



Victoria Point Catholic Parish

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

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PRIEST'S DAY OFF — TUESDAYS

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Hold Space for God to Surprise Us: Living Advent With Open Hearts, Hopeful Homes and a Welcoming Parish

(Matthew 24: 37 - 44)

Jesus said, "The Son of Man's Arrival will be like this: Two men will be working in the field – one will be taken, one left behind; two women will be grinding at the mill – one will be taken, one left behind. So stay awake, alert. You have no idea what day your Master will show up." (Matthew 24: 39 - 42)

As we enter the first Sunday of Advent, Matthew's reminder to stay awake speaks directly into the rhythm of family life and parish community. So often our days are filled with activity work, appointments, sport, caring for children or ageing parents, managing responsibilities and trying to keep everything moving. Like the people in Noah's time, we can get swept up in the ordinary and miss the quiet ways God is working in and around us. Advent interrupts that pattern. It invites us to slow down enough to notice, to listen, to be present to what matters most.

For families this Gospel is a gentle but urgent nudge to pay attention to the sacred moments hidden inside everyday life. It might be the honesty of a child's question at the dinner table, the silent support of a spouse, a chance encounter that lifts our spirits or the pull to pray even when we feel tired. God often arrives disguised in simplicity and relationship. Advent asks us to prepare our homes, not with perfection, but with openness. It reminds us that Christ enters the world through small, ordinary doorways, and those doorways often sit right in our kitchens, our living rooms and our parish gatherings.

For parish communities the call is just as strong. These weeks are a chance to rekindle hope, to reconnect with one another, to notice who might feel lonely or forgotten, to reach out beyond our comfort zones and to welcome others with generosity. Advent awakens a shared sense of responsibility for one another and invites us to walk together with hearts that are expectant, courageous and ready.

As we begin this season may we resist the temptation to rush through these weeks and instead remain awake to the grace unfolding around us. May our homes be places of kindness and peace. May our parishes be communities where people feel known, supported and encouraged. May we hold space for God to surprise us. Advent is not just a countdown to Christmas it is an invitation to live with attentiveness and hope, trusting that Christ is already drawing near.

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

Year A



*"Keep awake therefore, for you do not know
"on what day your Lord is coming."*

— Matthew 24:42

First Sunday of Advent—Year A

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm: Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

Psalm Response: *Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.*

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. *Alleluia, alleluia!*

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

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.

Local Safeguarding Representative: Bob Snoke on 0419 247 698;

Parish Office sa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au or <https://bncatholic.stoplinereport.com>

STOPLine Service: Ph. 1300 304 550 | **Email:** A0B@stopline.com.au | **Online Report:** bncatholic.stoplinereport.com

Mass & Confession Times

SATURDAY

St Rita's Church

Confessions — 4.15pm
Vigil Mass 5pm

COOCHIEMUDLO ISLAND

Confessions before Mass
15 Nov & 6 Dec - 11am Mass
Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Saturday at 11am

SUNDAY

St Rita's Church

Masses 7.00am & 9.00am

MACLEAY ISLAND

Confessions before Mass
23 Nov & 7 Dec- 1.45pm Mass
Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Sunday at 9am

RUSSELL ISLAND

Confessions before Mass
16 & 30 Nov - 2pm Mass
Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Sunday at 2pm

MONDAY

St Rita's Church

8.30am Rosary
9am Mass

Pro-Life Rosary after Mass

TUESDAY

St Rita's Church

No Mass or Rosary

WEDNESDAY

St Rita's Church

8.30am Rosary
9am Mass

THURSDAY

St Rita's Church

8.30am Rosary
9am Mass

FRIDAY

St Rita's Church

9am Mass & Holy Hour



DURING THE MONTH

MAREBELLO

1st Wed of Month – Eucharist

HEALING MASS

Wed. 10th December

ST VINCENT DE PAUL meet on **1st and 3rd Mondays** of the month, at **10am** in the **Ruby Room**. Next meetings: 17 Nov & 1 Dec.



Eucharistic Adoration

Every Saturday for personal silent prayer time

Exposition: 9.30am- 3.30pm

Benediction: 3.30pm

Stay for Confession: 4:15pm

Vigil Mass: 5pm



Thank you to everyone who spent time with Our Lord during October and November.

As we enter December, we need committed Adorers for one hour per month to ensure Jesus is never left alone during Adoration (Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.). Sign-up sheets are at the front of the church. All are welcome anytime, but the roster ensures every hour is covered.

"Could you not watch one hour with Me?" – Matthew 26:40

Answer the Call to Mercy and Compassion

Do you have a heart for those on the margins?

We are seeking one or two **kind, empathic women of deep faith** to serve as **Pastoral Visitors** to join Centacare's teams of chaplains at a women's correctional centre.

Pastoral Visitors offer friendship, hope, and spiritual support to incarcerated women through weekly visits — being a living sign of God's love and mercy.

