

# St Rita's Newsletter



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



## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD 17th May 2026 Year A

### CHRIST GOES UP IN GLORY

This weekend we celebrate the feast of Ascension of the lord and the last Sunday of the Easter season. The Ascension of Jesus is an integral part our faith journey. St. Paul says, through the ascension of Christ, our hearts are enlightened and we come to share in the riches of his glory and inherit his power if we believe.

As we celebrate the great feast of the Ascension of the Lord, we are invited to lift our hearts and minds toward heaven while remaining faithful to our mission on earth. The Ascension is not the story of Jesus leaving us behind; rather, it is the moment when Christ entrusts His mission to His disciples and promises to remain with them always. Before ascending to the Father, Jesus tells His followers: "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). These words continue to challenge and inspire us today.

The Ascension reminds us that our faith is not meant to remain inside the walls of the church. We are called to be witnesses of Christ in our homes, workplaces, schools, and communities. Through our words, kindness, forgiveness, and acts of compassion, we make the presence of Jesus visible in the world. The disciples who once stood looking up toward heaven returned with courage and joy because they trusted in the promise of the Holy Spirit. In the same way, we too are strengthened by God's grace to continue the mission of love and service.

This feast also fills us with hope. Jesus ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us. Our final destiny is not earthly success or temporary happiness, but eternal life with God. The Ascension encourages us to live with purpose, faith, and confidence, knowing that Christ walks with us every day.

As we prepare for Pentecost, let us spend time in prayer asking the Holy Spirit to renew our hearts and strengthen our parish community. May Mary, the mother of the Church, guide us to remain faithful disciples of Jesus. Wishing you and your families a blessed and joyful Feast of the Ascension.

May God bless you  
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/>

### PARISH PRIEST Fr Joseph Kanatt MCBS

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**Columbarium** Enquiries Parish Office

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### THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Psalm: Ps 46:2-3, 6-9

Psalm Response: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord or Alleluia.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

## Event News

### *Feast Day of St Rita of Cascia*

Join us as we celebrate the Feast Day of St Rita of Cascia on **Sunday, 31st May at 9:00am Mass**. St Rita's Church, Victoria Point

We are delighted to welcome Bishop Shane Mackinlay as he joins us for this special celebration. All are welcome. Come and share in this joyful occasion with our community.

(Please be aware that on the 31<sup>st</sup>, Mass will be celebrated at 9:00am only. There will be no 7:00am Mass.)

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT – No Mass 25th–29th**

**Please note that Mass will not be celebrated from the 25th to the 29th (inclusive) while new flooring is being installed in the church.**

We thank you for your understanding and look forward to seeing you when we reopen!

### **Church of the Holy Spirit – Macleay Island** *21st Anniversary Celebration Mass*

**Sunday, 24 May 2025 at 3:30 pm**

Please join us for a special Sunday Mass to celebrate the 21st Anniversary of the opening of the Church of the Holy Spirit on Macleay Island.

All are most welcome!

Ferry times  
Russell Island departs 2:35 pm  
Redland Bay departs 2:45 pm  
Return ferry (both) 4:50 pm

A cuppa will follow Mass

#### **We Need You!**

Volunteers are warmly welcome to assist with hospitality on Sunday, 31st May. We also invite everyone to bring a shared plate to enjoy together.

Contact Deb Harris to register.  
**Ph: 0403113227**

### **Mass & Confession Times**

#### SATURDAY

##### **St Rita's Church**

Confessions — 4:15pm

Vigil Mass 5pm

##### **Russell Island**

Confessions before Mass

13th June 7:30am Mass Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Sunday at 10am

##### **Coochiemudlo Island**

Confessions before Mass 16<sup>th</sup> May  
11am Mass Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Saturday at 11am

##### **Macleay Island**

Confessions before Mass

6<sup>th</sup> June 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. 13th May

### **Feast Day of St Rita of Cascia**

**Join us for a special Joint School & Parish Mass on Friday, 22nd May at 9:00am in the School Hall, as we celebrate the Feast Day of St Rita of Cascia.**

**All parishioners and families are warmly welcome to attend.**

### **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: 18<sup>th</sup> May**



## HOSANNA PRAYER and PRAISE GROUP



VISION: Hosanna is to be vibrant Holy Spirit-guided prayer and praise group serving the church through evangelisation, worship and healing prayer.  
Meets on Tuesdays at 7pm in St Rita's Church All are welcome!

## Craft & Chat Afternoon

Next Session: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June  
Ruby room Join us!  
Bring your own projects.  
Looking forward to seeing you there!

**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.-3:30p.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

**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.

## Parish Collection Volunteers Needed

With the Parish Finance Services team at the Archdiocesan offices taking over our recording and reporting functions, we need volunteers to count the weekly collections and bank them in Cleveland — tasks that can be performed separately if needed. Both take place each Monday: counting should take around an hour, followed by banking (including travel to and from Cleveland) within another hour. With enough volunteers, a roster will ensure no one is called on more than a couple of times a month.  
If you are available most Monday mornings and would like to help, please contact our Parish Secretary, Hayley, to get started.

## PIETY STALL

**Our Piety Stall is open after 5pm Mass (Saturday) and 9am Mass (Sunday).** Come along and browse our range of religious goods.

A volunteer is needed to run the stall after the 7am Sunday Mass — please contact Geraldine if you can help.

## 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](http://stritasparish.flocknote.com/register) or scan the QR code below.



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

**A huge thank you to Holy Cross Funerals Redcliffe, Fly World, and the Hossana Group, as well as all others who so kindly donated towards our new PA system. Every contribution made a difference and your generosity is deeply appreciated. God bless you all!**

## 5th SUNDAY OF THE MONTH MASS MINISTRY TEAM

The weekend of 30/31 May is the Fifth Sunday of the month. The 2nd Sunday of the Month Mass Ministry Teams are asked to please minister at the Masses on the weekend of 30/31 May.

**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, 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 Kathleen Bieron & Thomas Bieron.

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



## Feast Days of May

### Sunday, May 17

- The Ascension of the Lord (SOLEMNITY) (in countries where it's transferred to Sunday)

### Monday, May 18

- St. John I, Pope and Martyr

### Wednesday, May 20

- St. Bernadine of Siena, Priest

### Thursday, May 21

- St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
- Thursday of the Seventh Week of Easter

### Friday, May 22

- St. Rita of Cascia, Religious
- Friday of the Seventh Week of Easter

## Pope's Monthly Intention for May

### That everyone might have food

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

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](mailto:sa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au) or <https://bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com>

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*Thank you for reading!*