



St John's Wood The Gap Parish Bulletin

(encompasses Mater Dei and St Peter Chanel churches united as one community)

Vol 6, Issue 27 19 July 2026



16h SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: [Wisdom 12:13,16-19](#)

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

Second Reading: [Romans 8:26-27](#)

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

Gospel: [Matthew 13:24-43](#)

Let them grow together until the harvest.



LITURGY
BRISBANE

[Readings and Reflections](#)

PRAYING WITH CHILDREN
SUNDAY LITURGY



Fr Enoch Iheme

We are called to be witnesses of the kingdom of God wherever where the wheat of love, peace, joy, justice, healing, truth, hope and light are planted. [Watch now](#)

PLEASE NOTE:

Father Anthony will be away next Wednesday and Thursday on convocation. Masses will be as usual.

Deceased

Brenda Cahill, Marie Harkin, Antonio Ferrante, Kay Elsdon

Anniversary

Patrick Roberts, Damien Robertson, Peter Cleary, Barry Sullivan

Sick

Bev Dick, Frank Moloney, Bruno Cadet, Shane Abrams, Richard King, Beth Kloza, Peter Maher, Peter Townsen, Val Bonney, Julie Allen, Philomena (Nellie's mum), Trish Crawshaw, Carmel Herbert, Christy Murphy, Jim Johnson, Mary Thomas, Carol Black, Moira De Silva, Margaret Sullivan, Ryan Ferguson, Toni Bennett, Lorraine Stevens

WCCM (Christian Meditation)

Monday at 9.30am Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mater Dei: Monday & Friday 6 - 7pm

This week's Gospel reflection:

GOD AT WORK IN OUR WORLD



Jesus is a strange and disconcerting figure. His words are biting and odd. They are elusive and obscure. At the same time, they command attention and demand a response. His actions are similar. He's not what is expected. He's dangerous. He's impossible to ignore.

The religious and political leaders of his day understood this. That's why they crucified him.

If you are familiar with the portrait of God built up in the Old Testament, maybe you are not so surprised about Jesus. If that God, the God of Israel becomes human, you are going to get an irrepressible wildfire, an elusive, odd, dangerous One, beyond our control and manipulation, and yet close, too close, too committed for comfort.

You are going to get a God who, as man, fully, even 'wildly,' devotes himself to the end he has for his good creation, despite our best attempts to wrest our own little piece of it from him for our ridiculous and narrow designs. You are going to get a God who, as man, irreparably binds, weds himself to humanity in unimaginable impassioned love.

You are going to get a God who, as man, provokes his own inevitable suffering and death at the hand of his beloved. He's ineffable, inscrutable, uncontainable, unstoppable. He's definitely not safe. No! He's too good to be safe. There's only ever more mystery to him.

Alas we have our own two-thousand-years-after-the-event strategies for handling Jesus. We can't kill him. We are the ones who love him and want to be faithful to him above all else. Nevertheless, we tend to domesticate him, rounding off the hard edges, softening the sharp and pointed words, managing his frightening actions that, for fear, we refuse to ponder too long. We cage him up, privatising, declawing our religion, wheeling him out for a quick show when it's convenient, keeping him hidden away when it's not. We are expert at making him beneficial, conventional, docile, safe.

But the Church—and the Holy Spirit who guides her—won't let us do this for long. Look at this week's readings. With Jesus' parables, we've got the Living God speaking to us and teaching us. With his actions, we've got the Living God at work in the world.

Today's Old Testament reading anticipates this. The New Testament reading helps us ponder it. And as we pass through these readings, brace yourself for the encounter? That's the shape of the Mass.

The lion paces. He's going to break out of his cage. He's going to find you. He always does. No one can keep him at a safe distance. He's already stalking among us. He's going to rule this world, destroying death and sin and evil once and for all. Don't let go of his mane! Hold on; hold firm. He will leap and the never-ending day will dawn.

W Chris Hackett © Majellan Media 2026



World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2026

*The theme Pope Leo has chosen is:
'I will never forget you' Isaiah 49:15*

Next weekend we celebrate The World Day for

Grandparents and the Elderly was instituted by Pope Francis in 2021. It is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/parents/documents/20260615-messaggio-nonni-anziani.html>



Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 20/07/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 16	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 22/07/2026	St Mary Magdalene	9am	SPC
Thursday 23/07/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 16	9am	SPC
Friday 24/07/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 16	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 25/07/2026	Vigil Mass St James, apostle	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 26/07/2026	17th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME	8am 10am 5pm	SPC Mater Dei SPC

menCONNECT

Gentlemen, the inspiration for the talk at our next gathering, on 24 July, comes from Acts 4:20: "We cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard." (4:20 sits in a larger scene where Jesus' followers are arrested for teaching and are threatened to stop - yet they respond they can't stop because their message is grounded in what they personally witnessed.)

We will hear from Mark Lysaght, Executive Director, NET Ministries Australia & New Zealand and three young men from our parish who are involved with NET Ministries. Together, they will share how NET forms and sends young Catholic missionaries to parishes to inspire young people to follow Jesus and find a home in the Church. (NET= National Evangelisation Teams)

All men of the parish are warmly invited to come along for an evening of faith, fellowship and encouragement as we reflect on what it means to speak of what we have "seen and heard" in our own lives, families and parish community.

