



# St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Bulletin

Vol 6, Issue 02

25 January 2026



## 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**First Reading:** [Is 8:23-9:3](#)

In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.

**Second Reading:** [1 Cor 1:10-13,17](#)

I appeal to you my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.

**Gospel:** [Matthew 4:12-23](#)

He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.



[Readings and Commentaries](#)



TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**



Fr John Sullivan OSA

WATCH NOW

Fr John reflects on the Church in Corinth, where believers aligned themselves with different leaders, losing sight of Christ's call to unity. [Watch now.](#)

### Deceased

Anthony Mahoney, Mike Newman, Eileen Enright, Pat Lavin

### Anniversary

Maurice De Silva, Howard Hall, Rosario & Caterina Merenda, Christian YR Vanathas, Nathan Vanathas

### Sick

Lameka Eketi, Peter Maher, Peter Townson, Suzanne Black, Val Bonney, Carmel Foster, Baby Paddy Marquart, Julie Allen, Philomena (Nellie's mum), Trish Crawshaw, Fiona Russell, Luz Stella Lopez, Carmel Herbert, Christy Murphy, Jim Johnson, Robert Minns, Tim chen chen zuo Zu, Mary Thomas, Antonio Ferrante, Carol Black, Moira De Silva, Margaret Sullivan, Ryan Ferguson, Toni Bennett, Deiana Martin, Lorraine Stevens, Kathy Cameron

**WCCM** (Christian Meditation)

Monday at 9.30am Parish Office.

Will resume early February.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Mater Dei: Monday & Friday 6 - 7pm

*This week's Gospel reflection:*

### THE TRUE LIGHT

Galilee was no one's idea of a place that could launch a 'world changing movement'. Galilee's history was not glorious. The readings this week refer to it as the "land of Naphtali", which was one of the breakaway tribes of the Jewish people that formed the northern kingdom of Israel.



According to the Old Testament, these tribes did not remain faithful to God, committing idolatry and gross injustices. The northern kingdom was later invaded and its people taken captive by the Assyrian empire. The area around the Sea of Galilee remained largely deserted for centuries.

By the time of Jesus, Galilee had been repopulated by Jewish people who had formed several prosperous towns and villages. Although its population was fervently Jewish, their countrymen in Judea and around Jerusalem regarded Galileans as barely qualifying as Jewish, with their blended ethnic heritage and stereotypes about them being lax in religious practice.

They had identifiable accents and would have been regarded by Judeans as their less-sophisticated country cousins. Throughout the Gospels the Judeans repeatedly dismiss Jesus and his disciples when they learn they are from Galilee.

These are people the readings describe as "people who walked in darkness", and with history the Scriptures depict as 'degraded by God'. But it is to the people of Galilee, "on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death, light has arisen."

Jesus' ministry in Galilee is a fitting example of how God ministers first to the lowly and humble and chooses them to do wonderful things for him. The people of Galilee are the first to hear the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Their people are chosen to be disciples of Israel's promised Messiah and messengers of God to the ends of the earth. And it is to the Galileans that Jesus first travels "teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people."

The gospel brings us hope for our own land, currently assailed by secularism and our own history of injustices. Our country could also be a spark for God's plan of salvation for the entire world. What we learn is that God is looking to bring the kingdom of heaven to people who have the humility and willingness to follow him.

If the kingdom of heaven is to come through us, then it must start with the two messages that Jesus' preaches in the gospel: "Repent" and "Come after me." Jesus calls the people of Galilee, and us today, to leave the darkness of our past sins behind us and follow him, the one true light.

May we all pray that we, a people who walk in darkness, see the true light of Christ and become "fishers of men" for him to the ends of the earth. May every corner of our country know Jesus' teachings, his healing and his love for people.

Joseph Doyle © Majellan Media 2026

### WELCOMING SUNDAY

**Don't forget, NEXT Sunday is welcoming Sunday. Say hello, it's nice to meet you to someone you may not know or haven't spoken to in awhile.**

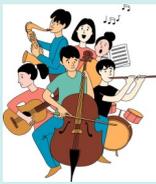


If you can assist on the day with helping people write the name tags please see the co-ordinator before Mass.

Name tags are at the back of the Church.

Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 26/01/2026	Weekday Ordinary Time 3	9am– Australia Day	Mater Dei
Wednesday 28/01/2026	St Thomas Aquinas, priest, doctor	9am	SPC
Thursday 29/01/2026	Weekday Ordinary Time 3	9am	SPC
Friday 30/01/2026	Weekday Ordinary Time 3	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 31/01/2026	St John Bosco, priest	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 01/02/2026	<b>4th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME</b>	8am 10am	SPC Mater Dei

### Parish Youth-Led Mass & Youth Night - next Sunday!



The first Parish YLM for 2026 is on **Sunday 25 January at 5pm Mass at St Peter Chanel Church - all are invited.**

We're also very pleased to announce that the **first ever Youth Night will occur after Mass** from 6-7:15pm. These nights will be **just for high-schoolers** in Grades 7-12 and will include dinner, games and a chance to get to know each other. If you're in high school, we want to see you there!

**As usual, help at the YLMs is needed** – all young people are invited to be readers, singers, musicians, altar servers, computer operator and to take up the gifts at the Offertory. Before the Youth-Led Mass begins, there are practices for the various ministries, so don't stress if you haven't done it before. If you, or someone you know, would like to be involved, **please contact Lauren Deegan** at [ldeegan39428@gmail.com](mailto:ldeegan39428@gmail.com) or 0487635721.



## menCONNECT

Gentlemen, our “main course” event of 2026 will be a **half-day Gathering** on Saturday 28 February. The speaker will be **Deacon Gary Stone, OAM**, who is returning to facilitate reflections and discussions on **Living life to the full** (John 10:10).

Gary will provide three inputs which we will then discuss in turn and workshop for our **individual life planning**: a stocktake on my relationships with **myself and others**, a stocktake on my relationship with **God** and writing an **aspirational eulogy**- how I would like to be remembered.

The morning starts at 7am with the traditional cooked breakfast and coffee and concludes at 1pm.

The location of the Gathering is the Parish Hall at St Peter Chanel, 41 Chaprowe Rd, The Gap.

The cost is \$25 and please **RSVP Mike** on 0459 992 228 before 25 February for catering purposes.



## 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:** [StJohnsWood/TheGapParish](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsWood/TheGapParish)

**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 Anthony Odionyenfe

Parish Priest

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

**P:** 0437406047

#### Silvana Geldenhuys

Parish Secretary

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

#### Majella Deegan

Sacramental Program Coordinator

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

### HOME ROSARY



This week's rosary will be said at the home of Brian & Bernadette on Monday 26th January. Contact the parish office for further details.

### PLEASE NOTE:



On Monday 26th January, Australia Day Mass will be celebrated at Mater Dei Church commencing at 9am. Let us come together to celebrate our great nation with love and peace.

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



### PARISH FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

This year we have been gifted a wonderful prize of a Weber BBQ (Baby Q) to raffle to raise funds for Defibrillators. There will be a second prize of a lovely hamper. Tickets will be on sale from this weekend at both Churches at the cost of \$5 per ticket or 5 for \$20. Tickets close on Thursday 12th and the raffle will be drawn by Father Anthony on the 13th February. Please support this parish initiative. If you have any questions please contact the parish office on 33006099.



### BRINGING THE EUCHARIST TO YOU

Are you or a loved one unable to attend Mass due to illness, infirmity, or age? Our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are dedicated to bringing the Blessed Sacrament to those who are sick or housebound.

If you would like to receive Holy Communion at home, or if you know a parishioner who would appreciate a visit, please register your details so we can arrange a convenient time.

#### How to Request a Visit:

Call the Parish Office: 33006099

Email us: [thegap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:thegap@bne.catholic.net.au)

*"I was sick and you visited me." — Matthew 25:36*

### PARISH WOMEN'S GROUP

We have a Parish Women's Group who meet fortnightly on Wednesday mornings at 9.30am at the home of Robyn Locke.

Our aim is to look at the Sunday mass readings for discussion, prayer and reflection with a view to deepening our understanding of the Sunday scripture readings and thus enriching our Sunday worship. We will be re-commencing for 2026 on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February and are currently welcoming new members.

During Lent, we do the Lenten program and so meet weekly from Ash Wednesday until Easter. If any ladies would like to join with us to do the Lenten program, they would be very welcome. If you interested or would like further information, please contact Robyn Locke at

[robyn@opuscons.com.au](mailto:robyn@opuscons.com.au).

### SOMETHING FOR A LAUGH



Australia Day is the one day of the year when:



Thongs are the official dress code

The barbecue gets more attention than your family

Everyone suddenly remembers the words to the national anthem ... at least the first verse

It's socially acceptable to drink before the sun is over the yardarm

If the sausages fall through the barbecue grill, that's not a mistake — that's just *tradition*.

