



# St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Bulletin

Vol 5, Issue 16

28th April 2024



## FIFTH SUNDAY of EASTER

**First Reading:** [Acts 9:26-31](#)

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

**Second Reading:** [1 John 3:18-24](#)

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

**Gospel:** [John 15:1-8](#)

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit

## THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL REFLECTION:

### THE TRUE VINE THAT FEEDS US

In these weeks after Easter and before the feasts of Ascension and Pentecost, our gospel readings come from Jesus' farewell discourses in the Gospel of John. These are the teachings Jesus shared with his disciples in that precious time just before his arrest and crucifixion.



His teachings offered solace to his disciples who were soon to endure his passion and death. We now read and ponder them in the light of his resurrection and Ascension. They also offer comfort to us in our time and place, as we face life's challenges and sorrows.

Last week, the gospel recounted Jesus telling the disciples that he is the Good Shepherd, who knows his sheep by name, who cares for them and protects them, and whose love and care are so great that he lays down his life for his sheep. This image of the Good Shepherd and his sheep describes a relationship of steadfast love and care.

This week, Jesus describes his relationship to his followers differently, this time in terms of a vine and its branches. This image highlights the intimacy, interconnection, mutuality and reciprocity of the relationship of Jesus to us, of Jesus to the Father, and of Jesus and the Father to us, individually and as a community.

Jesus explains that he is the true vine, the Father is the vine grower, and we are the branches. The image reminds us that we, just like the vine and its branches, rely on each other in order to bear fruit.

But, most important of all, Jesus urges us: "Abide in me as I abide in you." To abide means to remain, to stay, to dwell, to make a home in, to endure, and to hold fast. This notion of 'abiding' is of utmost importance in John's Gospel. (Even in today's short reading this word, abide, occurs 8 times.)

Jesus is very clear: this abiding is essential and core to our relationship with him. It is this abiding in him and he in us that will result in great fruitfulness. The fruits will be life-giving fruits, internal as well as external, for us personally and for the community. They will be peace, freedom, justice, joy, and the flourishing of creation.

What then is the call and the challenge for us? It is to nurture our relationship with Jesus. This is the discipleship to which he calls us: it is abiding in him, keeping company with him, living in daily conversation with him. We are called to a life-long process of entering ever more deeply into this relationship with him, learning to abide in his love, and learning to love one another as God has loved us. It is learning to live like that every day!

And, in the process, we will gradually come to better see the world, ourselves, other people, and whatever situations we face with our hearts and minds attuned to his.

*Anne Hunt © Majellan Media 2024*



[Readings and Commentaries](#)

PRAYING with CHILDREN  
SUNDAY LITURGY



Fr John reminds us that "The Holy Spirit comes forth from the nature of Christ and into our nature through the sacraments of His Church." [Watch now.](#)

## Recently Deceased

Elizabeth Lau, Joy Harvey, Teresa David

## Anniversary

Josie & Ken Allen, Michael Ratnayake, Eileen Cahill

## Sick

Deborah Austin, Lorraine Stevens, Carol Black, Baby Dion Eralino, Peter Hadley, Moira De Silva, Susan Black, Juliana Ryman, Lorna McConnachie, Philomena Jasoda, Margaret Sullivan, Bernie Knapp, Mary Davidson, Val Bonney, Peter Maher, Ryan Ferguson, Linda Pisano, Jane McMahon, Estelle Freney, Irene Dards, Toni Bennett, Beth Kloza, Kim Murphy

WCCM (Christian Meditation)

Monday at 9.30am Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mater Dei: Monday & Friday 6 - 7pm



We wish Father Terry a Happy Anniversary of his ordination on May 3. God Bless!



## A VERY BIG THANK YOU

PLEASE RETURN YOUR BOXES OR ENVELOPES as soon as possible so we can finalise the contributions. So far our Project Compassion contributions have reached \$3164.50. Caritas Australia wishes to thank everyone for their amazing generosity in these hard times.

Day/Date	Liturgy	Activity	Venue
Tuesday 30/04/2024	<b>TUESDAY of the 5th week of Easter</b>	9am –Mass	Mater Dei
Wednesday 01/05/2024	<b>WEDNESDAY of the 5th week of Easter</b>	9am - Mass	SPC
Thursday 02/05/2024	<b>St Athanasius, bishop, doctor</b>	9am—Mass	SPC
Friday 03/05/2024	<b>Sts Philip and James, apostles</b>	<b>9am– Anointing Mass</b>	Mater Dei
Saturday 04/05/2024	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER</b>	5.30pm – Mass	Mater Dei
Sunday 05/05/2024		8.00am - Mass	SPC
		9.30 am - Mass	Mater Dei
		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

**A:** 41 Chaprowe Road, The Gap

**P:** PO Box 408, The Gap Qld 4061

**T:** 07 3300 6099

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

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

**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 Geldenhuy**

Parish Secretary

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

**Majella Deegan**

Sacramental Program Coordinator

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

**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

**CORRECTION:** The YOUTH LED MASS AND POT LUCK DINNER will now be held on **Sunday 16th June at SPC 5pm**. More details to follow.

### CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF ST PETER CHANEL



On Sunday, April 28, the school community together with the Parishioners of St Johns Wood/The Gap will come together for a **special 8am Mass, honouring the life and legacy of St. Peter Chanel**. This event serves as a reminder of the school's commitment to spiritual growth and unity. Students, staff, parents, and alumni will gather to reflect on the values upheld by St. Peter Chanel and renew their dedication to embodying those values within the school and beyond. We hope you can join us for the Mass and the BBQ breakfast after the Mass.

### The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary MESSAGE STICK

This year, 2024, marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion and opening of the Cathedral of St Stephen. To celebrate the occasion, a message stick, has been travelling around the archdiocese, in recognition that the cathedral was built on the sacred lands of the First Nations Peoples of Meanjin Brisbane.

**The Message Stick** is an ancient and culturally significant instrument of **welcome and acceptance**. The sesquicentenary Message Stick was blest on Pentecost Sunday 2023, to begin its journey around the archdiocese. In its travels, it heralds the invitation for parishioners across the Archdiocese to come together on Pentecost Sunday, 2024, at the Cathedral to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Now on its final leg of the journey, it is doing the round of the parishes, school and communities of the Central Deanery. The Parish of St John's Wood/The Gap was chosen as the first stop of the final journey, hosting the Message Stick, from 26 April to 29 April 2024.

On Friday, we celebrated the welcome liturgy of the Message Stick during the 9am Mater Dei weekday mass, after which, it was brought by Donna Jones for an encounter with students and staff of Mater Dei School. We will have the Message Stick introduced at all the weekend masses in our parish, so that the congregation at each mass will be able to say the sesquicentenary prayer written by Archbishop Coleridge. The St Peter Chanel School will encounter the Message Stick at the 8 am Sunday Mass with the school community led by Bec O'Connor to honour St Peter Chanel on his feast day.



### HOME ROSARY



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

Please check out our [Parish Webpage](#) and [Facebook Page](#) for regular updates.



## PARISH COMMUNITY BUILDING GROUP UPDATE

There are a group of parishioners who have been meeting to discuss ways of encouraging a deeper sense of community and family involvement in the parish. Thank you to those parishioners who have responded to the call out so far and gotten back to us with their thoughts. Definitely some ideas for us to explore! One of the first simple things we are planning to undertake is to instigate a Welcoming Sunday once a month on the First Sunday of the Month. We are all familiar with, and good at turning and greeting each other at the beginning of Mass but this will be an opportunity to further extend this and step out of our normal comfort zone and friendship groups and be more intentional about meeting or talking with someone who may be a new face at church or someone you always smile at but have never actually had a conversation with. On this Sunday once a month we are also going to have "stick on" name tags at the door of the church for people to write their names on to make it easier to say hi to people and have a conversation with someone who you may have seen for ages but never really knew their name. Let's enjoy and look forward to meeting new faces and ensuring our communities are a welcoming place for all!

For any more information or suggestions please contact Luke Garske [luke.garske@connect.qut.edu.au](mailto:luke.garske@connect.qut.edu.au) or Michelle Mead [themeads@gmail.com](mailto:themeads@gmail.com)

## Catholic Mission invites World Mission May Rosary Prayers sessions



Join Catholic Mission online to honour Mother Mary during the month of May through praying the World Mission rosary.

The World Mission Rosary aims to "embrace the world in prayer" and especially pray for those living in poverty. This special rosary has a colour-coded decade representing each continent where the Church continues our foundress Pauline Jaricot's mission. It helps us to understand what it means to belong to a Global Church and how the Church can be a leader in the world through the work of Mission.

**Mon – Fri Time: 2pm Brisbane / Melbourne time**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/cmprayer>

Meeting ID: **893 8798 2280**

Password: **876574**

# ALL Welcome

MAY  
1  
6 PM

# SHINE A LIGHT ON DOMESTIC & FAMILY VIOLENCE

## A CANDLE VIGIL



St Francis Theological College  
Milton Qld  
Parking available  
Enter via entrance between  
27 and 31 Baroona Rd  
supper to follow

## GROWING GOOD MEN

A weekend experience for fathers and their teenage sons.