The Gathering, which begins with pizza and a drink at 6pm and ends at 8pm, will be in the Parish Hall, 41 Chaprowe Rd, The Gap.

Cost is \$10.00 for new attendees, otherwise \$15.00.

For catering purposes, **please RSVP** to Mike by text on 0459 992 228 or email

menCONNECTsjwtg@gmail.com before 21st July.



Youth-Led Mass - Sunday 26 July

The next Parish YLM is on **next Sunday 26 July** at 5pm Mass at St Peter Chanel Church. If you're a high schooler or young adult from Mater Dei or SPC, **you're invited to join us at**

this Mass and to serve too. We need readers, singers, musicians, altar servers, computer operator and people to take up the gifts at the Offertory - **no experience required for any of these roles, just a willingness!** If you, or someone you know, want to be involved, contact Sam Mead at samuel.mead@outlook.com or 0491 149 607. All parishioners are invited to join too. See you there!

~THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH ~

* Monday at SPC

9.30am Meditation Group

Adoration 6-7pm MD

6.30pm Young Adults Group SPC

* Wednesday

9am Mass SPC followed by morning tea in the parish office

* Thursday SPC hall

* Mahjong 12.30pm

* Friday at MD

6-7pm Adoration

Dates to save:

* Thursday 24th July
Ever Young group meet in the Parish Hall.

*Mater Dei Family Mass 26th July

*SPC Family Mass on Sunday 2nd August

*August 15th Mater Dei 75th Anniversary

*Multicultural Mass August 23rd at 10am. This is the only Mass on that day. There will be 5.30pm Mass at Mater Dei on Saturday but NO mass at 5pm Sunday SPC.

* Music in the Moonlight Saturday 29th August

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

PARISH TEAM

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E: lsr.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

Majella Deegan

Sacramental Program Coordinator

E: 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 Pushpa on Monday 20th July. Contact the parish office for further details.

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



INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE- MULTICULTURAL MASS

Our parish is blessed with people from many cultures and backgrounds. As we prepare for our upcoming Multicultural Mass, **we invite parishioners to participate by reading the prayers of the Faithful, in their own language.**

This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the rich diversity of our parish community and to experience the universal nature of the Church, united in one faith and one Spirit.

If you would like to **take part either in the Mass or bringing a meal from your country to share** please contact the parish office. We warmly encourage people of all ages and cultural backgrounds to be invited.

"There are different gifts, but the same Spirit."

(1 Corinthians 12:4)

Let us come together to celebrate the many languages and cultures that enrich our parish family.

Below is the link if you would like to sign up

<https://thegaparrish.flocknote.com/signup/265092>

Young Adults Group

Our Parish YA Group will gather on Monday 20 July for Eucharistic Adoration (6-7pm at Mater Dei Church) and dinner out together afterwards. If you've finished high school (18-30), we'd love to meet you! **To join our YA Group Chat** or for more info, text Lauren on 0487 635 721.

Youth Night (Grades 7-12) - Sunday 26 July

The next Parish Youth Night is coming up! It's on Sunday 26 July from 6-7:30pm in the Parish Hall (straight after the 5pm Youth-Led Mass at St Peter Chanel Church).

This night will be a chance for anyone and everyone in our Parish in Grades 7-12 to gather, get to know each other more (or meet for the first time), play a game, have dinner, listen to one of the leaders give a short talk about our faith and have a time of prayer and reflection.

If you're interested in coming or have any questions, email Sam at samuel.mead@outlook.com. We hope to see all high schoolers there!



St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal



We extend our sincere thanks to the Mater Dei community for your generous support of our St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. Through your donations of winter essentials, you have helped bring warmth, comfort and hope to those experiencing hardship this winter.

A special thank you to Kevin and Charyn from St Vincent de Paul, whose ongoing partnership helps our students see the real impact of serving others and living out the Gospel values of compassion and justice. Their connection with our school reminds us that small acts of kindness can make a profound difference in the lives of others.

Together, we are truly putting our faith into action. **Leah APRE**



World day for Grandparents and the elderly- 2026

Grandparents hold a special place in our families and in the life of the Church. Through their prayers, wisdom, love and example, they help pass on the precious gift of faith from one generation to the next.

Our parish warmly invites everyone to join us for a special celebration of grandparents under the theme:

"Honouring Our Grandparents – Celebrating the Gift of Faith Across Generations."

We especially encourage grandparents to invite their children and grandchildren to attend Mass with them as we gather to give thanks for the blessings of family, faith and community.

Together, we will celebrate the important role grandparents play in nurturing faith and strengthening family bonds across generations. Come and share in this joyful celebration as we honour our grandparents and pray for all families.

