419 795 561 or Margie Morton on 0407 009 676.

CHILDRENS LITURGY

Children's Liturgy at St Gerard's is at the 8:00am Sunday Mass and St Paschal's at the 9:30am Mass. Parents & grandparents bring the little ones along to begin their journey to knowing God better.

Melbourne Cup Thank you

We would like to say a big thank you to all involved who worked so hard to make the Melbourne Cup Luncheon such a success. None of this would have happened without you. **THANK-YOU** to all that helped moved the furniture, who decorated the church, the flower ladies, the catering team, the ticket sellers, the fashion judges, the wonderful waiters, our fabulous MC, and everyone who stayed behind to help clean up. Thank you to Our Lady of the Angels Primary School for supporting the Major Sweep. We are happy to report that after expenses we raised \$5139.89, a great effort.

Major Sweep Winners:

1st Prize \$200 Deanna Hardy
2nd Prize \$100 Bernadette Massi
3rd Prize \$ 50 Annette Wilde

We hope you will all join us again next year.

R C I A

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

The RCIA team is looking forward to assisting people who may wish to become part of our Catholic community. These could be people with no previous religious commitment, ones who have been members of another Christian or non-Christian tradition or former Catholics who have been separated for some time. Please contact the Parish Office on 3359 0239 or email chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au.

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WE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Salvatore Vitale, Jose Fernando da Silva, Irene Searles

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

Sick: Please pray for Denise Watson, Judy Armstrong, Amanda Whitfield, Pat O'Shea and all those whose names appear in our Parish Books of the Sick.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

19 November 2023 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

Psalm: Psalm 127:1-5

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS PARISH

Weekend	1st	2nd	Loose	TOTAL
5/11/23	\$249.00	\$626.00	\$1757.00	\$2632.00

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: 13 – 17 Nov 2023

Mon 13/11 Christian Meditation St P 5.45pm

Thurs 16/11 Thursday Ladies Group St G 10.00am

OP-Shop OPEN

Phone No. 0493 755 642

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

First Saturday of the Month 8.00am to 12.00 noon

Piety Shop OPEN

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

Shortly before and after weekend masses



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Our Lady of the Angels' Parish



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.



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