Only in Australia do we celebrate a national holiday by standing around the barbecue in 40-degree heat complaining how hot it is

Where "Yeah nah" means no  
Where "Nah yeah" means yes

And everyone understands exactly what both mean.

Happy Australia Day!

Enjoy your week ahead.....

### LENTEN RESOURCES

Our two Lenten resources this year are from: **Archdiocese of Wollongong**

Called "**COM PASSIO**". Cost \$10



Or

**Archdiocese of Brisbane book called "THE JOURNEY HOME"**. Cost \$5



### The YES prayer

*Today and every day, I say "yes" to you, O Lord. In the same way that Mary said "yes" to your invitation, I say "yes" to your Son's presence in my life. May my "yes," by the power of your Holy Spirit, allow you to use all the talents, skills and gifts you have given me for the purpose of building up your Body in our community. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### A vocation view: 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME c/1

Through the power of the Spirit, Jesus proclaimed his mission. How are you carrying on that mission today? Ponder the possibility of being a deacon, priest, brother or sister. (Luke 1:1, 4:14-21)

Scan the QR code to find out more, or call 1300 133 544 [www.vocationbrisbane.com](http://www.vocationbrisbane.com)

Follow us on socials @vocationbrisbane





**Tickets are NOW LIVE for the 2026 Moogerah Passion Play!**

This Easter, join us at the beautiful **Lake Moogerah** as the Easter story is brought to life in a powerful outdoor setting. Performed right in front of you, the Passion Play is a meaningful way to reflect, gather, and share the Easter weekend with family and friends. Our team are so excited to see you at the Lake Theatre at Easter this year!

Enjoy the Moogerah Passion Play alongside an array of Market Stalls, Vendors, Catering and Merchandise.

**Book your FREE tickets today!**



**CATHOLIC JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION INVITES YOU TO**

Brisbane launch of the **Australian Catholic Bishops Conference 2026 Social Justice Statement**. Launched by **Archbishop Shane Mackinlay** with a reflection from **Trish McMahon**, State President for St Vincent de Paul Society.

**GOLD COIN DONATION for Vinnies**

**THE COST OF OUR LIVING: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR THE COMMON GOOD.**

**10 FEB | 7PM | ST JAMES PARISH HALL**  
92 Kirkland Avenue Coorparoo (Off-street parking available)



Register your seat or connection through this link.



Hosted by the **St James Catholic Parish Social Justice Group** and the **Brisbane Catholic Justice and Peace Commission**

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Some items in the bulletin are sourced from Majellan Media.

**What's happening in the parish?**



**The Mahjong social group** has returned, so if you are interested in joining them they meet on Thursdays from 12.30 – 2.30 in the Parish Hall.

**Ever Young group** will return in February on the 4th Thursday of each month in the Parish hall commencing at 10am.



We're hiring

**Evangelisation Pastoral Associate**

OLSC are seeking a passionate and faith-filled Evangelisation Pastoral Associate to play a key leadership role in the growth and development of discipleship within our parish community.

**Location:**  
Our Lady of the Southern Cross Parish Springfield, QLD

**Hours:**  
Part-time  
30 hours per week



**Home, heart & soul**  
Flourishing in later life

Please join us for free practical advice and conversations to help you navigate your later years with confidence.

**FREE SEMINAR**

Date: **Thursday, 26 February 2026** Time: **10am - 2pm**  
Venue: **St Brigid's Catholic Church, 78 Musgrave Road, Red Hill Qld 4059**  
Morning tea and lunch will be provided free of charge.  
To register your attendance at the event please email [jubilee@bnc.catholic.net.au](mailto:jubilee@bnc.catholic.net.au) or call **07 3324 3632** or **07 3324 3200** and you will be sent an RSVP form. Please RSVP on or before Monday, 23 February 2026.

**AGENDA**

10:00am	Welcome by Parish Priest	Fr Gerry Kalinowski, Jubilee Parish
10:15am	Legal and estate planning	Vicky Martin, Thynne & Macartney Lawyers
10:45am	Charitable gifts in wills	Raushen Perera, Archdiocese of Brisbane
11:35am	Morning tea	
11:45am	Financial and retirement planning	Cheynee Stiller, Shadforth Financial Services
12:15pm	In-home support	Kylee Sheehy, Centacare
12:45pm	Pre-planning funerals	Jennie McIntosh, K M Smith Funerals
1:15pm	Lunch and fellowship	
2:00pm	Finish	



Vicky Martin



Raushen Perera



Cheynee Stiller



Kylee Sheehy



Jennie McIntosh

