

# PARISH OF ST JOHN'S WOOD / THE GAP



Parish of St John's Wood/The Gap

**WELCOME**

## RECONCILIATION

Mater Dei  
Saturday 5.00-5.20

St. Peter Chanel  
Sunday 4.30-4.45

## BAPTISMS

Mater Dei  
3rd Sunday

St Peter Chanel  
4th Sunday

Baptism preparation  
details available on  
our website under  
Parish Activities

## PARISH SCHOOLS

Mater Dei  
Primary School  
Phone: 3514 4100

St Peter Chanel  
Primary School  
Phone: 3300 1202

## PARISH COUNCIL

Kylie Gaul  
(Chairperson)  
kylie.brian@bigpond.com

New Parishioners  
**WELCOME**

Please complete the form  
in the newsletter.

Website: [www.stjohnswoodthegap.net.au](http://www.stjohnswoodthegap.net.au)

Facebook page: [StJohnsWoodTheGapCatholicChurch@St John's Wood / The Gap Parish](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsWoodTheGapCatholicChurch@StJohnsWoodTheGapParish)

Parish Office: PO Box 408, The Gap, Qld 4061

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 8.30 am—3.00 pm

Contact: Phone: 3300 6099 Fax: 3300 6255

Churches: Mater Dei : 16 Philomene Drive, Ashgrove  
St Peter Chanel: 41 Chaprowe Road, The Gap

Parish Priest: Fr. Vu Dinh Tuong mdei@bigpond.com

Parish Manager: Richard James manager.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary: Caryn Lee thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

Sacramental Program enquiries only: ps.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au



*SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> February 2017 - Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

## Priorities

Every single day there are things that must be done within a certain time frame and other things can be flexible with the time frame of the day. These priorities are making the day interesting and if we don't manage the time schedule well they can put pressure on our lives and can make a good day to be a tiring day. Our spiritual life also has priorities and that is what today's Gospel talked about. The modern world life style certainly has taken into consideration lots of priorities for our external appearances and of our physical wellbeing. The external appearances are driven towards the commercial life style that makes us feel good and the physical wellbeing advocates by health and fitness enterprises to prolong life. To catch up with the current life style requires the assistance of finance and that is how the business of money transactions through various kinds of services is huge and flourished. Better looking and fitness are important for us. Everyone wants it and yet they aren't the most important things in life because it doesn't make a person to be a respected person. Something else makes you to be a respected person that is what today's Gospel promotes.

Nothing invented by the human beings has a worst side affect than money. Money is important for business transactions and for life and it is also the cause of all evils in the world. It has the power to change the mind and heart of a person. It depends on how we use the money that it could make a good friend turn out to be your worst enemy and a person who was once your enemy become friends. When the life of a person is detached to material things then that person is free no more because the detachment to world materials makes him/her a slave for other people's ideal. You are driven by their ideal. The more you attach to their suggestion via the media the more profit they make from their followers. We want freedom. We advocate for freedom and we fight for human rights but in following the ideal advocates by the media for better looking and more elegant in life we unfortunately become volunteers to slave for the commercial world. Setting our heart on things of this world we will never free because new ideas and new models are being invented daily; set our heart on God's kingdom and things from above we soon will be free because the love of God is unchanged and God's love has the power to set you free. It is better to slave for things from above rather than slave for things from below which is here today and disappears tomorrow.

To make us be a respected person, an upright character, we need to spend more time in prioritising our spiritual life. It is very often that we over worry about food and clothing which are all external appearances and neglect or even forget about the internal life. We have very little time for spiritual nourishment with lots of excuses and self-defence for not looking after the spiritual life. Good food and fine clothing make you feel happy but they don't enrich and prolong life. It is things from above, the everlasting that gives everlasting happiness, true happiness comes from above, not from below. Prioritize our life to things of heaven makes us wise and be true children of God.

Vudinh Tuong



**Next Week's Readings:**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**  
**Ordinary Time**  
*First Reading*  
*Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7*

*Second Reading*  
*Romans 5:12-19*

*Gospel*  
*Matthew 4:1-11*

**First Reading: Isaiah 49:14-15**  
 Even these may forget, says the Lord God, yet I will not forget you.

**Responsorial Psalm:**  
 Rest in God alone, my soul.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5**  
 The Lord will bring light to all that is hidden in darkness.

**Gospel Acclamation:**  
 Alleluia, alleluia!  
 The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.  
 Alleluia!

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:24-34**  
 Do not worry about tomorrow.



**Prayers for the Sick**  
 Eamonn O'Dwyer  
 John Perks (Nellie's husband)  
 Carolyn Webster  
 Barry Trousdall  
 Jan Montgomery

**Recently Deceased**  
 Veronica Cawley  
 Raquel Fuller

**Anniversaries**  
 Merv Smith  
 Bryan Morris  
 Maureen Maher  
 Errol Davis  
 Fred Price

**Please note:** we cannot add a name to the sick list or recently deceased list unless advised by a family member direct.

**Please let us know about the sick**

Every so often we learn of people confined to their home for quite a while or even transferred to permanent care in a hospice or nursing home.

