



St John's Wood The Gap Parish Bulletin

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

Vol 6, Issue 30 9 August 2026



19th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: [1 Kings 19:9,11-13](#)

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

Second Reading: [Romans 9:1-5](#)

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

Gospel: [Matthew 14:22-33](#)

Command me to come to you over the water.



Readings and Reflections

PRAYING with CHILDREN
SUNDAY LITURGY

<https://majellan.media/childrens-bulletin/>

TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr Francisco Evangelista



Fr Francisco reflects on Jesus walking on water and calling Peter to come to Him and he highlights three essential characteristics of the Christian life. [Watch now.](#)

Deceased

Brenda Cahill

Anniversary

Mike McAuliffe, Moira Flynn, John Perks

Sick

Robert Minns, 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:

TRUST IN JESUS' EMBRACE

In June 2018, twelve boys and their coach found themselves trapped in a cave in northern Thailand. The flood waters were rising, and the water-filled tunnels of the cave were narrow and pitch dark.



Adding to the complexity of their rescue, the children and their coach could not swim. Australian anaesthetist and cave diver Richard Harris and his colleague Craig Challen were willing to take a leap of faith. They would anaesthetise them all to prevent panicking or drowning. This innovative strategy was crucial in the eventual success of the international rescue operation.

Likewise, the disciples' panic at the rising storm buffeting their boat must have been compounded by Jesus's sudden appearance as he walked across the water. Jesus's loving reassurance that he was not a ghost – "It is I, do not be afraid" – would have quelled their fears.

Peter's response may resonate with many of us: "Lord, if it is you, tell me to come to you on the water." We trust in the Lord; yet need reassurance. Jesus's response fills Peter with peace and courage. He says simply to Peter, "Come."

Peter gets out of the boat and, quite miraculously, finds himself walking on the water towards Jesus. But, looking at the wind and the waves around him though, starts to sink. He cries out to the Lord and immediately Jesus reaches out and rescues him. In that moment, Peter's relief at Jesus' timely rescue must surely have been accompanied by the overwhelming realisation that Jesus' loving, tender presence would never have let him drown. Peter realises that he is deeply and tenderly loved, in spite of all his inadequacies.

Some years after the cave rescue, Richard Harris said in an interview that while growing up, he had a sense of struggling to find where he felt he belonged. Leaning into his sense of vulnerability, he discovered the camaraderie of companions who shared his passion for the outdoors. Their adventures in cave-diving helped them discover a newfound courage as they went beyond the limits imposed by their anxieties.

As Bishop Robert Prevost in Peru, Pope Leo exemplified a deep spirit of accompaniment with those in need. When covid-19 hit Peru, oxygen shortages and economic collapse led to widespread deaths. He organised for oxygen supplies to be distributed. Despite the exhausting logistics of this operation, he persisted in working in solidarity with everyone involved. Sometime after the covid pandemic, during the floods in the region, he was present with those struggling as he stood knee-deep in flood waters, assisting in relief operations.

Even at our most vulnerable moments, Jesus invites us to be courageous and audacious in trusting his steadfastness and his unfailing embrace of our frailties. Let us lean into the accompaniment of those who walk with us. Jesus looks steadfastly at us across the wind and water, and says, "Come".

Sophie Clements© Majellan Media 2026

PLEASE NOTE: The parish office will be closed on **Wednesday 12th August** for the Exhibition holiday. Mass will be held at 9am. However, there will be NO morning tea after.

Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 10/08/2026	St Lawrence, deacon, martyr	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 12/08/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 19	9am	SPC
Thursday 13/08/2026	The Transfiguration of the Lord	9am	SPC
Friday 14/08/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 19	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 15/08/2026	The ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Vigil Mass	9am 5.30pm	SPC Mater Dei
Sunday 16/08/2026	20th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME	8am 10am 5pm	SPC Mater Dei SPC

*Thank
you*

We extend our sincere gratitude to a generous anonymous donor who has kindly funded the polishing and restoration of our church bells and incense container. Their thoughtful gift has helped preserve these treasured items that enrich our liturgical celebrations. May God bless them for their generosity and thoughtfulness. We are deeply grateful for this wonderful act of kindness and ask that you please keep the family in your prayers.



CONGRATULATIONS TO LEDJE AND HERMAN ON 70 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

This weekend, our parish community joins in giving thanks to God as ledje and Herman celebrate the remarkable blessing of their 70th Wedding Anniversary.

For seven decades, they have journeyed together in faith, love, commitment, and mutual support. Their enduring marriage is a beautiful witness to the sacred covenant of matrimony and an inspiration to all who know them. Through life's joys and challenges, they have remained steadfast in their love for one another, reflecting God's faithful love in their family and community.

As we celebrate this extraordinary milestone, we thank God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon them and pray that He continues to grant them good health, peace, joy, and abundant grace.

