

# St Rita's Newsletter



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



## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 19th July 2026 Year A

### THE JUSTICE AND MERCY OF OUR GOD.

This weekend's Scripture readings invite us to reflect on God's patience, hospitality, and hope. The church turns our attention to the Lord, the Just Judge, who, through his mercy, calls us to his kingdom. She also reminds us that Christ and the Holy Spirit help us in our journey toward God's kingdom of justice.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the wheat and the weeds. The servants want to pull out the weeds immediately, but the master tells them to wait until the harvest. This parable reminds us that God is patient with us. While we often want quick solutions and immediate judgment, God sees the whole picture. He gives people time to grow, to repent, and to become the person He created them to be. We are called not to judge others hastily but to trust in God's wisdom and mercy.

The first reading presents the beautiful example of Abraham's hospitality. By welcoming three unexpected visitors with generosity and kindness, Abraham unknowingly welcomed the Lord Himself and received the promise of new life. His openness reminds us that every act of hospitality becomes an opportunity to encounter God. In our families and parish community, simple acts of welcome, kindness, and generosity can become powerful witnesses to our faith.

In the second reading, St Paul speaks of rejoicing in his sufferings because they serve the mission of Christ. He reminds us that the mystery of Christ is alive within us, "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Even our struggles, disappointments, and sacrifices can bear fruit when united with Christ's cross. They become opportunities for God's grace to work through us.

As we reflect on these readings, let us ask ourselves: Am I patient with others as God is patient with me? Do I welcome others with an open heart? Do I trust that God can bring good even from the difficulties I face?

May this week be an opportunity to sow seeds of kindness, patience, and hope wherever we are. Let us leave the final judgment to God and instead focus on becoming faithful disciples who bear the good fruit of the Gospel in our homes, workplaces, and parish community. May the Lord bless you and your families with His peace and grace.

Fr. Joseph Kanatt MCBS

### Parish contacts:

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

Ph: 3207 9177

37 Benfer Road Victoria Point Qld 4165  
[victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au)

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

### PARISH PRIEST Fr Joseph Kanatt MCBS

#### Parish Office Secretary:

Hayley Jessiman (Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri)  
[victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### Columbarium Enquiries Parish Office

#### Sacramental Coordinator

Debra Nye  
[sc.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sc.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### Safeguarding Officer

Bob Snoke Mob 0419 247 698  
Helen Dowling 3207 9177  
[sa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### School Principal

Nathan Mulhearn— Ph: 07 3207 6628  
[pvictoriapoint@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pvictoriapoint@bne.catholic.edu.au)

#### OHSC

Jolene Morath—Ph: 0477 550 700  
[co.victoriapointshc@catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au](mailto:co.victoriapointshc@catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au)

### SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Psalm: Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

Psalm Response: . Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30

# 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

8<sup>th</sup> August 7:30am Mass Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Sunday at 10am

#### Coochiemudlo Island

Confessions before Mass 18<sup>th</sup> July  
11am Mass Liturgy of the Word with Communion – every other Saturday at 11am

#### Macleay Island

Confessions before Mass  
1<sup>st</sup> 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

No Mass on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July

### THURSDAY

#### St Rita's Church

No Mass on 23<sup>rd</sup> July

### FRIDAY

#### St Rita's Church

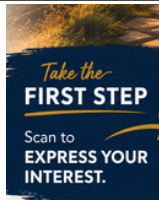
9am Mass & Holy Hour

### DURING THE MONTH

Estia Health 1st Wed of Month  
Eucharist Healing Mass Wed. 12<sup>th</sup> 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: 20<sup>th</sup> 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!



## 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.

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



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

## No Mass Notice

**Please note there will be no Mass held on Wednesday 22 July and Thursday 23 July.**

**Regular Mass times will resume as normal from Friday 24 July. Thank you for your understanding.**

## 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!**

Thank you ST Rita Parish for the support you have given to the HOSANNA PRAYER AND PRAISE GROUP. On the 14<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the 13<sup>th</sup> year with the theme, SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD.



## St Rita's Men's Social Group

July Outing: Guided tour of Willard's Farmhouse and outbuildings, followed by coffee and cake at Ginger & Lime Café.

**Save the Date – August: Friday 21st at 10am** – hosted bocce at Redlands Sporting Club. All welcome!

Please let Mike know if you'd like to attend.

☎ Mike Duggan – 0429 629 211



## 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.

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



## Feast Days of July

**Sunday, July 19**

- Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Wednesday, July 22**

- St. Mary Magdalene (FEAST)
- This feast takes precedence over the Ordinary Time weekday

**Saturday, July 25**

- St. James the Greater, Apostle (FEAST)
- Patron Saint of Spain
- This feast takes precedence over the Ordinary Time weekday

**Sunday, July 26**

- Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly
- (Church observance - not a liturgical feast)

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

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Obstetrician & Gynaecologist

**Dr. Gill van Iddekinge**  
M.B.B.Ch., F.C.O.G., M.Med.,  
F.R.A.N.Z.C.O.G.  
Obstetrician & Gynaecologist

**Mater Specialist Suites**  
Suite 11-12, Weppin Street,  
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*Thank you for reading!*