We would like to bring the sacraments to them so please let the Parish Office know if family members are so confined.

**Please contact the parish office: 3300 6099 or Vi Hall: Mob: 0409 894 904**

**Rosary**  
 Rosary will be held at 7:30pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at Bruce & Val Bonney's house, The Gap



**Rosary**  
 If you would like to pray the Rosary in your home please contact **Bruce Bonney**  
**Phone: 3300 2959**

**Would you like to be part of a Lenten Group?**

If you would like to be part of a Lenten Group this year, please contact the group you would like to join direct:  
 Mondays 7pm (Parish Office RCIA closed group - contact office)  
 Monday evenings (closed Mother's Group - contact office)  
 Monday evenings (closed Father's Group - contact office)  
 Mondays 7pm (Chris Jackson 3366 1263 or 0417 075 834)  
 Wednesdays 7pm (Chris Van Every 3172 2709 or 0448 330 037)  
 Thursdays 5:30pm (Peter Maher 3300 1934).



**ADORATION GROUP**

Meets on the 1st Friday of each month (3<sup>rd</sup> March) 2pm to 3pm at SPC Church.

**ALL WELCOME**



**Update of Our Parish History**

The last history book of the Parish was written sometime 30 years ago. We would like to update with more information and more photos. If your group would like to be part of the project, please write a summary of your group activities and gather some photos and send it to the steering committee:

Peter McMahon (0437 674 062)  
 Ken Robertson (3300 2383)  
 Noel Saunders (0413 731 105) or  
 Parish Office (3300 6099).

**Children's Masses**  
 Next weekend morning masses (SPC 8am and MD 9:30am) will be children's masses.



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**  
**Philippines**  
**Friday 3rd**  
**March**

**10:00am, SPC Church**



**Project Compassion**  
 Project Compassion boxes are now available at the back of the churches. Please give generously and support Project Compassion.  
 For more information  
 1800 024 413  
 caritas.org.au



**First Pot Luck Dinner for the Year - This Sunday**



The first Pot Luck Dinner for the year is on this Sunday night 26<sup>th</sup> Feb after 5pm Mass at SPC. Please bring a meal to share. Tea, coffee and cordial will be provided.



**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**Mater Dei Church**  
**Monday 7pm-10pm**  
**Friday 9.30am-10pm**

**Adorers needed** contact  
**Veronica Rice** on  
**3300 3627**

**BEQUEST OR WILLS**

All parishioners are asked to consider including our parish St John's Wood/The Gap in your will.

One of the greatest contributions you can make to our parish is to ensure a legacy of faith for the young and to provide proper care for the old.



**NEW PARISHIONER CONTACT FORM**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse's DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children & DOB's: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Tick to commence Parish  
 Planned Giving

Please place this completed form in the collection plate or email your details to the Parish Office at: [thegap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:thegap@bne.catholic.net.au) or contact the Parish Office on 3300 6099.

**WEEK THREE: ROYAL COMMISSION HEARING**

Archbishop Mark Coleridge was empanelled at the Royal Commission on Friday and was unable to prepare a "week 3 message". We will provide his message when we receive it.

**Brief history of Ashes**

The practice of Ash Wednesday was taken from the Old Testament concept. It is a sign of humility and mortality; and it is a sign of sorrow and repentance for sin. Receiving ashes on the forehead is a reminder of mortality and sorrow for sin. The practice was made universal around the 11<sup>th</sup> century. Signing a cross mark on the forehead was an imitation of the seal that is put on a Christian at baptism Rom 6, 1-11. The reference to the sealing of the servants of God for their protection is found in Ezekiel 9,4-6 and in Revelation 7,3.

Sealing on the forehead was tracing a tav of the righteous inhabitants of Jerusalem. Tav is one of the letters of the Hebrew alphabet, and in ancient script it looked like the Greek letter chi, which happens to be two crossed lines (like an "x") and which happens to be the first letter in the word "Christ" in Greek Christos. The early Church Fathers seized on this tav-chi-cross-christos connection and used it as the background to the Catholic practice of making the sign of the cross when they enter the Church or prayers.

Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the forehead. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return or Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Ashes are blessed during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of repentance. Even non-Christians are welcome to receive it. The ashes are burned from Palm Sunday branches blessed the previous year. Ash Wednesday is a day of penitential prayer and fasting and it is inappropriate to dine out or to have a party after receiving the ashes. Feasting is highly inappropriate. Small children, the elderly and sick are exempt from this observance. Some people wash ashes off after Mass and some keep the ashes as a reminder until the evening.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.



**Interfaith Perspectives on Peace, Compassion & Forgiveness**

A free public forum on Saturday 4 March, 2017 at the Multi-Faith Centre, Griffith University Nathan Campus. RSVPs are essential for catering purposes to [icd@griffith.edu.au](mailto:icd@griffith.edu.au) or 3835 7052.

