

# St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Bulletin

Vol 5, Issue 3

28 January 2024

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**First Reading:** [Deut 18:15-20](#)

I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.

**Second Reading:** [1 Cor 7:32-35](#)

The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord, that she might be holy.

**Gospel:** [Mark 1:21-28](#)

This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.



[Readings and Commentaries](#)

PRAYING With CHILDREN  
SUNDAY LITURGY



[Two-Minute Homily](#) Fr Boni Buahendri

SVD for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2024.

"God's authority in our life is important. It helps us to grow in faith, in life, in ministry as well as in mission."

## Recently Deceased

Patti Topp, Dawn Jenkins, Sonia Morato Fernanoles, Peter Duell, Valentin Lycho

## Anniversary

Maurice De Sliva, Fr John Newman, Joe Tracey, Anna Rebl, Lesley Parsonage, Peter Tan

## Sick

Peter Hadley, Moira De Silva, Joy Harvey, Susan Black, Juliana Ryman, Lorna McConnachie, Philomena Jasoda (Nellie's Mum), Margaret Sullivan, Bernie Knapp, Mary Davidson, Val Bonney, Peter Maher, Ryan Ferguson, Linda Pisano, Jane McMahon, Estelle Frenay, Irene Dards, Toni Bennett, Beth Kloza, Kim Murphy

## WCCM (Christian Meditation)

Will resume early February. We will be in touch!

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mater Dei: Monday & Friday 6 - 7pm

## THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL REFLECTION: A NEW WAY OF TEACHING

In today's gospel, the Evangelist Mark, from whose gospel we will take the readings this year (Year B), tells us about the very beginning of Jesus' public ministry.



Last week, we learnt of Jesus choosing his disciples. This week, Mark describes Jesus' first public action. In important ways, this portrayal of Jesus here at the outset of his public life encapsulates the key elements of Jesus' person and ministry that inform Mark's whole gospel. In this brief passage we learn two vital things about Jesus: he teaches with authority and he has power over evil.

In the first few verses, Jesus goes to the synagogue in Capernaum. He is, after all, a faithful Jew. It is the sabbath. And there he begins to teach. To the utter amazement of those in the synagogue – for no one knows Jesus, has heard of him or where he's from – he teaches with extraordinary authority.

But this puzzling thing is then followed by another astonishing thing: an exorcism, when Jesus commands and rebukes an unclean spirit to come out of an afflicted man; here too he demonstrates extraordinary authority. Even a demonic spirit obeys him.

In this way, Mark describes that, in his very first public appearance, Jesus teaches with authority and performs an exorcism with similar authority. The people perceive something radically new here, and there is something compelling about the congruence of Jesus' teaching and his actions. They exclaim: "What is this? A new teaching—with authority!"

It is interesting to note that it is the unclean spirit – not the synagogue goers – who actually recognises Jesus and calls him by his name: "Jesus of Nazareth . . . I know who you are, the Holy One of God." Notice too that the synagogue goers exclaim "What is this?" not "Who is this?" At the end of this gospel, the centurion will exclaim the truth Mark wants us to understand: "Truly this man was the Son of God."

So Jesus not only teaches with authority (and his listeners were clearly used to teachers who teach without authority), but what he teaches in word and in action is very clearly a NEW teaching!

His teaching is the good news of the coming of the Kingdom; his actions enact the good news he proclaims, demonstrating his power and authority.

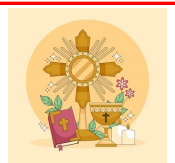
As we go through this liturgical year, our readings from Mark's gospel will highlight these essential characteristics of Jesus' person and ministry: Jesus as teacher, who teaches with authority and whose teaching is the truth; and Jesus as victorious over the forces of evil and darkness, even death.

He is indeed the Holy One of God. Let us place our faith and trust in him, listen to him, and follow him. He doesn't promise that it will be easy, but he does promise that he is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

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## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2024

**First Holy Communion:** is available for children in Year 4 and above who have been baptised and confirmed. It will begin in February and with Communion celebrated on the weekends during May.



**Confirmation** is available for children who have been baptised and are in Year 3 and above. It begins in July, with Confirmation celebrated early September.

**Penance/Reconciliation** Is available for children in Year 5 and above who have been baptised, confirmed and received First Communion. It begins in October, with the celebration of Penance during November. For further information, please contact the Parish Office.

