

St Rita's Newsletter



VICTORIA POINT, THORNLANDS
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ISLANDS.



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 1ST February 2026 Year A

BLESSED ARE WE WHEN WE TRUST IN GOD

The Scripture readings for the 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A) invite us to reflect on where we place our trust and what it truly means to be blessed. In a world that often measures success by power, wealth, and status, God offers a very different vision.

In the first reading, the prophet Zephaniah calls us to seek the Lord with humility and righteousness. God's promise is not directed to the proud or self-sufficient, but to the lowly - those who rely on God rather than their own strength. This message prepares our hearts for the Gospel.

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus proclaims the Beatitudes, a radical charter for Christian living. "Blessed are the poor in spirit... blessed are the meek... blessed are the merciful." These words turn our usual ideas of happiness upside down. Jesus teaches us that true blessing is not found in having more, but in trusting God, showing compassion, working for peace, and remaining faithful even in difficulty.

Saint Paul, writing to the Corinthians, reminds us that God often chooses what the world considers weak or insignificant to reveal his glory. Our faith does not rest on human achievement, but on God's grace at work within us.

As we begin a new week, the Beatitudes invite us to examine our lives: Where do we seek security? How do we respond to suffering, injustice, or need around us? May we learn to walk the humble path of Christ, trusting that in God's eyes, we are truly blessed.

May God Bless you
Fr. Joseph Kanatt mcbs

Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

First Reading: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

Psalm: Ps 145:7-10

Psalm Response: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad; Your reward will be great in heaven. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

Parish contacts:

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Joseph Kanatt MCBS

PRIEST'S DAY OFF — TUESDAYS

Parish Office

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(Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri)

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OHSC

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Event News

To Families with baptised, confirmed children who have received First Holy Communion are invited to our First Penance Information Night.

Learn about the program, key dates, and how to support your child's faith journey



17 Monday, 9th February

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

St. Rita's Catholic Church

Fr. Joseph will welcome families and share the significance of this sacrament. RSVP by 4th February: stritasparish.flocknote.com/signup/242580

You are warmly invited to our Confirmation Information Night to learn about the program, key dates, and how to support your child's faith journey.



17 Date: Wednesday, 11th February

Time: 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Location: St. Rita's Catholic Church

Fr. Joseph will join us to welcome families and share the significance of this special sacrament. We look forward to sharing this journey with you. Please RSVP by 4th February: <https://stritasparish.flocknote.com/signup/242578>

Welcome back to St Rita's Primary School for 2026, where we celebrate the return of Catholic education and warmly welcome all new families joining our community as their children begin their learning journey with us this year.



Your Child's Sacramental Journey

What a joy to walk this path with your family! Please complete these two quick steps:

Step 1: Update Your Contact Info
Scan the QR code to review your family's contact details so we can keep you informed.



Step 2: Complete Enrolment
Scan the QR code to submit your child's enrolment application.



Questions? Contact Deb SC at sc.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au

Thank you for partnering with us in this sacred journey!

Mass & Confession Times

SATURDAY

St Rita's Church
Confessions — 4.15pm
Vigil Mass 5pm

Russell Island

Confessions before Mass
14th Feb 7:45am Mass
Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Sunday at 2pm

Coochiemudlo Island

Confessions before Mass
21st Feb 11am Mass
Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Saturday at 11am

Macleay Island

Confessions before Mass
7th Feb 9am Mass
Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Sunday at 9am

SUNDAY **St Rita's Church** Masses 7.00am & 9.00am

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
Estia Health 1st Wed of Month Eucharist
Healing Mass Wed. 14th Jan

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.

Community Highlights

St Vincent de Paul meet on **1st and 3rd Mondays** of the month, **at 10am in the Ruby Room.**

Next meetings: 2nd Feb



Art group has returned for 2026. Every Wednesday from 10am in the Ruby room. All welcome.



HOSANNA PRAYERand PRAISE GROUP

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



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 .

As we enter a new year, 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?" –Matthew26:40

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

Arts and Craft afternoon. BYO any project you are working on. Painting, knitting, crochet, card making. I'm hoping people will share their gifts and talents with others and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with other arty folk.

Ruby room starts 7th Feb 2-4pm

See Deb Harris for more info!

STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR PARISHFAMILY

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.

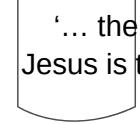


Stay connected. Stay informed. Stay part of our St Rita's family.

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

9am Mass on Monday 2nd February

The Blessing of Candles will be celebrated at this Feast.
BRING YOUR CANDLES FROM HOME AND HAVE THEM BLEST



'... the blessing of candles was added to this feast to recall that Jesus is the "light to the gentiles". Thus, this feast is also sometimes referred to as 'Candlemas.'

Prayers For all those who are ill, especially Br. Ray Ryan FSC, 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, Ian Gray, 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 Ian Grey.



Feast Days of February

February 1 - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Sunday)
February 2 - Presentation of the Lord (Feast) - This is also known as Candlemas Day, a festival of light where candles are blessed
February 3 - St. Blaise and St. Ansgar (Optional Memorials) - The Blessing of the Throats traditionally takes place on St. Blaise's feast day
February 5 - St. Agatha (Memorial)
February 6 - St. Paul Miki and Companions (Memorial)
February 7 - Saturday of the 4th Week in Ordinary Time

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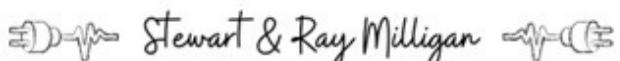
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Pope's Monthly Intention for February

For children with incurable diseases

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

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 Snock on 0419 247 698; Parish Office sa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au or <https://bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com>

STOPline Service: Ph. 1300 304550| Email: AOB@stopline.com.au|OnlineReport: bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

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Thank you for reading!