



St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Bulletin

Vol 6, Issue 04

08 February 2026



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: [Is:58:7-10](#)

Your light will shine like the dawn.

Second Reading: [1 Cor 2:1-5](#)

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

Gospel: [Matthew 5:13-16](#)

You are the light of the world.



[Readings and Commentaries](#)



TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr Regimon Gervasis



Fr Regimon reflects on how the light of Jesus strengthens our mission to be light-bearers of Christ, so that others may see the truth of the Gospel. [Watch now.](#)

Deceased

Peter Page, Anthony Mahoney

Anniversary

Steven Golebiowski

Sick

Beth Kloza, Steve Dunlop, 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

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:

PREACHING WITH OUR LIVES

According to a book called *The Life of Francis of Assisi*, Francis invited a young monk to join him on a trip to town to preach.

Honoured to be given the invitation, the monk readily accepted. All day long he and Francis walked through the streets, byways, and alleys, and even into the suburbs.

They rubbed shoulders with hundreds of people. At day's end, the two headed back home. Not even once had Francis addressed a crowd, nor had he talked to anyone about the gospel. Greatly disappointed, his young companion said, "I thought we were going into town to preach."

Francis responded, "My son, we have preached. We were preaching while we were walking. We were seen by many, and our behaviour was closely watched. It is of no use to walk anywhere to preach unless we preach everywhere as we walk!"

Most of us will never stand in a pulpit to preach a homily, but we do preach by the witness of our lives. This is not explicit preaching, but rather the example of lives of integrity which are often more eloquent than lengthy biblical reflections. The prophet Isaiah tells us of the need to share bread with the hungry, to shelter the homeless, to clothe the naked, and never to turn our backs on our own. This is what makes our light shine before others. The psalm spells out how our lives can make a difference when they are characterised by generosity, mercy, trust, and a steadfast heart committed to reaching out to the poor. This is the challenge given us by Pope Leo XIV in his recent Apostolic Letter, *Dilexi te* (I have Loved You), where he insists that we must be concerned about the lives of the most marginalised in our society.

In a world of inequality, we are often separated from those who are on the margins who struggle to pay rent, to cope with the rising cost of living, and to manage on the minimum wage. We do not necessarily inhabit their world. But we need to be mindful that the blessings we have received in terms of employment, family stability, education, economic security and lifestyle, should not isolate us from, or blind us, to the needy in our world.

Salt was traditionally a food preservative and a condiment to enrich food, so we are called to enrich the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves. In Australia, first among these must be our indigenous brothers and sisters, as well as migrants and citizens who have fallen through the cracks in our society. There are also the victims of domestic violence whose lives are in turmoil. We must pray and stand in solidarity with all those in need.

There is much to do in being daily witnesses to the gospel and preaching with our lives.

Michael A Kelly CSsR © Majellan Media 2026



Thank you to everyone who attended Tony's funeral and to those who helped in any way.

Your presence, prayers and practical assistance were a true expression of Christian love and brought great comfort to our grieving family. We are deeply grateful for your generosity and support. It was a wonderful mass of joyous thanksgiving.

Blessings Helen Mahoney and Louise



Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 09/02/2026	Weekday Ordinary Time 5	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 11/02/2026	Weekday Ordinary Time 5	9am	SPC
Thursday 12/02/2026	Weekday Ordinary Time 5	9am	SPC
Friday 13/02/2026	Weekday Ordinary Time 5	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 14/02/2026	Sts Cyril, monk, and Methodius, bishop	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 15/02/2026	6th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME	8am 10am(School Family Mass) 5pm	SPC Mater Dei SPC

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.

HELP Children's Liturgy Leaders Help Needed



Children's Liturgy is offered at the 10am Mass on the first Sunday of each month. We need to hear from another 1-2 more people who can volunteer as either as a session leader or assistant to ensure it is possible to continue. All volunteers need to complete the parish safeguarding requirements prior to commencing. Support is available to learn how it all works, including shadowing an existing session leader. Easy to follow materials are provided through the Archdiocese for each Sunday. Please contact the parish office, or Donna Lynn at donna.lynn@live.com.au if you are interested in finding out more.

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

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



Catholics are being urged to reflect during this year's World Day of the Sick on February 11. *Source: ACBC Media Blog.*

The world continues to fall short of protecting and caring for its children, leaving them with few opportunities to succeed and at greater risk of suffering abuse, Pope Leo XIV said yesterday. *Source: CNS.*

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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PARISH TEAM

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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 Pushpa on Monday 9th February. Contact the parish office for further details.

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



Milestone Birthday Celebrations

Happy Birthday

This week we congratulate Merle O'Neil on her 90th birthday. We wish you a healthy and happy year ahead and may God bless you and keep you safe.

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 11th 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.

