

St Rita's Newsletter



VICTORIA POINT, THORNLANDS
SOUTH, REDLAND BAY, MOUNT
COTTON & SOUTHERN BAY
ISLANDS.



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 12th July 2026 Year A

GOD'S WORD IS A VIABLE SEED IN OUR HEART

This weekend, the fifteenth Sunday of ordinary time, we celebrate Christ, who sows the seed of God's word in our hearts. In the light of Isaiah's prophecy and Christ's parable of the Sower, the Church enjoins us to evaluate our relationship with the Word of God. So, we must ask ourselves today, what has the word of God achieved or changed in my life?

This weekend's Gospel presents the familiar Parable of the Sower. Jesus reminds us that God's word is like a seed generously scattered on every kind of soil. The seed is always good, but its fruitfulness depends on the condition of the soil that receives it. Some hearts are hardened by indifference, some are distracted by the worries and attractions of life, while others receive God's word with openness and bear abundant fruit.

The first reading from Isaiah reassures us that God's word never returns empty. Like the rain that waters the earth and enables it to produce life, God's word has the power to transform hearts and accomplish His loving purpose. St. Paul, in the second reading, encourages us to persevere with hope, reminding us that even amid suffering, God's new creation is already unfolding and will one day be revealed in its fulness.

These readings invite us to ask ourselves: What kind of soil am I? Do I make time to listen to God in prayer and Scripture? Do I allow His word to shape my decisions, relationships, and daily life? Every day is a new opportunity to cultivate the soil of our hearts through prayer, repentance, acts of charity, and faithful participation in the Eucharist.

This weekend we also observe Sea Sunday, when we remember and pray for seafarers, fishers, and all those whose work takes them to sea. They play a vital role in bringing food, fuel, medicines, and goods to our communities, often spending months away from their families and facing many hardships. Let us keep them in our prayers.

May the Lord help each of us become rich and fertile soil, receiving His word with faith and producing a harvest of love, hope, and service for the glory of God. God bless you and your family.

Fr. Joseph Kanatt MCBS

Parish contacts:

Parish Office Operating hours
Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri 9am to 2pm
Closed Tuesday

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Web: <https://www.stritasparish.org/Fb>
<https://www.facebook.com/stritasvictoriapoint/>

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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11

Psalm: Ps 64:10-14

Psalm Response: . The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

Event News

First Holy Communion 2026 – Enrolments Now Open

Families are warmly invited to enrol their children for First Holy Communion, which will be celebrated later this year.

Eligibility

Children are ordinarily eligible if they:

- have been baptised;
- have already celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation; and
- are in Year 4 or above.

Parent Information Evening

Wednesday 19th August - 5.30 pm in the Church

Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend this important session to learn about the programme, key dates, family participation, and preparation for receiving the Eucharist.

Enrol Now

Families can commence the enrolment process by scanning the QR code or completing the online form:

<https://url.au.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/8014CRONrwpAAZh9fnc1CJLm?domain=fs12.formsite.com>



Please complete enrolments by the end of August to ensure participation in the **Rite of Enrolment Masses on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th September.**

If you are unsure whether your child is eligible, please contact the parish office.

We look forward to accompanying your family as your child prepares to receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time

Church Pews Fundraising Update – 60% and Climbing!

Thank you to everyone who has supported our two appeal weekends so far – the generosity has been wonderful to see! We're now around 60% of the way to our goal, with funds collected and/or committed toward bringing new pews into our church for the very first time. A barometer-style graphic tracking our progress is coming soon.

As some families have been away over the school holidays, we'll be holding another couple of appeal weekends in late July or early August so more parishioners can take part.

You can contribute by sponsoring a seat (around half a metre of pew), a whole pew, or making a general donation of any amount – gifts so far have ranged from \$5 to \$500, and every contribution helps.

Thank you for supporting St Rita's on this special journey!

Mass & Confession Times

SATURDAY

St Rita's Church

Confessions — 4:15pm

Vigil Mass 5pm

Russell Island

Confessions before Mass

11th July 7:30am Mass Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Sunday at 10am

Coochiemudlo Island

Confessions before Mass 18th July

11am Mass Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Saturday at 11am

Macleay Island

Confessions before Mass

1st August 9am Mass

Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Sunday at 9am

SUNDAY

St Rita's Church

Mass 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

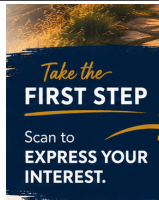
DURING THE MONTH

Estia Health 1st Wed of Month

Eucharist Healing Mass Wed. 12th August

Faith Starts with a Question

If you've ever been curious about faith, wondered about becoming Catholic, or simply wanted a place to ask life's bigger questions, our RCIA programme may be for you. No pressure. No obligation. Just an invitation to explore. Scan the QR code and submit an Expression of Interest to learn more.