**GROWING GOOD MEN** is a weekend experience for fathers and their teenage sons.

Do you have a teenage son who would benefit from this experience or do you know of another Father and Son who would benefit from this experience?

The relationship between a **FATHER** and his **SON** is one of the primary and most critical relationships a **MAN** will have particularly in the teen years. The impact our Fathers have on us and we as Fathers have on our children/our sons is profound. It will always be defining. To find more details and forward this message to others click on the link below:

[Strengthen your relationship with your teenage son! \(mjt.lu\)](https://mjt.lu)

### GROWING GOOD MEN 2024 BRISBANE by menALIVE

Friday, 21 June 2024 - Sunday, 23 June 2024  
6:30 pm - 1:30 pm

[tickets.org.au](https://tickets.org.au) - Australia's Premier Ticketing System For Organisations



**The Corpus Christi Procession**, presided by **Archbishop Mark Coleridge** will start at 2pm from the Cathedral of St Stephen, walk through the city streets and finish with Benediction at the Cathedral. In addition to the procession, an exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles around the world will be on display in the Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre, **from Saturday 1st – Sunday 2nd June**. There will also be a vigil of Adoration in St Stephen's Chapel overnight from 7pm Saturday 1st – Sunday 2nd June. Come along with your family, community and parish groups. For transport and other information, please call 0412 802 122 or visit the Corpus Christi website at <https://www.corpuschristibrisbane.com> **All are welcome!**



# SYNODALITY and the Life of the Parish

Friday, 24 May 2024, 7.30pm-9pm

All Welcome!

St Ignatius Church  
30 Kensington Terrace  
Toowong

## Leading African theologian and 2 local experts

The key speaker:

**Fr Agbonkhianmeghe E. Orobator, S.J.**  
member of the Roman Synod on Synodality

- Dean of the Jesuit School of Theology in California.
- Nigerian-born, successively provincial and regional superior of the Jesuits in Africa.
- Taught theology and religious studies at Hekima University College, St Augustine College of Sth Africa in Johannesburg, and Marquette University in Milwaukee.



His books include *Theology Brewed in an African Pot* in which he writes that *'theology isn't an exercise in conceptual weightlessness; it does not defy the law of gravity'*.

Echoing Pope Francis he says, *'If theologians do not "smell" of the joys and hopes and the pain and anguish of people of their times and contexts, they become "table-top" speculators in arcane complexities and purveyors of theological inanities.'*

You can listen to his podcast reflecting on the last session of the Synod here:

<https://www.stignatiustoowong.org.au/parish-date-claimer-2/>

Joined by:

two of our finest local theologians

**Fr Orm Rush**

Orm is a priest from the Townsville Diocese. Author of *The Vision of Vatican II: Its Fundamental Principles*, he was invited to address the last session of the Synod in Rome.



**Associate Professor Maeve Heaney.**

Maeve is the Director of the Xavier Centre for Theological Formation at Australian Catholic University. She is the author of *Suspended God: Music and a Theology of Doubt*. She was a participant in our recent Plenary Council.



As we prepare for the October, 2nd session of the **Synod on Synodality** in Rome, this is an opportunity for people in the Archdiocese of Brisbane to come and hear some of the key theologians participating in the synodal processes both locally and internationally.

## Safeguarding Corner

Please find below the links to register for Safeguarding training which all volunteers are required to complete every two years. Thank you to those who have already registered.

1 May 6.30pm: <https://archbnesafeguarding.clickmeeting.com/safeguarding-training-webinar-4/register>

8 May 10.30am: <https://archbnesafeguarding.clickmeeting.com/safeguarding-training-webinar-5/register>

The Safeguarding Commitment for the Archdiocese of Brisbane and St John's Wood/The Gap Catholic Parish is: **Zero tolerance** for all forms of abuse and strives to safeguard all who interact with its ministries & services. Special priority is given to the safety & wellbeing of children & adults at risk. In an emergency, please call the Police 000 or information can be provided to **STOPline** anonymously. Phone: 1300 304 550 Email: AOB@stopline.com.au Online: [www.bnecatholic.stoplينerreport.com](http://www.bnecatholic.stoplينerreport.com) <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding/safeguard/>

## A vocation view: Fifth Sunday of Easter - B

Who shall come forward to explain the love God has for His people who should be one in faith? We need more faith-filled, prayerful, and spirited people to make the Vine and the Branches One Again. How about you? **Please pray for Vocations.**

To find out more call 1300 133 544

or Follow us at @vocationbrisane

or scan the QR code