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 for both churches and the parish hall. There will be a second prize of a lovely hamper.

Tickets will be on sale every 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.

Thank You!

We extend our sincere thanks to Father John Madden for generously serving our parish during this time. We are grateful for his ministry, care support and humour. Father John joined us every week for morning tea and a chat. We look forward to seeing you again.

Next Wednesday we warmly welcome back Father Anthony from holidays and look forward to continuing our parish life together.



YOUTH LENTEN GROUP

The young people from the youth group are providing a Lenten group for the young adults this year. If anyone is interested, or know someone who might like to join them please contact Lauren on 0487635721.

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



Please order through the Parish office.

LENT RESOURCES FOR KIDS Are you looking for creative, fun and faith-filled ways to invite children into the liturgical season of Lent? The Children & Families Team from Archdiocesan Ministries has created a webpage with a variety of resources created to support you as you engage our youngest disciples in this Lenten season. Check it out at tinyurl.com/Lent4Kids

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

A single middle aged working male, non-smoking, no pets, is seeking a granny flat or similar or willing to share with one or two people.

References available—

Please contact Kevin on 0435275728



DISCERE 2026

You are invited to attend Discere — a free, one-day retreat to start the new year with prayer and discernment about where God is calling you in 2026 and beyond. Discere is an opportunity for young single Catholic's (18–35 years) to intentionally pause and ask the question, "Where is God calling me?" in a peaceful, supportive and safe environment.

If you have any questions about Discere 2026, please reach out to our

Vocation Brisbane team on 3324 3003 or email vocation@bne.catholic.net.au.

More information, including guest speakers and the session schedule, will be announced closer to the time.

Event Details

Date: Sunday, 22nd February 2026 **Time:** 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Location: Brisbane City and St Stephen's Cathedral precinct, more details to come

Cost: Free (morning tea and lunch included)

A vocation view: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – C/1

Holiness is a gift of God. Open yourself to the gift. When God calls, be ready to respond:

"Here I am, send me!" (Isaiah 6:1-2, 3-8)

Scan the QR code to find out more, or call 1300 133 544 www.vocationbrisbane.com



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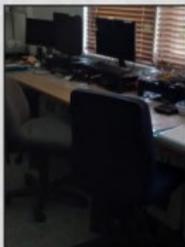
Venue: Online- Scan the QR or register at palms.org.au/events **Date:** Thursday 19 February 2026
Time: 6 pm – 7:30 pm **Phone:** 02 9560 5333 palms@palms.org.au



Want to visit a community first? Join our 13-day **Encounter Tour to Timor Leste!**
Book by **28 February** for the May tour! See palms.org.au/encounters

BANYO NUNDAH CATHOLIC PARISH COMPUTER PROJECT

nundahcomputerproject@gmail.com



Background

The Project has been in existence for many years and is operated solely by volunteers. The project has provided over six thousand computers to its target group. It relies on receiving donated surplus laptops from a range of sources. These donations are received on an ad hoc basis, however, recently, due to several factors, donations are not being received at a rate which keeps up with demand. The project is currently struggling to meet requests. People from the organisations above, often inform project volunteers that there is no other similar project in Brisbane.



Who do we help

- Micah Projects (ending homelessness, people in crisis needing support)
- North West Youth Accommodation Service (youth accommodation services)
- Broken to Brilliant (support for domestic service survivors)
- Various refugee groups (support of newly arrived refugees)
- Specialist Courts and Referral Service, Courts Innovation Program (address a range of social need).



How can you help

- We need preloved computers
- We have 10 families waiting for computers or laptops for children. The lack of technology will impact their learning at school.
- Please ask your local business and workplaces if they have technology that is no longer needed.

SOMETHING FOR A LAUGH



A boy is selling fish on a corner.

To get his customers' attention, he is yelling, "Dam fish for sale!

Get your dam fish here!"

A pastor hears this and asks, "Why are you calling them 'dam fish.'"

The boy responds, "Because I caught these fish at the local dam."

The pastor buys a couple fish, takes them home to his wife, and asks her to cook the dam fish.

The wife responds surprised, "I didn't know it was acceptable for a preacher to speak that way."

He explains to her why they are dam fish.

Later at the dinner table, he asks his son to pass the dam fish.

He responds, "That's the spirit, Dad! Now pass the bloody potatoes!"

😊😊😊😊 Enjoy your week ahead.....

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- ◆ 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.

Real Talk Australia's Annual Gala Dinner

THURSDAY | 26 FEB 2026

Victoria Park,
Herston Rd, Herston

Tickets \$150 PP
visit: realtalkaustralia.com/dinner

Guest speakers

Danny & Leila Abdallah

Joining Paul Ninnes and the Real Talk team, Danny and Leila will share their powerful story and the life-changing message of forgiveness.



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