



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

PARISH OF ST JOHNS WOOD THE GAP

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

Vol 6, Issue 38

11 October 2026

“Growing in Faith * Building Community * Nurturing Youth

28th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Is 25:6-10

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

Second Reading: Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

Twenty-Eighth
Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Dcn Andrew O'Brien



This week's Gospel reflection:

“A heart that remembers to give thanks”

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us about a king who prepares a magnificent wedding feast and invites his guests to come and share in the celebration. Yet, surprisingly, many refuse the invitation. They are too busy with their farms, their businesses and the everyday concerns of life. So the invitation is extended to everyone-the people found along the roads, both good and bad -and the banquet hall is filled.

This beautiful image reminds us that **God's invitation is for everyone**. God has prepared a place for each of us at his table. His love is generous, unconditional and constantly reaching out to us. Yet, like the people in the gospel, we can sometimes become so busy with our own lives that we fail to notice God's invitation.

The wedding feast can also remind us of the Eucharist. Each time we come to Mass, we are invited to the table of the Lord, where Christ nourishes us with his presence and sends us out to share his love with others. We are not simply spectators: we are invited to participate, to allow Christ to change our hearts and to become more like him.

The Gospel challenges us to ask: **Am I accepting God's invitation, or am I allowing the busyness of life to get in the way?** And having accepted the invitation, am I willing to live it out through love, kindness, forgiveness and service?

God's invitation is not just an invitation to receive-it is an invitation to become part of his mission. As a parish community, we are called to open our doors and our hearts so that others may know that there is a place for them at God's table.

May we never be too busy to hear the Lord calling us. May the Holy Spirit open our hearts to recognise his invitation, and give us the courage to respond with joyful faith and generous love.

Join Deacon Andrew in praying today's Gospel acclamation as a way to meditate on this Sunday's readings.

[Watch now.](#)

Deceased

Denise McGill, Lorraine Griffiths,
Margaret Garonne

Anniversary

Gerard McCaffery, Irene Tan, Fr Brian Ahern, Heiko Ertel, Neil Mooney, Murray Dick

Sick

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

FUNERAL MASS

We offer our condolences and prayers to the family and friends of **Margaret Garonne** who has recently passed away. The funeral will be held on Friday 16th October at Mater Dei commencing at 11am. May the Lord welcome Margaret into His loving presence and bring comfort, peace and strength to all who mourn their loss.



Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 12/10/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 28	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 14/10/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 28	9am	SPC
Thursday 15/10/2026	St Teresa of Jesus, virgin, doctor	9am	SPC
Friday 16/10/2026	Weekday, Ordinary time 25	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 17/10/2026	Vigil Mass (St Ignatius of Antioch, bishop, martyr)	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 18/10/2026	26 th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME	8am 10am 5pm	SPC Mater Dei SPC

~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
10am Happy Patches group
12.30pm Mahjong

*Friday at MD
6-7pm Adoration

menCONNECT

Gentlemen, our next Gathering is 6pm Friday 23rd October. This is our last for 2026. All men of the parish are warmly invited to come along for an evening of faith, fellowship and encouragement.

We will hear from Mark Doyle who is Associate Director, Mission and Ministry, Australian Catholic University.

Mark's focus will be **The Good Life** - A Christian vision for meaning, purpose and fulfilment. It is built on is built through **FARM**: Faith, Alignment, Relationships, and Mission.

Faith anchors identity in something bigger than yourself

Alignment means living intentionally: clarify your vision, turn it into goals and habits.

Relationships give life significance; investing in family, friends, and community helps people experience that they matter.

Mission means discovering and passionately pursuing your unique purpose.

The Gathering will be in the Parish Hall, 41 Chaprowe Rd, The Gap.

Cost is \$15.00. For catering purposes, please RSVP to Mike by text on 0459 992 228 or email menCONNECTsjwtg@gmail.com before 16th October.



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

HAVE YOUR SAY- PARISH VISION AND MISSION SURVEY

Our Parish Pastoral Council invites all parishioners to take a few minutes to complete our parish survey. Your feedback will help us shape a shared vision and mission for the future of our parish, guided by the Holy Spirit. We would like to hear your thoughts on how we can continue to grow in faith, support our young people and strengthen our parish community.

Your voice matters!

THE SURVEY WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE PARISH WEBSITE, VIA THIS LINK [HTTPS://FORMS.CLOUD.MICROSOFT/R/0HHCYDVFAG](https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/0HHCYDVFAG) AND PAPER COPIES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH. PLEASE RETURN YOUR SURVEY TO THE BOX AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.

Together, we can help build a vibrant, welcoming and missionary parish where everyone feels valued and encouraged to grow in their faith.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and be part of our parish journey.

HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Carmel on Monday 12 October.

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.