Day/Date	Liturgy	Activity	Venue
Tuesday 30/01/2024	<b>Weekday, Ord Time 4</b>	<b>9am –Welcome Mass MD school</b>	Mater Dei
Wednesday 31/01/2024	<b>St John Bosco, priest</b>	9am - Mass	SPC
Thursday 01/02/2024	<b>Weekday, Ord Time 4</b>	9am-Mass	SPC
Friday 02/02/2024	<b>The Presentation of the Lord</b>	<b>9am - Anointing Mass</b>	Mater Dei
Saturday 03/02/2024	<b>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	5.30pm – Mass	Mater Dei
		8.00am - Mass	SPC
		9.30 am - Mass	Mater Dei
Sunday 04/02/2024		5.00pm - Mass	SPC

## ST JOHN'S WOOD / THE GAP PARISH

### Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Fri:- 8:30am - 3:30pm

Tue, Thurs: - 8:30am - 12:30pm

### Contact

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**Facebook:** [StJohnsWoodTheGapParish](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsWoodTheGapParish)

**Bulletin:** Email this address if you require a copy  
[bulletin.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:bulletin.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au)

### PARISH TEAM

#### Fr Terence Nueva

Parish Priest

**E:** [nuevat@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:nuevat@bne.catholic.net.au)

**M:** 0438 946 000

#### Silvana Geldenhuys

Parish Secretary

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#### Majella Deegan

Sacramental Program Coordinator

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#### Ann Lister

Local Safeguarding Representative &  
Parish Office Assistant

**E:** [poa2.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:poa2.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au)

### CHURCHES

#### Mater Dei

16 Philomene Drive, Ashgrove, 4060

#### St. Peter Chanel

41 Chaprowe Road, The Gap, 4061

### SCHOOLS

#### Mater Dei Primary School

**T:** 3514 4100

#### St Peter Chanel Primary School

**T:** 3300 1202



### FUNERAL SERVICE

A funeral for Valerie Warmington will be held on Wednesday 31st January at St Peter Chanel Church, commencing at 11.00am. Please keep the family in your prayers.



### PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR NEXT PARISH RETREAT TO BE HELD ON Saturday 24th February, 2024.



The theme will be 'My stories and callings – the beginning of our Lenten Journey' to be hosted by Paul Jensen (Deacon). The retreat will commence at 9.30am and finish at 12pm. **Can you please RSVP on the sheets at the back of the church.**

## menCONNECT

**Gentlemen,** we are delighted to advise that Deacon Dr Peter Pellican will lead the half-day Gathering on 2 March this year. The theme is, 'What does it mean to follow Jesus?'

Two elements will be covered: what does it mean to follow Jesus as a husband, father or single man? and what does it mean to follow the example of Jesus in the workplace, church and the community? There will be plenty of time for discussion and personal reflection. Peter is Executive Director at Evangelisation Brisbane and a convert to Catholicism. He is passionate about getting Catholics excited about their faith, so that they can live it more fully.

The morning starts at **7am** with the traditional cooked breakfast and coffee and concludes at **1pm**. **The location of the Gathering is the Saint Peter Chanel School (library room), 41 Chaprowe Rd, The Gap.** The cost is \$25 cash and for catering purposes, please RSVP Mike on 0459 992 228 as soon as possible, as numbers are limited to 70 due to venue capacity.

### A LENT AND EASTER OCTAVE RESOURCE FOR INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS



The parish is exploring the possibility of having a Lenten Program run here at the Parish Office, if you are interested in running the group please contact the parish office. If you would like to purchase a Lenten resource the cost is \$7.00 and they will be available next week.

This Lent embark on a transformative Lenten journey with Pietà, an exquisite 80-page (full-colour book) containing short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday) perfect for individual devotional reading in addition to the longer-form Sunday Scripture readings, reflections, prayers, questions and visio divina that traditionally form part of Lenten group gatherings.



### HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Pushpa on Monday 29th January. Contact the Parish Office for further details.



### 2024 Columban Catholic Art Calendar

Buy a Catholic calendar from Columban to help support our missionary work. *They are available at the back of each church or in the parish office for \$10.*

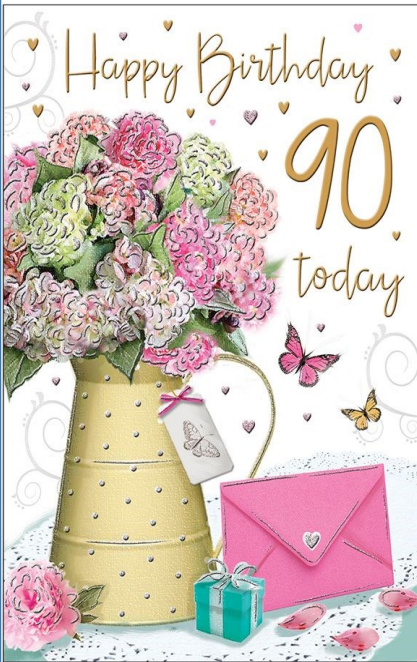


## PARISH WOMEN'S GROUP

A trail Women's Group (in a similar vein to the Parish Men's Group) has been formed in the parish and has been meeting fortnightly since the middle of last year. The aim is to look at the Sunday readings for discussion, prayer and reflection with a view to deepening our understanding of the Sunday scripture readings and thus enriching our Sunday worship.

