

St Rita's Newsletter



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



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 28th June 2026 Year A

WELCOMING CHRIST IN OTHERS

This Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 10:37-42) presents us with a challenging invitation from Jesus: to place Him at the very centre of our lives. Jesus says, "Whoever does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me." These words may seem demanding, but they reveal the path to true discipleship and lasting joy.

To follow Christ means more than simply believing in Him; it means allowing Him to shape our choices, priorities, and relationships. Jesus is not asking us to love our families less but to love Him first so that we may love others more deeply and authentically. When Christ is at the centre, every aspect of our lives finds its proper place.

In the first reading, the Shunammite woman welcomes the prophet Elisha into her home with generosity and hospitality. Her openness to God's messenger brings abundant blessings to her family. The Gospel echoes this theme, reminding us that welcoming others in Christ's name is a way of welcoming Christ Himself.

The second reading from Romans teaches that through Baptism we have been united with Christ in His death and resurrection. Baptism is not merely a ceremony from the past; it is a call to live a new life each day. We are invited to die to selfishness, pride, and sin so that Christ's life may flourish within us. Our world often encourages us to seek comfort, success, and self-interest.

Jesus, however, calls us to a different path - the path of self-giving love, sacrifice, and service. He assures us that even the smallest act of kindness, such as giving a cup of cold water to someone in need, has great value in God's eyes.

As we reflect on this Sunday's readings, let us ask ourselves: Is Christ truly at the centre of my life? How can I show greater hospitality, generosity, and love this week? May we renew our commitment to follow Him faithfully and discover the fullness of life that he promises.

May God bless you and your families with His peace and grace.
Fr. Joseph Kanatt MCBS

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a

Psalm: Ps 88:2-3, 16-19

Psalm Response: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 10:37-42

Parish contacts:

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

Ph: 3207 9177

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victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au

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

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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/8014C RONrwfopAAZh9fnc1CJLm?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

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE HOLDERS

Our 2026 planned giving envelopes have arrived and can be collected from the church.

If you donate through registered planned giving envelopes, we kindly ask that you take a moment to register your envelopes in Flocknote, our parish communication system. To do so, please complete the questionnaire using the link or QR code below.

<https://stritasparish.flocknote.com/signup/261000>



Thank you for your continued generosity and support .

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

4th July 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

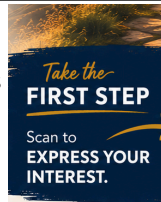
DURING THE MONTH

Estia Health 1st Wed of Month

Eucharist Healing Mass Wed. 8th July

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.



Sponsor a Seat – Church Pew Fundraiser

Friends, as we get closer to our new church pews arriving, we're launching our Sponsor a Seat fundraiser. You can sponsor 1 seat (\$120), 1 metre of pew/about 2 seats (\$240), or a whole pew (\$1200) – any amount is welcome.

Parish Pastoral Council members will be outside the church with EFTPOS & cash before and after Mass on the weekends of June 27–28 and July 4–5. You can also donate at the Parish Office during business hours. Donations can be anonymous or acknowledged on a donations plaque that will go on the back wall of the church.

Thank you in anticipation of your generous support to help us improve and beautify our sacred space. PPC

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: 6th July**



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!



Craft & Chat Afternoon

Next Session: Saturday TBA July
Ruby room Join us!
Bring your own projects.
Looking forward to seeing you there!

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



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, 1:00pm.-4:00p.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.

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.

Peter's Pence Collection This Weekend – 27/28 June 2026

Peter's Pence is the annual worldwide Catholic collection that enables the Holy Father to provide emergency assistance and charitable support to those most in need around the world.

Please give generously — collection baskets will be available at the church doors, and will be taken at all Masses this weekend.

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.

Volunteers needed to help set up for weekday Mass. If you're able to assist, please reach out to Fr. Joseph. Your time and support are greatly appreciated.

PIETY STALL

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

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 June / July

Sunday, June 28

- Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, June 29

- Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles (SOLEMNITY)
- This major solemnity takes full precedence

Friday, July 3

- St. Thomas, Apostle (FEAST)

Saturday, July 4

- Saturday of the Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Sunday, July 5

- Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pope's Monthly Intention for June

For the values of sports

Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

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://bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com>

STOPLine Service: Ph. 1300 304550 | Email: A0B@stopline.com.au | Online Report: bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

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Thank you for reading!