**Memorial Mass for Students and Staff who have died whilst at St Rita's**

St Rita's College will host a Memorial Mass on 20 May this year for students and staff who died during their time at St Rita's. This, our Inaugural Memorial Mass, will also bless a Plaque of Memoriam for each of our deceased students. For more information telephone: 3862 1615.


**Queensland Irish Choir INC. Invite you to attend: 2017 St. Patrick's Concert.**

**Guests: Queensland Irish Pipers and The Queensland Irish Dancers**  
**Place: The Brisbane German Club – Vulture St. East Brisbane.**  
**Date: Sunday**

**12<sup>th</sup> March 2017**  
**Time 2pm – 4.00pm.**  
**Cost \$15**  
**Bookings through Jennifer Dunbar**  
**Mob: 0447 744 788.**  
**Email: [jennifer.dunbar@hotmail.com](mailto:jennifer.dunbar@hotmail.com)**

**Tickets can be purchased at the door. Afternoon Tea is included**

**Alpha Workshop**

**Youth Alpha** - Wednesday 8th March (7pm-8:30pm)   
 Hosted by The Youth Evangelisation Office  
 Lavalla Centre, Fernberg Rd, Paddington (downstairs hall)

**Alpha Workshop** - Saturday 11th March (9am-3pm)  
 Hosted by Corinda Graceville Parish  
 School Hall, 18 Clewley St, Corinda

**There is no charge for these workshops.**

Please contact Evangelisation Brisbane to register for these workshop or for more information 3324 3440.

**Ash  
Wednesday  
Masses  
Tues 28th Feb  
MD 7pm Vigil  
Wed 1<sup>st</sup> March  
SPC 9am**

**Ash Wednesday Masses  
in the City**

St Patrick's, Fortitude Valley –  
7.00am  
Cathedral of St Stephen –  
8.00am; 10.00am; 12.30pm;  
5.30pm  
Car park will be available for  
the 5.30pm Mass only

**40 Days for Life -  
Prayer Vigil for the  
Unborn**

1 March - 9 April 2017  
At Bowen Hills and  
volunteers are needed for  
prayers.

Please email  
40daysbrisbane@gmail.com  
or visit 40dfl.net on how  
to be involved!

**Prayers for the sick:**

When there is a request  
to pray for a sick person  
their names will be in  
the Prayers of the  
Faithful for 2 weeks and  
in the Bulletin for 2  
weeks. If you wish to  
continue after that,  
please contact the parish  
office.

Names of recently  
deceased will be on the  
prayer list for 2 weeks

The Editor retains the  
right to edit any items  
that are submitted to the  
bulletin.

The cut off for the Parish  
Bulletin is Wednesday  
3pm.

If you have any queries  
please contact the Parish  
Office on: 33006099

MASS TIMES	MATER DEI	ST PETER CHANEL	FEAST DAYS/NOTES
Monday 27/02			
Tuesday 28/02	9:00am 7:00pm (Vigil)		
Wednesday 01/03		9:00am	Ash Wednesday
Thursday 02/03		9:00am Healing Mass	
Friday 03/03	9:00am Healing Mass		
Saturday 04/03	5:30pm		
Sunday 05/03	9:30am Children's Mass	8:00am Children's Mass 5:00pm	First Sunday of Lent

**Upcoming Events**

- Pot Luck Dinner - Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February
- 7pm Vigil Mass for Ash Wednesday MD - Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February
- Ash Wednesday 9am Mass SPC – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March
- Lenten Groups begins - Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March
- Parish Pastoral Council Meeting - Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March
- World Day of Prayers 10:00am SPC - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March
- Children's Liturgy - Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March
- Baptisms 9:30am MD - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March
- Reconciliation for Children in Year 4
  - 3:30pm MD Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March
  - 3:30pm SPC Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March
  - 3:30pm SPC Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March
- Baptisms 8:00am SPC - Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March
- Reconciliation for Children in Year 4
  - 3:30pm MD Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March
  - 3:30pm SPC Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March
  - 3:30pm SPC Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March
- Parish Pastoral Council Meeting - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April
- Palm Sunday – Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April
- Holy Week
  - Holy Thursday – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April
  - Good Friday – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April  
(Stations of the Cross 10:30am MD)  
(The Passion of the Lord 3:00pm MD & SPC)
  - Easter Vigil Mass - 6pm SPC Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April
  - Easter Sunday – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April  
(SPC 8am Mass)  
(MD 9:30am Mass)

**Birthday's for this week in February / March**

**Bernadette McDonough  
Rosemary Brady**




**A VOCATION VIEW: Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – A**

**A VOCATION VIEW:** "The Lord will bring light to all that is hidden in darkness." He can only bring that light if you will be his hands and his feet and his heart in the world. Be people of light.

**TUESDAY MORNING PLAYGROUP**

Please come and enjoy a cup of coffee and cake with other parents from The Gap Community. It's an informal gathering to chat and meet other parents while our children play and get messy with craft.

**When:** Tuesday mornings at 9am (after school drop off).  
**Where:** St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Hall.  
**What to bring:** A gold coin donation (in order to keep the coffee pot full and the kids entertained).  
Check out their Facebook page  
**Tuesday Playgroup @ St Johns Wood Parish Hall**



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