



Victoria Point Catholic Parish

Victoria Point, Thornlands South, Redland Bay, Mount Cotton,
Coochiemudlo Island and the Southern Bay Islands.

37 Benfer Road, Victoria Point | **Postal Address:** P O Box 5285, Victoria Point QLD 4165 | **Phone:** (07) 3207 9177 | **Email:** victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au

We recognise the traditional owners of this land, The Quandamooka People.



PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Jose Panampuzha CMI

panampuzhaj@bne.catholic.net.au

PRIEST'S DAY OFF — THURSDAY

(OFFICE CLOSED)

Parish Office:

Secretary: (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri)

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Fb: <https://www.facebook.com/stritasvictoriapoint/>

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Sacramental Coordinator:

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Finance: (Mon, Tues, Wed)

Beverley Van Schie

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3207 9177

Safeguarding Officer

Bob Snoke

Mob 0419 247 698

Helen Dowling

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OHSC: Jolene Morath—Ph: 0477 550

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qld.edu.au

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

15th December 2024



Desert Voices

(Luke 3: 10 - 18)

The people around John are odd. What seems to attract them is who he is not: not the anointed Saviour of Israel, not Elijah come to announce the end of the world, not the great prophet the Samaritans were expecting. But the evangelist John also tells us who the Baptist is: the testimony to the great light to follow.

What is your life's testimony? Does it proclaim fidelity, honesty, generosity? If you had to name ten things you stand for, would any of them be holy? These are hard questions. If I pose them to myself, my answer is wishy-washy: depends on when you ask. Some days are less exemplary than others. Sometimes I'm a shining example of Christian virtue, and I wish my Mum were here to see me. Other times I'm grateful she isn't and wish no one was. John the Baptist, cousin of Jesus and the fruit of a miracle birth, may have had a head start on his testimony. Or maybe he had to work out all the bugs like the rest of us in the years before he turned up at the Jordan.

But the truth is: whatever our origins, they can't be an excuse for who we are or are not, "what we've done, or failed to do." John's desert voice summons me to train mine, to learn to present another clear testimony to the light.

Describe one element of your Christian witness that is particularly strong. What part of your witness needs work?

Ponder: How do you refine your "desert voice," your independence from the temptations of a secular worldview? Consider a time of retreat, an afternoon of recollection, or a regular practice of prayer and meditation to keep you "in the desert."

Pray: Spirit of the living God, speak your word to us in this time of worship. Fill us with true joy – the joy that comes from knowing you; the joy that comes from feeling your justice come to life in our midst; the joy that comes as we truly prepare our hearts as a dwelling place for the Messiah.

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Today's Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-18; Philippians 4:4-7; and Luke 3:10-18

Response to the Psalm: Wait in joyful hope a Saviour will come, Jesus Christ the Light of the world. Wait in joyful hope a Saviour will come, welcome to the Word of God. **Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia, alleluia!

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.

This policy applies to Clergy, Religious, Staff, Parishioners, Volunteers, students on placement and Visitors to our sites.

For safeguarding inquiries or to raise any concerns, disclosures or allegations please contact our

Local Safeguarding Representative: Bob Snoke on 0419 247 698 sa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au

<https://tinyurl.com/Safeguarding-Incident-Report> <https://tinyurl.com/New-Protecting-Children-Laws>

STOPline Service 📞 1300 304 550 📧 AOB@stopline.com.au 🌐 www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

MASS TIMES

SATURDAY

St Rita's Church

Reconciliation 4.15pm

Mass 5.00pm Vigil

COOCHIEMUDLO ISLAND

21 Dec. — Priest Mass

(Liturgy of the Word with

Communion — every other

Saturday at 11am)

SUNDAY

St Rita's Church

Mass 7.00am & 9.00am

MACLEAY ISLAND

15 Dec & 24 Dec — 6.00pm

(Liturgy of the Word with Communion — every other Sundays at 9am)

RUSSELL ISLAND

22 Dec. — 2pm

(Liturgy of the Word with Communion — every other Sundays at 2pm)

MONDAY

St Rita's Church/Chapel

Mass — 9.00am

Rosary — before Mass

Rosary Crusade Pro Life — after Mass

TUESDAY

St Rita's Church/Chapel

Mass — 9.00am

Rosary — before Mass

Praise & Prayer — 7.00pm

WEDNESDAY

St Rita's Church/Chapel

Mass — 9.00am

Rosary — before Mass

Art Group — 10.00am

Choir — 3.30pm

THURSDAY

St Rita's Church

Priest Day Off — NO MASSES

FRIDAY

St Rita's Church

Rosary before Mass

Mass & Benediction — 9.00pm

MAREBELLO

1st Wed of Month — Eucharist

HEALING MASS

2nd Wed of Month — 9.00am Mass

St Vincent De Paul meet on 1st and 3rd Monday of the month, at 10am in the Ruby Room — Our next meeting is 6th January.