NB: we invite a grandparent to write a short story of faith that we can share in the bulletin for that weekend. This can be sent to poa2.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au by Wednesday 22nd July. Thank you



St Peter Chanel

Catholic Primary School, The Gap

Student Council Leading with Heart – St Vinnies Winter Appeal

Our Student Council members have led this year's St

Vinnies Winter Appeal with great passion and compassion. Inspired by what they learned from St Vincent de Paul representatives at the Sleepout, they connected with every class to share the importance



of the appeal and encourage donations of much-needed items. They also organised a pyjama day to raise funds, helping our school community come together in support of those experiencing hardship. It has been wonderful to see our students living out Catholic Social Teaching through their generosity, leadership and commitment to serving others.



We look forward to seeing you at the **SPC Family Mass on Sunday 2 August. Hayley APRE**

75th Anniversary Afternoon Tea

at Mater Dei Catholic Primary School

We warmly invite past students, families, staff and friends of Mater Dei Catholic Primary School to join us for a special 75th Anniversary Afternoon Tea.

🕒 3:30pm - Afternoon Tea
📍 Mockklop Hall, Mater Dei Catholic Primary School

Come along and enjoy:

- 📸 School photographs and memorabilia from across the decades
- 🍰 Delicious afternoon tea
- 🕒 Time to celebrate the stories that have shaped our school community

Following the afternoon tea, guests are invited to join us for our 75th Anniversary Mass.

🕒 Mass at 5:30pm
📍 Mater Dei Church

We would be delighted to celebrate this milestone with you as we honour our past, cherish our memories and look forward to the future.



Saturday
18 August



Mater Dei Catholic
Primary School
7 Unwood Avenue
Ashgrove West

Scan the QR
to register



We can't wait
to welcome
you home to
Mater Dei.

EVERY CHILD KNOWN
EVERY POTENTIAL GROWN



© A Brisbane Catholic Education School

**St John's Wood
The Gap Parish**

RAFFLE!

**WIN THIS
beautiful quilt!**

Brisbane City Council generously awarded us a grant to pay for **ONE DEFIBRILLATOR**, and we are trying to raise funds for the **SECOND ONE.**

**KEEPING OUR
COMMUNITY
SAFE**

A BEAUTIFUL GIFT TO OUR COMMUNITY - THANK YOU HAPPY PATCHERS!

Our first raffle for the BBQ raised an amazing **\$800.00!**

However, we still need a further **\$1400.00**

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PARISH COMMUNITY
BY BUYING A TICKET FOR THE RAFFLE.**

TICKETS AVAILABLE at each Mass

TICKETS COST Just \$2 each or 3 for \$5

RAFFLE DRAWN in September!

Thank you for supporting our parish!

**Music in the
Moonlight
STUDIO 75**

Celebrating 75 Years of
Mater Dei Catholic Primary
School - Ashgrove
**Saturday 29 August
2026**

An evening of music,
dancing and celebration

Your \$75 Ticket includes:

Welcome Drink
Delicious food
Music & Dancing
Lucky door prize entry

Time: 5:00pm - 10:30pm
Venue: Mater Dei Catholic Primary School
7 Lynwood Crescent, Ashgrove
Dress: Disco Glam
Adults Only Event (18+)

BOOK NOW!
www.trybooking.com/DNCAI
Tickets Close Monday 24 August 2026

All proceeds support the
Mater Dei Parent Advisory
Group

EVER YOUNG GROUP

We will be meeting on **Thursday 24th July** in the Parish Hall commencing at 10am. Come and join us for a cuppa, some laughs and a raffle.

Contact the parish office for further information.

THE GAP STATE HIGH SCHOOL

**Chaplaincy
DINNER**

Join us for a joyful evening as we come together to support and raise vital funds for our local school chaplaincy program. Enjoy a beautifully curated grazing platter, two course meal and entertainment. There will be a bar and an exclusive raffle to purchase from on the night.

\$85PP

**6
AUGUST**

6.00 arrival for 6.30 start
The Gap State High School JA Hall

**DIVINE
RENOVATION**

As the parish journeys towards Divine Renovation we invite you to ask the Holy Spirit to help you discern what you can do to help our parish go from Maintenance to a Missionary church. We all have talents make yours count!

A vocation view: Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – A

There are many weeds growing with the wheat in our lives. Sometimes the weeds strangle our growth or prevent us from hearing God's voice clearly. We need time to reflect on the garden of our lives.

Please pray for vocations

Scan the QR code to find out more, or call 1300 133 544
www.vocationbrisbane.com
Follow us on socials @vocationbrisbane

"The Parish of St John's Wood The Gap would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Turrbal and Jagera people, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge their continued connection to the land, water and community".

Safe People, Places & Practices.
Creating activities, ministries and services free from abuse, exploitation and harm.
If you think it's wrong report it.

- The Editor retains the right to edit any items that are submitted to the Bulletin.
- Some items in the bulletin are sourced from @Majellan Media.
- Cut off time for the bulletin is 3pm Wednesday.

The protection and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is at the core of Church mission and setting the right approach to safeguarding is important.
'Creating protective environments and activities for children and adults-at-risk.'

Guiding you through your time of need with compassion, dignity and affordability.

(07)3293 0555 www.holycrossfunerals.com

**Holy Cross
FUNERALS**