St Rita's Bus Trip Update

Our upcoming Spring bus trip to Mount Tamborine, previously scheduled for Tues 15/9/26, has been changed to Mon 14/9/26 at the request of Blue Bus. We hope this does not inconvenience anyone.

We need more raffle prizes for our September and Christmas Bus trips. If anyone has any new or as new items that you no longer need or want, no matter how big or small, we would love to have them to be used as prizes. Our bus raffle proceeds are used to subsidise our trips and enable us to keep them at an affordable price. We are very grateful for your ongoing support, and sincerely thank you for your generous donations.

If you are able to help, please call Marie on 0411 459 014. Many thanks.

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: 20th July**



Craft & Chat afternoon update

A lovely relaxing afternoon with Jan, Annette and myself creating a little acrylic sunset on canvas. Mike was busy as usual creating lovely leadlight. Thanks Deb.

HOSANNA PRAYER and PRAISE GROUP

Mission

- Facilitate the experience of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit
- Encourage people to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- Empower people to use the charismatic gifts of the Holy Spirit in their daily lives

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



13th Anniversary Thanksgiving Mass 14 July 2026, Tuesday at 7pm



St Rita's Parish

CELEBRANT:

Fr Joseph Knantt

All are welcome to join
(Cup of tea to follow)

Eucharistic Adoration Every Saturday for personal silent prayer time

Exposition: 1:00pm-4:00pm

Benediction: 4:00pm

Stay for Confession: 4:15pm

Vigil Mass: 5:00pm

We need committed Adorers for one hour per month to ensure Jesus is never left alone during Adoration (Saturdays, 1:00pm.-4:00p.m.).



Sign-up sheets are at the front of the church .All are welcome

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

Join us for our weekly Art group every Wednesday morning at 10am in the Ruby room—all skill levels and creative spirits welcome!

Supporting St Rita's

Dear Parishioners,
Our beloved St Rita's needs your help. We are seeking donations for essential church maintenance and upgrades to ensure our sacred space remains welcoming and functional for years to come. Your generosity, no matter the amount, makes a real difference in preserving our spiritual home.

How to Donate:

Donation envelopes are available at the back of the church

Direct bank transfer:

BSB: 064-786

Account: 100027374

**Account Name: Parish Donation
Reference: Your surname**

Thank you for your continued support of our parish community.

Ministers for Masses

Volunteers are needed for our Mass Ministry in the roles of Readers, Communion Ministers, Data Projector Operators, and Mass Coordinators. Please consider and pray about being involved in one of these roles. Training will be given for all new ministers.

If you are interested or need more information, please write your name and contact details on the Mass Ministry Forms at the back table. Then place it in the locked box at the back table.

We ask everyone to please pray for our parish - that people with the gifts and skills required, may hear God's call to serve our community at Mass and respond generously.

World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly

Join us this Sunday 26 July as we celebrate World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly, coinciding with the Feast of Sts Joachim and Anne. A special blessing of grandparents will be given during Mass — all grandparents, families and parishioners are warmly invited, and recently confirmed children are especially encouraged to bring their grandparents along.

"Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children." — Proverbs 17:6

STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR PARISH FAMILY

Don't miss a thing at St Rita's. Our new digital register keeps you connected with Mass times, events, newsletters, and announcements — right when you need them.

Register in 2 minutes:

Visit

stritasparish.flocknote.com/register or scan the QR code below.



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

Timor – Update

Thank you to everyone who has generously supported our Timor efforts. Please note that physical items (goods, clothing, supplies) are not currently needed. If you would still like to help, monetary donations are gratefully welcomed and will go directly towards supporting our brothers and sisters in Timor. Thank you for your continued generosity and prayers

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, 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, especially Jim Sheppard.

DECEASED: We commend our deceased to the loving care of the Lord.



Feast Days of July

Wednesday, July 15

- St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (memorial)
- Wednesday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Thursday, July 16

- Our Lady of Mount Carmel (optional memorial)
- Thursday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 18

- Saturday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Sunday, July 19

- Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pope's Monthly Intention for July For respect for human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

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://bneatholic.stoplinereport.com>

STOPline Service: Ph. 1300 304550 | Email: AOB@stopline.com.au | Online Report: bneatholic.stoplinereport.com

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Thank you for reading!