The group has been meeting at the home of Robyn Locke on a Wednesday morning from 9.30am to 11am. The group will be recommencing for 2024 next Wednesday morning 31st January, 2024.

If you are interested in joining us or would like to know more, please contact Robyn Locke on 0428733131.



### **Happy 90th Birthday Collette Eastwood**

Happy Birthday!

On your birthday, remember that you were wonderfully made by God and rejoice in his love. You are so blessed to be you and to share the amazing love of Jesus on your birthday! May God bless this day with more love than your heart can hold.

**Many Happy Returns  
Collette**



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
TO **JOY HARVEY** WHO  
CELEBRATES HER **100TH**  
BIRTHDAY ON THE 1ST  
FEBRUARY 2024.

May God's grace be with you and may His love surround you on this special day and always..

*On behalf of the parish-  
ioners we wish you a  
speedy recovery and  
may God bless your  
special year ahead.*



## **OUR STORIES AND CALLINGS THE LENTEN JOURNEY Presented By Deacon Paul Jensen**

**WHEN: SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

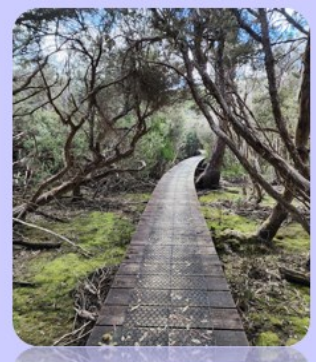
**WHERE: ST PETER CHANEL PARISH HALL**

**TIME: 9:30am - 12:00pm**

**FOLLOWED BY A 'CUPPA'**

**... A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON YOUR  
EXPERIENCE AND CONNECT WITH OTHERS ...**

*Contact the Parish Office to RSVP or add your name to the list at  
the back of the church*





## AUSTRALIA DAY MESSAGE from THE ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

Australia Day is marked in different ways by the different peoples who form the rich tapestry of this nation lying beneath the Southern Cross.

For some it is a moment to look back with pride on the many achievements of Australia since 26 January 1788. What began as a penal colony became in a relatively short time a peaceful and prosperous nation. It also became a stable democracy, sealed by Federation. None of this was easy, and Australia Day can be a time to give thanks for the sacrifices made.

For others who have come to this land more recently, often escaping the horrors of war, persecution and poverty, it is a moment to give thanks for the new home they have found in this country where they have been able to recover hope and rebuild their lives. Australia has given them much, but they too have given Australia much; and for that we all give thanks on the national day.

For the first inhabitants of the land Australia Day looks different. We cannot forget the injustice and dispossession they have known since 1788. Often they were displaced from their land; and Australia has slowly come to understand that to break the bond between Aboriginal peoples and the land was to do them great violence, communally and individually. The cornerstone of Aboriginal cultures was shaken, with devastating consequences for Aboriginal peoples' sense of identity. This was made worse when children were removed from their families. To this day, we see the effects of this, described at times as intergenerational trauma.

We who are not culpable are nonetheless responsible to do what we can to heal the wounds of injustice, since until those wounds are healed the claim that "all are equal" in this land will be little more than empty words. From 1788 until now, all have not been equal here; and they never will be until we remember in a way that reckons truthfully with the past and commits to doing what is necessary to heal the wounds. Until they are healed our national potential will never be fully realised, and Australia Day will not be the time of shared celebration it is meant to be.

A national day can be for us all a moment of deeper reflection when we recognise that Australia, with its many peoples, is capable of great compassion and of a wisdom that understands the truth. It can be a day to recognise what this country can be, a land where all are in fact equal and can walk together into the future God is preparing.

God of all peoples, Lord of the journey  
who always walk with us,  
in this land you have blessed us  
with the first inhabitants of the land  
who have loved it through the ages:  
for them we give you thanks.  
You have blessed us in the settlers  
who made this land their home,  
and forged a nation with their toil:  
for them we give you thanks.

You have blessed us in the many peoples  
of different languages and cultures  
who have found a new home here:  
for them we give you thanks.

We ask that you make a home among us,  
so that justice and truth may flourish here  
and all Australians may walk together  
into the future you are preparing:  
for that we give you thanks.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ Mark Coleridge

Archbishop of Brisbane

