PARISH OF ST JOHNS WOOD THE GAP

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

Vol 6, Issue 42 08 November 2026

"Growing in Faith * Building Community * Nurturing Youth

32nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Second Reading: 1 Thess 4:13-18

Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Look, the bridgroom comes. Go out to meet him.



Deacon Gary reflects on the month of remembrance and on coming to terms with death and dying. Watch now.

Deceased

Edward Bond, Jan Everingham

Anniversary

Joan Lawson, Andrew Mahoney, Terry Eastwood, 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:

"Stay awake, because you do not know the day or the hour."

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the ten bridesmaids who go out to meet the bridegroom. Five are wise and bring extra oil for their lamps, while the other five are foolish and come unprepared. When the bridegroom is delayed, all ten fall asleep. But when he finally arrives, only those who have prepared have enough oil to keep their lamps burning.

Jesus is reminding us that faith is not something we can put off until tomorrow. It is something we need to nurture every day. The oil in our lamps represents our faith, our love, our kindness, our prayer and the way we live out the Gospel in our daily lives.

Sometimes life becomes busy, and we can become distracted by our responsibilities, worries and everyday routines. We may take our faith for granted or think we will make more time for God later. Yet Jesus invites us to remain spiritually prepared, keeping our hearts open and our faith alive.

Being ready does not mean living in fear or constantly worrying about the future. It means living each day with purpose, recognising Christ in those around us, reaching out to others with compassion, and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us.

As a parish community, we are also called to keep our lamps burning brightly. Through prayer, participation, service and care for one another, we help keep the light of Christ alive in our families, our parish and the wider community.

Perhaps the question for us today is: Is my lamp burning brightly, and am I doing what I can to keep it filled with the oil of faith, hope and love?

May we be like the wise bridesmaids, always ready to welcome Christ, keeping our faith alive and sharing His light with everyone we meet.

Lord, help us to keep our lamps burning brightly, to remain faithful in prayer, generous in love and ready to welcome You into our lives each day. Amen.

Prison Sunday - A Time for Compassion

This Prison Sunday, we are invited to remember all those in prison, their families and loved ones, and those who work within the prison system.

Let us pray for hope, healing and opportunities for new beginnings. May we recognise the dignity of every person and follow Christ's example of compassion, mercy and forgiveness, remembering His words:

" I was in prison and you came to visit me"

(Matthew 25:36).

Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 09/11/2026	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 11/11/2026	St Martin of Tours, bishop	9am	SPC
Thursday 12/11/2026	St Josaphat, bishop, martyr	9am	SPC
Friday 13/11/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 32	9am-Anointing Mass	Mater Dei
Saturday 14/11/2026	Vigil Mass	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 15/11/2026	**33rd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**	8am 10am 5pm	SPC Mater Dei SPC

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.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

The St Johns Wood The Gap Conference of Vinnies will be conducting their 2026 Christmas Appeal from the weekend 14/15 November. Christmas Trees will be placed in our churches until 30 November. Our conference sincerely thanks our Parish Community and Mater Dei and St Peter Chanel Schools for their continued support which is greatly appreciated.

Kev BrayPresident

BAPTISM

This weekend our parish rejoices as children are baptised into the family of God. At Mater Dei Church this Sunday we welcome ***Maeve,*** daughter of Sara & Nicholas, and ***Isabella,*** daughter of Kelli & James. Please keep the families in your prayers.

~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
7pm Happy Patchers group -Parish office

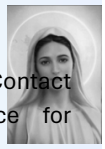
***Friday** at MD
6-7pm Adoration

DATE SAVERS

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER
*Volunteers Mass at Mater Dei 9am
PARISH RETREAT SATURDAY 9th DECEMBER
*Commencing at 9am -12pm including Mass

HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Gordon on Monday 9th November. Contact the parish office for further details.



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

LIKE US ON facebook

Young Adults Group

This Monday (9 November) for Young Adults Group, we'll reflect on Sunday's scriptures and next week (16 November) Sam will give a talk all about Advent. Both nights include dinner and will be at SPC from 6:30-8pm. All young adults (18-30) are invited! For more info and to join our YA Group Chat, text Lauren on 0487 635 721.