As we begin Term 4, we warmly welcome all members of our St Peter Chanel community back for what promises to be a busy yet joy-filled term. This final term of the year provides us with many opportunities to celebrate learning, faith, friendship and the many blessings of our school community as we bring another successful year at St Peter Chanel to a close.

As we journey towards the season of Advent and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christmas, we are reminded of the hope, peace and joy that Christ brings into our lives. We look forward to sharing many special moments together in the weeks ahead, including our **SPC Family Mass and Sausage Sizzle at 8:00am on Sunday 18 October**. This celebration is a wonderful opportunity for parishioners, families and staff to gather in faith and community, and we would love to see you there. May God continue to bless our parish and school community throughout this special season.

Hayley APRE



A warm welcome back to all our Mater Dei families, staff and students as we begin Term 4!

October is World Mission Month, and we look forward to engaging our children in prayer, learning and action as we reflect on this year's theme, "One in Christ, united in mission." This message connects beautifully with our Mater Dei vision of "**Igniting Hearts of Caritas**" - reminding us that caritas, the love of Christ expressed through compassion and service, calls each of us to notice others, stand in solidarity and bring hope through our everyday actions.

Together, we look forward to helping our students discover how they can live as people of love and mission, both within our community and beyond.

Leah APRE

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

Potluck Dinner - 25 October

The next Parish Potluck Dinner is on Sunday 25 October at 6pm in the Parish Hall (after the 5pm Youth-Led Mass). All are welcome – come to share dinner together and catch up with friends new and old over a meal. Please bring a main or dessert to share and your own drinks. Meals can be dropped off at the Hall right before 5pm Mass or when Potluck begins. Help is needed for setting up before-hand, putting out food and packing up. If you can lend a hand, please contact Michelle Mead at themeads@gmail.com. See you there!



Youth-Led Mass - 25 October

High schoolers, young adults and all parishioners alike are encouraged to join us for this month's Parish Youth-Led Mass on Sunday 25 October at 5pm Mass at St Peter Chanel Church! If you're a high schooler or young adult, why not also get involved in serving (music, altar serving, reading, computer, Communion Minister, offertory, collector) – please email Sam at samuel.mead@outlook.com if you can help out. Hope to see you there!



Young Adults Group

This Monday (12 October) for Young Adults Group, we're going to Adoration at Mater Dei Church from 6-7pm and going out for dinner afterwards. Next week (19 October), we'll be back at SPC from 6:30-8pm and, after having dinner together, Lauren will give a talk! All young adults (18-30) are invited. For more info and to join our YA Group Chat, text Lauren on 0487 635 721.

ADVENT RESOURCES

"Advent invites us to listen again to the quiet movements of the heart. This year we have two resources to choose from: **The Way of the Heart** from Archdiocesan



ministries or **Presence** from Woollongong Diocese.

Both books cost \$7.00 and can be purchased from the Parish Office.



Something for a laugh....

My wife said spring was the perfect time to get out into the garden. So I took my beer outside. Apparently, that wasn't what she meant.



I love sleeping with the windows open in October. Nothing beats fresh air, birdsong, and a mosquito whispering, "You awake?"

Spring cleaning is going well. I've moved everything I don't need into a different room where I still don't need it.

October is when my lawn starts growing faster than my enthusiasm for mowing it.

I bought antihistamines so I could enjoy the spring flowers. Now I can admire them without sneezing—provided I can stay awake.

I put up a scarecrow to protect my spring veggie patch. The cockatoos love it.

Finally, somewhere to sit while they eat my tomatoes.
Enjoy your week ahead.....



CARING FOR OUR MINDS

"Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you."

~ Anne Lamott ~

We all have a lot going on in our lives. Some days we manage well, while on others even the smallest things can seem a little harder. World Mental Health Day on October 10 reminds us that looking after our mental wellbeing is just as important as caring for our physical health.

It's easy to keep going without noticing how much we are carrying. We get through the day, do what needs to be done and tell ourselves we'll slow down later. But sometimes we need to recognise when things are becoming too much.

That might mean taking a little time out, talking to someone we trust about how we're feeling, getting outside for a change of scenery or simply accepting that everything doesn't have to be done at once. Some days are easier than others, and that's just part of life. When things do become difficult, it's important to know when to ease the pressure, reach out for support or simply give ourselves a break.

Perhaps the message for today is a simple one:

Be gentle with yourself. You're doing the best you can, and sometimes that is enough.

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".

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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St. Peter Chanel

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Schools

Mater Dei Primary School

T: 3514 4100

St Peter Chanel Primary School

T: 3300 1202

A vocation view: Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A

Once we have been captured by the beauty of God's promised reward, we want to go out into our world and invite others into the heavenly banquet. Who will tell the Good News? Now is a good time to begin.



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



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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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