Christmas Mass Times



Victoria Point — St Rita's Church

4:40pm Carols — Christmas Eve — Tues. 24th December

5 pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass - Tues. 24th December

7 pm Mass Christmas Eve Night Mass - Tues. 24th December

8 am Mass Christmas Day - Wed. 25th December

Macleay Island — Church of The Holy Spirit, Scotts Road

6 pm Vigil Mass Christmas Eve — Tues. 24th December

Russell Island — Bay Islands Community Services, 55 Jackson Rd

9 am Mass Christmas Day — Wed. 25th December

Reconciliation

St. Rita's Church

6 pm - 2nd Rite of Reconciliation, Fri. 20th December

4 pm - 1st Rite of Reconciliation, Sat. 21st December

"Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord." Luke 2:11



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed for Christmas and New Year beginning on Tues. 24 December and reopening on Mon. 6 January 2025

Mass Times for post Christmas & New Year

Sat. 28 Dec. - 5pm Vigil Mass for The Holy Family

Sun. 29 Dec. - 7am & 9am Masses for The Holy Family

Wed. 1 January - Mass for Mary, Holy Mother of God

Thurs. 2 January — Mass

Fri. 3 January - Mass and Adoration

Sat. 4 January — Mass for the Epiphany of the Lord

Sun. 5 January — Mass for the Epiphany of the Lord

HOSANNA PRAYER AND PRAISE

Meetings are held on Tuesdays at 7pm at St Rita's Church.

December 18 will be the last meeting for the year



FEASTS in DECEMBER

Sat. 21st St Peter Canisius

Mon. 23rd St John of Kanty

Wed. 25th Nativity of the Lord

Thurs. 26th St Stephen, First Martyr

Friday 27th St John, Apostle, Evangelist

Sat. 28th The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

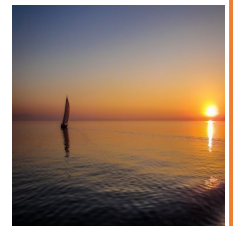
Sunday 29th The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Tuesday 31st St Sylvester I, Pope

St Rita's Men's Social Group is meeting for our annual Sundowner event on Thursday 19th December at Thompson's Beach about 4:30pm.

Please bring a chair, something to drink and nibble (and insect spray).

Contact Mike Duggan for any queries.



St. Vincent de Paul Society

This is the final weekend for our Christmas Appeal. Sincere thanks to all who have contributed.

If any Parishioners would like to spare an hour to help to sort the donations on **Sunday 15th December after the 7.00 am Mass OR Monday, 16th December from 7.00 am** — they will be most welcome

Thank you



PRAYERS

For all those who are ill, especially Miles Muscroft, Nicola Hardaker, Sebastian Ricca, Elaine Prestney, Maddy Brown, Annette Doherty, Lucas Bernal, Alfio Tomarchio, Michael Quilty, Chris Venter, Doris Williamson, Fr Jim Browne, Alan Williamson, Helen Stockwell, Marlie Meehan, Denise Fowler, Emma Heinrich, Paul Trubody, Jela Cicak, Matthew Scott and those who seek healing in their lives and for all those who care for them.

ANNIVERSARIES: *We pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time..*

DECEASED: *We commend the recently deceased to the loving care of the Lord, especially Janet Dunne.*

The Beatitudes

Mini Retreat

**Presented by Fr Nev
from Marriage Encounter**

When: Saturday 18th January '25

Time: 10am to 12pm followed
by lunch

Where: St Oliver Plunkett
Church Hall
Beauvardia St, Cannon Hill

RSVP: David and Maria

Email: qldbbookings@wwme.org.au

OR Ph: 0481 307 821

Lunch: *Please advise any dietary
requirements for lunch.*

Christian Meditation

Christian meditation will take place on:
Wednesdays at 5 pm in St Rita's Chapel



For more information: please contact the Parish Office and your enquiry will be directed to Lorr Popple

Communion to the Sick Ministry

NEW MINISTERS REQUIRED

The Ministry to the Sick is a pastoral ministry of caring for those confined to private homes. The purpose of the ministry is to demonstrate the care and concern of our faith community to the sick and the homebound. Ministers visit the sick or homebound to pray and to offer the Eucharist with them.

**If you would like to be part of this ministry then please contact
Danny Gablonski Or the Parish Office (Mon., Tues. or Wed.)**

Art Group

The group are now on holidays.

We will meet again in mid-January 2025,
date to be confirmed.

*If you are interested in art and like to
paint, please join us next year on
Wednesdays in the Ruby Room*



SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

Our faith will sustain us through challenging times.

Please keep supporting your Parish by continuing your weekly offering if you can, either by using our periodic direct debit or credit card facility or by direct deposit.

Our planned giving bank account details for direct deposits are as follows:

BSB: 064 786 **Account No:** 100027374 **Account Name:** Parish Donation - kindly reference your deposit with

your surname and your planned giving number/envelope number if you have one. *Please contact the parish office for further information on 3207 9177.*

WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY, MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS:

Recent Activities – 6-monthly inspections of fire extinguishers, fire blankets and fire systems in parish office, presbytery, church and OSHC building, commenced modifications to church rear door entrance,

Current Tasks needing to be done – annual gutter cleaning parish office, presbytery, chapel, OSHC (scheduled 14th December), removal/sale of chairs and tables on presbytery side patio, complete the painting of OSHC verandah wall, removal of mould and sanding/ painting of presbytery window sills doors and door frames (scheduled for 2024), repair/replace damaged fence panel in church carpark (on hold), painting of presbytery gutters and eaves (on hold), plaster repairs to ceilings in presbytery.

Possible Future projects depending on availability of funding – replace rotted-out fence posts (presbytery yard fence along side school oval), replace carpet in chapel and church.

If any parishioner observes any task on the Maintenance To-do List which they can carry-out or help in, please contact Mike Duggan



Thinking of Selling?

Contact Louise Denisenko ~ 0423 110 555

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Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December

For Pilgrims of Hope: We pray that this Jubilee Year 2025 strengthens our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives and that it may transform us into pilgrims of hope.

Stewart & Ray Milligan

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