Training, mentoring, and ongoing support are provided.

If you feel called to accompany women in their journey of faith, healing, and transformation, we would love to hear from you.

"I was in prison and you visited me..." – Matthew 25:36

For more information or to express interest, please contact:

Centacare Pastoral Ministries:

Email: judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au;
phone 3324 3193

Help support St Vincent de Paul

helping members of our community in need. A selection of light catchers to chose from including Christmas Tree decorations, Celtic Crosses, Irish clover, and St Rita's Rose.

See forms at back of the church for prices. All proceeds to Vinnies.

Contact Mike Duggan for any enquiries.



Christian Meditation

Thursdays at 4pm
in St Rita's Chapel

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



HOSANNA PRAYER and PRAISE GROUP

Meets on Tuesdays at 7pm
in St Rita's Church - All are welcome!

Stay Connected with Your Parish Family

St Rita's is moving to a digital register to keep you better connected with parish life. By signing up, you'll receive timely updates about Mass times, events, newsletter and important announcements directly to your inbox or phone.

It takes just 2 minutes to register:
Visit stritasparish.flocknote.com/register or scan the QR code below.



Stay connected. Stay informed. Stay part of our St Rita's family.

Reminder - Containers for change to go towards a parish ride on mower



Join us at one of 5 locations on the summer school holidays for 'Catch the Wave' a day of fun, faith and friends.
From Wednesday 14th to Thursday 22nd Jan
Hosted at Birkdale, Redcliffe, Sunnybank, Petrie and Surfers Paradise.



SCAN HERE TO FIND OUT MORE

WWW.ENCOUNTERCATHOLICKIDS.COM.AU/SUMMER-HOLIDAY-PROGRAM

PRAYERS

For all those who are ill, especially Denise Woosnam, Dorothy Byrnes, Helen Clarke, Mariano Molina, Claire Douglas, Keith Douglas, Miles Muscroft, Sebastian Ricca, Elaine Prestney, Maddy Brown, Lucas Bernal, Annette Doherty, Alfio Tomarchio, Chris Venter, 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 our deceased to the loving care of the Lord, especially Mike Quilty and Carmen Zeltins.

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

Bringing Hope This Christmas: St Vincent de Paul Society Appeal

The St Vincent de Paul Society at St. Rita's Parish, Victoria Point, is once again calling on our parish community to help bring Christmas joy to local families in need.

After successfully providing 66 Christmas hampers last year, the Society faces even greater demand this year as the cost-of-living crisis continues to impact more families across our parish and the Bay Islands.

How You Can Help:

The Society is seeking donations of non-perishable groceries, Christmas cakes, Christmas puddings, and festive treats for hampers. Toys and gifts for children up to 16 years are also needed to ensure every child experiences Christmas morning joy.

Alternatively, financial contributions are welcome—volunteers are happy to shop on your behalf. Donation envelopes are available at the back of the church and can be placed on collection plates or in the St Vincent de Paul boxes at the church doors. Receipts for taxation purposes are available upon request.

Making a Real Difference:

Your donation will provide practical, immediate assistance and ongoing support, ensuring no family faces the impossible choice between going hungry or keeping the lights on.

Help us make a difference this Christmas. Your kindness and generosity will be a blessing to families doing it tough in our community.

St Vincent de Paul Society, St. Rita's Parish, Victoria Point



Christmas Lunch Celebration

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our recent Christmas lunch! It was wonderful to share a festive meal together and enjoy the warmth of fellowship and Christmas cheer. We're grateful to all who attended and helped make the day so special.



Welcome to Our Parish Family

What a joyful celebration welcoming **Gillian, Nicholas, Duane, and Mario, Vincent and Frederik.**

Welcome to St Rita's Parish!



St Rita's Men's Social Group gathering

Gathering in the usual spot at Thompson's Beach for our annual Sundowner at 4:30pm on Friday 12th December, watching the tide come in or out. Bring chair, nibbles and drinks (and insect spray?).

Mike Duggan

0429629211



**Come and join us for
'A CUPPA AFTER MASS'**

at St Rita's Church on 6 & 7 December



FEAST DAYS OF NOVEMBER

- All Saints Day – November 1st
- All Souls Day – November 2nd
- St. Martin de Tours – November 3rd
- St. Gertrude the Great – November 16th
- St. Elizabeth of Hungary – November 17th
- St. Cecilia – November 22nd
- The Feast of Christ the King – The Last Sunday in Ordinary Time (November 23rd in 2025)
- Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal – November 27th
- St. Catherine Laboure – November 28th
- St. Andrew the Apostle – November 30th

November is the Month of the Holy Souls

In November, we remember the souls in purgatory who need our prayers. This month we should make a special effort to pray for the souls in purgatory and meditate on the Church Suffering.

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Dr. Gill van Iddekinge
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The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

(Pope Francis)



POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

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