



PARISH OF ST JOHNS WOOD THE GAP

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

Vol 6, Issue 41

01 November 2026

“Growing in Faith * Building Community * Nurturing Youth

30th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Rev 7:2-4,9-14

I saw an immense crowd, beyond hope of counting, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language.

Second Reading: 1Jn 3:1-3

We shall see God as he really is.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-2

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

Solemnity of All Saints

Fr Michael Grace



On 1 November, we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints, the countless holy women and men who now stand before the throne of God. [Watch now.](#)

Deceased

Edward Bond, Denise McGill, Lorraine Griffiths, Margaret Garonne, Jan Everingham

Anniversary

Joan Lawson, Rosario & Caterina Merenda, Valerio Merenda

Sick

Lorna McConnachie, Norelle Marsen, Kathleen Cosgrove, James Diamond, Robert Minns, Bev Dick, Shane Abrams, Richard King, Beth Kloza, Peter Maher, Peter Townsen, Val Bonney, Julie Allen, Philomena (Nellie's mum), Trish Crawshaw, Carmel Herbert, Christy Murphy, Mary Thomas, Carol Black, Moira De Silva, Margaret Sullivan, Ryan Ferguson, Toni Bennett, Lorraine Stevens, Olivia Muller Farias.

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: WE REMEMBER THE HOLY

In 2018, Pope Francis wrote an Apostolic Exhortation called “Rejoice and be Glad” (Gaudete et Exsultate) in which reminded us that holiness is not for special people or a particular vocation but a universal call to all believers. On the feast of All Saints, we celebrate the lives of all who have demonstrated holiness in their lives. Some of them are canonised saints, but many are ordinary people, our next-door neighbours, parents who raised their children with love, women and men who worked hard to support their families, elderly religious, those who lived by their principles in a variety of workplaces, the sick and the retired. Holiness often grows through small gestures and faithful commitment.

Francis offers a substantive reflection on the Beatitudes which are the subject of this week's gospel. We learn that, when Jesus saw the crowds he went up a mountain, his disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. We are familiar with the text but let us take a moment to reflect. Each of the beatitudes begins with the term “Blessed” which is a translation of a Greek word meaning ‘those who receive God's favour’.

However, each of these blessings is contrary to normal human expectations. Being poor in spirit is not an endorsement of poverty, but an attitude of being dependent on God rather than human resources. ‘Mourning’ is not a sought-after state, but those of us who mourn lost loved ones can develop a compassionate listening to others who have experienced loss. ‘Meekness’ is not a contemporary virtue, but rather an attitude of humility in those who are self-assured and have no desire to control others.

‘Those who hunger and thirst for justice’ are those who take seriously the statement of the 1971 Synod of Bishops who reminded us that “justice is a constitutive dimension of the gospel.”

It is not an optional extra but fundamental to the Good News. The ‘merciful’ are those who have in their own lives experienced setbacks and failures but have learned to walk quietly and patiently with other vulnerable people. The ‘clean of heart’ are those who see the good of others and see their gifts instead of their limitations. The ‘peacemakers’ are critically important in a broken world where reconciliation and healing are essential for the renewal of our world.

The final Blessing is for those who are persecuted and bad-mouthed because of their belief in Jesus. Current statistics tell us that 388 million Christians in our contemporary world are persecuted because of their belief (<https://www.opendoors.org/en-US/persecution/countries/>). Their commitment should encourage all of us to renew our commitment and our solidarity with those who experience such difficulties.

Let us ponder those who have gone before us who have lived their commitment to Christ faithfully in the ordinariness of their lives, as we also remember that we are all called to be members of the communion of saints.

Michael A Kelly CSsR© Majellan Media 2026

Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 02/11/2026	The COMMEMORATION of ALL the FAITHFUL DEPARTED	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 04/11/2026	St Charles Borromeo, bishop	9am	SPC
Thursday 05/11/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 31	9am	SPC
Friday 06/11/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 31	9am-Anointing Mass	Mater Dei
Saturday 07/11/2026	Vigil Mass	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 08/11/2026	32nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME	8am 10am 5pm	SPC Mater Dei SPC

All Souls Mass - Remembering Our Loved Ones

All are warmly invited to join us for our All Souls Mass as we come together in prayer to remember and honour those who have died. We especially welcome those who have lost a loved one during the past year. May this special Mass offer comfort, hope and the reassurance of God's loving presence as we remember those who remain forever in our hearts.

Date: Monday 2 November

Time: 6pm

Church: St Peter Chanel Church

Everyone is welcome as we gather in faith, prayer and loving remembrance.

Parish Maintenance and Safety

Keeping our parish safe is everyone's responsibility.

To help ensure a safe environment for our parishioners, volunteers, staff and visitors, we ask that all maintenance concerns, hazards, repairs, or requests for work on parish property be directed to the Parish Office.

Please do not undertake maintenance, repairs, or other work yourself unless you have been specifically authorised to do so. This helps us ensure that work is appropriately assessed, risks are managed, and any necessary approvals or qualified tradespeople are arranged.

If you notice a hazard, damaged equipment, a maintenance issue or anything that may pose a risk to others, **please report it to the Parish Office as soon as possible.**

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers for helping us maintain a safe, welcoming, and caring parish community.

WELCOME SUNDAY

"Today is the first Sunday of the month which we have been calling a Welcoming Mass where we try to make an extra effort in being a welcoming community. There were name tags when you walked into church for you to wear to make it easier to learn someones name. Please take the opportunity after Mass to say hi to someone you haven't met before or have a conversation with someone you don't normally get to talk to."



~THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH ~

* Monday

9.30am Meditation Group SPC
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
12.30pm Mahjong
10am Happy Patchers group

*Friday at MD
6-7pm Adoration



The Columban Calendars have arrived and are available in the Parish Office for \$10

HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Chris & Ron on Monday 6 2 November. Contact the parish office for further details.



Please check out our Parish Webpage and Facebook Page for regular updates.



Children's Liturgy Leaders - Help Needed

Children's Liturgy is offered at the 10am Mass on the first Sunday of each month. This important ministry is urgently seeking expressions of interest from 1-2 more volunteers willing to either lead or assist with delivery of these sessions. This is necessary so we can continue to provide certainty for the monthly sessions, working around the normal schedule challenges all our volunteers operate around in this busy world.

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.



Young Adults Group

This week (Monday 2 November), we're going to Adoration at Mater Dei Church from 6-7pm and going out for dinner afterwards. All young adults (18-30) are invited. For more info and to join our YA Group Chat, text Lauren on 0487 635 721.

Pastoral care in hospitals

Centacare is seeking people interested in volunteering once each week to provide pastoral and spiritual care to Catholic patients in our public hospitals in our strongly established teams. The people we are seeking must have a qualification or significant background in a human service discipline with some level of formal theological training. If you are retired, or semi-retired from such a career, in very good health and have one morning per week available for a most rewarding volunteer role in the spirit of the Gospel, please talk further with me with no obligation.

E: judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au Mob: 0428 669 572



Igniting Hearts of Caritas

During October, we celebrate Catholic Mission Month, reminding us that we are all called to share Christ's love through compassion, service and generosity. This connects beautifully with our Mater Dei 2026 theme, Igniting Hearts of Caritas. We encourage our students to recognise that mission begins in simple ways: showing kindness, welcoming others, helping those in need and standing up for what is right.

May we continue to ignite hearts of Caritas and be people of hope, compassion and love in our school, parish and wider community.

Leah APRE



20.05.1940 - 19.10.2026

In Loving Memory of

**ALBERT EDWARD
BOND**

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved husband, Dad and Pa, who passed away on Monday evening,
19 October 2026.

We invite family and friends to celebrate his life and say our final goodbyes.

The funeral will be held at
St. Michael's Catholic Church
250 Banks Street, Ashgrove
Ham, Thursday 5 November

His greatest legacy is the love he leaves behind.

REMEMBERING THOSE WE LOVE

"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die."~ Thomas Campbell ~

All Souls' Day, observed on November 2, is a special time to remember and pray for those who have passed away. Losing someone we love is never easy. As the years pass, we learn to live with their absence, although there may still be times when we wish we could share another conversation, ask their advice or simply enjoy being in their company once more.

Every person who touches our lives becomes part of our own story. Their kindness, wisdom and the values they lived by are reflected in the legacy they leave behind.

Grief is something we all experience differently. For some, it becomes easier to carry with time, while for others, the sense of loss remains close to the surface. There is no right or wrong way to grieve, and each person's journey is their own.

This special day encourages us to reflect on how precious life is and the importance of making the most of the time we have with those around us. It is an opportunity to appreciate the people in our lives, show our love more freely and never take them for granted.

Dear Lord, we remember with love and gratitude those who are no longer with us. Thank you for the happiness they brought into our lives and the memories we treasure. May they rest peacefully in your loving care, and may we find comfort in our faith and the hope of being reunited with them in eternal life. Amen.

Cyber security: Please be alert to suspicious emails

There has been a lot of cyber security activity across the country in the past week. Some areas of the Archdiocese have observed an increase in suspicious email activity, with some parishes reporting parishioners receiving emails that appear to be from parishes and priests, but they have not been legitimate.

As such, we wanted to share with our parish community some advice on how you can protect yourself should you receive a suspicious message. How you can protect yourself?

Please be vigilant, even if a message displays a familiar name.

Check the sender's full email address carefully. If a message seems unusual or you are unsure whether it is genuine, call the parish office using a phone number you already know. Do not use the contact details in the suspicious message.

Please know: The Archdiocese of Brisbane and parishes will never ask you for your passwords, banking login details or payment by gift card.

Treat any unexpected request for money, particularly one asking for urgent or confidential help, with caution.

If you receive a suspicious message

- Do not reply to the sender.
- Do not click any links or open any attachments.
- Let us know at security.cyber@bne.catholic.net.au so that we can warn others.
- Delete the message once you have reported it.

You can also report scams to Scamwatch at scamwatch.gov.au.

If you have already responded to a suspicious message

If you have recently shared personal or financial information, made a payment or clicked a link in response to a message that appeared to come from us:

- Contact your bank or financial institution immediately if you have shared financial details or made a payment.
- Change your passwords, particularly any you use for more than one account, and turn on multi-factor authentication where you can.
- Report the matter to **ReportCyber** at cyber.gov.au.
- Please let us know at security.cyber@bne.catholic.net.au.

IDCARE, Australia's national identity and cyber support service, offers free and confidential help. You can contact IDCARE on 1800 595 160 or at idcare.org.

Thank you for helping us care for one another and keep our parish community

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

Web: 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

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

A vocation view: Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed – C/1 “Young man, I tell you to get up.” Find new life in Christ by faithfully following His call today. (Luke 7:11-17)

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!



"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".



Scan the QR code to find out more, or call 1300 133 544
www.vocationbrisbane.com
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- " Some items in the bulletin are sourced from @Majellan Media.
- " Cut off time for the bulletin is 3pm Wednesday.



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