Please join us in **congratulating ledje and Heerman** and keeping them in your prayers.

May the Lord bless them and keep them, and may their love continue to be a sign of hope and faithfulness for generations to come.

~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:

** 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*

• **PLEASE NOTE:
THERE WILL BE
NO 5.30PM MASS
ON THIS SATUR-
DAY NIGHT
29TH AUGUST.**

ST JOHN'S WOOD THE GAP PARISH

Office Hours

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

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

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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 Donna & Brendan on Monday 10th August. Contact the parish office for further details.

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



INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE IN OUR LITURGY

Following a directive from Archbishop Shane our parish is committed to using the approved inclusive language found in the Prayers of the Faithful and other liturgical texts where appropriate. This reflects the Church's desire to speak in ways that recognise the dignity of every person while remaining faithful to the liturgy and its meaning.

We thank all those who prepare and proclaim the prayers each week for their care in using language that is welcoming, respectful and inclusive of our whole community.



Celebrating Catholic Education Week as One Parish Community



Last week, students and staff from St Peter Chanel and Mater Dei Catholic Primary schools came together to celebrate Catholic Education Week as one parish community. The day focused on the Brisbane Catholic Education Week theme, "Share Your Light, Inspire Others," encouraging students to recognise their God-given gifts and consider how they can shine their light through faith, kindness and service.

St Peter Chanel students and teachers travelled to Mater Dei for a wonderful day of listening, learning, creating, playing and praying together. Through shared activities and a special liturgy, students reflected on the Gospel's call to let their light shine and make a positive difference in the lives of others.



A highlight of the day was seeing students from both schools build new friendships, learn from one another and enjoy time together. As members of the same parish family, they demonstrated Christ's example of care, inclusion and friendship in the way they welcomed and supported each other throughout the day.

We are grateful for the opportunity to celebrate our shared faith and heritage together. By following in Christ's footsteps and sharing our light with others, we continue to strengthen our parish community and inspire those around us.

From Hayley & Leah APRE



CAN YOU PLEASE SUPPORT ME?

One of our young parishioners Julian is taking on a very special challenge by shaving his hair to raise funds for cancer research and support. This generous act is a wonderful example of compassion, courage and service to others. We encourage our parish community to support him if you are able and to keep him, and all those affected by cancer, in your prayers.

Thank you for helping to make a difference through your kindness and generosity.

PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINK TO DONATE: <https://www.worldsgreatestshave.com/fundraisers/juliangeldenhuy/2026>

JOURNEY WITH AN RCIA CANDIDATE



Our RCIA candidate is preparing to receive the Sacraments and become a full member of the Catholic Church.

We are looking for a person or persons to volunteer to accompany a candidate on her RCIA journey beginning in September leading up to Easter 2027. It involves weekly meeting usually between 60 or 90 minutes duration probably in the evening or it may also be during the day - we are not sure yet. We supply a beautiful booklet about the Faith Journey.

For further information you can contact Graham Lawson 0431275668.

Young Adults Group

Our Parish YA Group is on every Monday night and this week (10 August), we'll be at Mater Dei from 6-7pm for Adoration before going out for dinner. If you've finished high school (18-30), we'd love to meet you! **Next week Fr Anthony will be joining us to give a talk.**

To get connected and stay up-to-date with what's on, join our YA Group Chat by texting Lauren on 0487 635 721.

Multicultural Mass

We look forward to our **Youth group being part of our Multicultural Mass on Sunday 23 August.** This special celebration is a wonderful opportunity for our parish to come together as one community, embracing the gifts, cultures and faith of generations.

We warmly welcome everyone to join us as our young people and parishioners from many cultural backgrounds lead us in prayer, music and worship. Come and celebrate the richness of our parish family Mass as we give thanks to God for the diversity that strengthens our community. **Lauren & Sam**

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

75th Anniversary Afternoon Tea

at Mater Dei Catholic Primary School



75th Anniversary Afternoon Tea
Saturday 15 August 3:30pm
McKillop Hall, Mater Dei Catholic Primary School
7 Linwood Avenue, Ashgrove West

Enjoy an afternoon of:

- * Historical photographs and school memorabilia
- * Delicious afternoon tea
- * Reconnecting with past and present members of the Mater Dei family
- * Sharing memories and celebrating our rich community history

75th Anniversary Mass

Following the Afternoon Tea, all guests are invited to attend our:

Anniversary Mass 5:30pm Mater Dei Church

As we give thanks for 75 years of Catholic education, we look forward to gathering with generations of families, staff, students and parishioners who have helped shape the Mater Dei story.

Click to [Register Here](#)

St John's Wood The Gap Parish

RAFFLE!

WIN THIS beautiful quilt!

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

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

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

Great News! 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!



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: Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Why is it that we lack real trust when the Lord calls us? We think we may drown, or must give up too much, or fear failure. These attitudes can help to strengthen our faith in the Lord. **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 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.

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