Youth Night & Youth-Led Mass - Date Change

Due to clashes, the November Youth-Led Mass and Youth Night (which are the last ones for the year) will now be one week earlier. On Sunday 22 November the YLM is at 5pm and the Youth Night is at 6pm. More info to come next week but save the date now and email Sam at samuel.mead@outlook.com if you want to be involved!

Archdiocese Event For Highschoolers: Westside All In Next Friday night (13 November, 6-8:30pm), there's a free gathering for all high schoolers on the west side of the city, called Westside All In. It will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary School, Kenmore (in the Carroll Community Centre; 1 Kenmore Rd, Kenmore). There'll be praise and worship music, Reconciliation and much much more on offer, as well as the chance to meet lots of other young Catholics from parishes and youth groups nearby. If you're interested, you should totally go! For more info, contact Sam at samuel.mead@outlook.com.

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 for 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.

Pastoral visits to prisons

No one is beyond the reach of God's mercy
(Pope Francis)

Volunteering opportunities are available with Centacare for women and men in several of the correctional centres in the archdiocese – Southern Qld and Brisbane Women's, Arthur Gorrie and Maryborough. Pastoral visits can be life changing for inmates. You will be well trained and well supported within an existing Catholic team and the commitment required is just one morning a week. Find out more by contacting Judy Norris: 0428 669 572 or email: judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au

Pastoral care in hospitals

Centacare is seeking people interested in volunteering 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. Please talk further with me with no obligation. judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au

REMEMBRANCE DAY

"There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends." ~ John 15:13 ~



Across the fields, where poppies grow,
A sea of red, a quiet glow.
In each small bloom, a story lies,
Of sacrifice, of last goodbyes.
They left their homes, they stood as one,
Through bitter cold, beneath harsh sun.
For freedoms kept, they paid the price,
Their courage, strength, our sacrifice.
They gave their all with hearts so true,
For dreams of peace, for skies of blue.
We wear the flower, bow our heads,
And think of all the words unsaid.
The silence fills with whispers past,
Their memory strong, their legacy vast.
In red, we honour those who rest,
Our silent thanks for their final quest.



Lord, we thank you for those who gave everything to protect our freedom. Bless their souls and comfort their loved ones. May we honour them by living with kindness, courage and peace. Amen.

SAFEGUARDING CORNER

Have Your Say

The Archdiocese is inviting parishioners to complete a short Safeguarding Survey. It takes only 2-3 minutes and will help us strengthen safety, respect and wellbeing across our parish communities. Scan the QR code to participate.

SCAN HERE

2026 ONLINE SAFEGUARDING SURVEY



The Marriage Education & Enrichment Network (ME&EN) are launching a Resource 'Hub' for parishes and communities that will help connect couples and families with trusted, high-quality marriage education, enrichment and support at every stage of their relationship journey.

Come along, hear from leading practitioners, talk with members of the Network and discover how the ME&EN ***Resource Hub*** can make it easier than ever for couples seeking guidance, preparation, enrichment, or support.

Details

6:00pm
Thursday 12 November 2026
Hanly Room, 196 Charlotte St
RSVP: Tuesday 10 November

Archdiocesan MINISTRIES
INSPIRE · EMPOWER · ENCOUNTER

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: StJohnsWood TheGapParish
Bulletin: *Email this address if you require a copy*
bulletin.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Team

Fr Anthony Odionyenfe
Parish Priest
E:odionyenfea@bne.catholic.net.au
P: 0437406047

Silvana Geldenhuys
Parish Secretary
E: poa.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

Ann Lister
Parish Office Assistant
E: poa2.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

Local Safeguarding Representative
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

A vocation view: Dedication to the Lateran Basilica

"Zeal for your house will devour me." How can we passionately follow God today? (John 2:13-22)

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!

DIVINE RENOVATION

"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
Follow us on socials @vocationbrisbane

¨ 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.

Guiding you through your time of need with compassion, dignity and affordability.
(07)3293 0555 www.holycrossfunerals.com
Holy Cross FUNERALS