

NEWSLETTER

◆ KEVIN SMITH parish priest ◆ GERRY CROOKS pastoral associate ◆ HELEN PRICE and HELEN COLE parish secretaries ◆ PAUL BLINKHOFF school principal ◆

The Baptism of the Lord

Jesus grew up in the backwater town of Nazareth in Galilee. When news reached him that John was baptising in the Jordan river near Jericho, he seems to have interpreted it as a sign that the time had come for his public ministry to begin. When Jesus came up from the water, the heavens opened suddenly and Mark records that the Spirit descended like a dove upon him. And a voice from heaven was heard saying "You are my Son, the beloved; my favour rests on you". We learn that Jesus is sent by God and the "Beloved" of God.

As Jesus begins his public ministry we are granted a revelation, a manifestation or epiphany, of the Holy Trinity. The union of Father, Son and Spirit is participating in this baptism ritual. However, we see something else as well. We see Jesus accepting baptism by John, mingling with those who have come to confess their sins, be baptised and receive forgiveness. Jesus joins the queue of people for baptism wanting to share the joys and sorrows of his people. Jesus shows that he intends to engage with humanity in all of its struggles, limitations and problems.

The baptism of Jesus begins his plunge into the life of the people in a new and very public way. In the depths of the water he enters into the depths of his own humanity, human society and the natural world which is the context of life for us all. We could say that Jesus has entered into that part of all of us which laughs and sings, dances and cries, feels for those who are sick and suffering, desires the best for others and cares for God's creation. Baptism builds up the faith, not only of the person being baptised, but of the entire church community.

Today we are reminded of the implications of our baptism in Christ. It both calls and enables us to live as Christ did and immerse ourselves in the grief and joy of God's people. We are called to show compassion to people in need, be advocates for justice and peace in the name of the poor, and care for the gifts of the earth. The instinctive need to love and be loved is lived fruitfully if we return to the life and power of baptism.

With the Christmas Season concluding this weekend I would also like to sincerely thank all those who assisted in the Christmas celebrations and who willingly served parishioners, their families and friends. To those who decorate the church and care for our worship environment, to those volunteers, especially the young people, who prepared the Good Samaritan Hall, sacristans, ministers, musicians, singers and marshals thank you. More than 1200 people attended Christmas Mass in the Parish and considering the ongoing uncertainty of these times, those who attended and the hospitality shown to them is a wonderful expression of the Spirit of our loving God truly present among us.

God bless,
Fr Kevin

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

John saw Jesus approaching him and said: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Alleluia!

Isaiah 55:1-11 1 John 5:1-9
Mark 1:7-11



Please pray for our departed loved ones, especially Cecily McKeon, Gloria Saunders, Sandra Chalmers and Patricia Barlas recently deceased and also for John Fletcher, Bill Hanley, Les Kamp, Ross Kamp, Gary Fletcher, Stan Grzegorzolka, Patrick O'Connell, Mary O'Connell, Patricia O'Connell, Keith White, Ross Saffioti, Jarrett family, Karen Baker, Mike West, Norman and Katie Timmins, Norman, Patricia and Daniel Timmins, Patrick and Pat Boyle, Vince Long, Muriel Jones, Roy Jones, Sandra Swales, Noel Nicholson.



Please remember the sick in your prayers – Veronica Corcoran, Patricia Desbrow, Carmen Turner, Jan Low, Monica Marron, Harold O'Connell, Pat Dugger, Brian and Catherine Kearney.

DATE CLAIMERS 2021

- Sunday 24 January **Baptism Preparation Session 9am**
- Tuesday 26 January **Australia Day**
- Wednesday 27 January **School returns**
- Sunday 31 January **Baptism celebration**

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR 2021

Please mark these important dates in your diary for next year.

PENANCE (Year 5 children)

Parent workshop sessions

18 February 7:30pm **OR** 19 February 9:30am

FIRST COMMUNION (Year 4 children)

Parent workshop sessions

22 April 7:30pm **OR** 23 April 9:30am

Celebration of First Holy Communion 29 May - 6 June

CONFIRMATION (Year 3 children)

Parent workshop sessions

29 July 7:30pm **OR** 30 July 9:30am

Celebration of Confirmation 27 August – 9 September



PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

- **Collection Boxes at the church doors** - cash donations
- **Giving App** - <http://parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au>
- **Drop off your donation** to the parish office
- **Give via direct debit or your Credit Card** - *please call the parish office or find the form on the website (Quick Links)*
- **Direct deposit donation to our bank account** - **BSB – 064 786 A/C - 006 031 500 (Ref: surname)**

PLEASE BOOK FOR WEEKEND MASS online by using the below link or QR code. Just click on the link and you will be taken to the Try Booking website. Select your preferred Mass, choose number of people attending and fill in each person's details. Marshals at the church door will ask for your name to be ticked off on arrival. Similarly, scan the QR code using your camera on your smart phone and it will direct you to the website.

Bookings for Weekend Masses will open each Monday morning at 9am and close Friday morning at 9am.



Please book for **Masses** via this link-

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=686140&embed=true>

COLUMBAN CALENDARS on sale at church doors for \$10.

Please place money in SVDP boxes. Thank you.

A sense of humour is a gift from God. Laughter unites us.



CHECK OUT THE PARISH WEBSITE
www.bulimbacatholic.com
GET THE PARISH NEWSLETTER ONLINE

INVITATION TO MINISTRY– Being part of a parish is not just about turning up to Mass each Sunday. It is about being involved with your parish community and its ministries. Please consider how you will take part in the life of the parish in this New Year.

CHURCH DÉCOR – do you have a talent or interest in preparing flowers, arrangement or other decorations? We are looking for people to assist in this ministry for special seasons, rites, feast days and weddings. The parish currently has a very small team that needs expanding.

If you think you would like to be part of this ministry, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the parish office on 3399 2386 or via email bulimba@bne.catholic.net.au.

BAPTISM PREPARATION - One of the most rewarding experiences of being a Catholic is to witness the baptism of a child into our Christian community. There is something very special about this ritual – the water, the candle, the holy oil, the white garment, the gathering around of family and godparents. This is very much a hope-filled event when a child begins the initiation process of growing into the fullness of life as part of the Christian community. As such, the preparation for a child's baptism is very important. Parents and godparents not only need to understand the commitment they are making on behalf of their child, but they also need to understand the ritual itself as well as its significance in the on-going faith development of the child. This time of preparation is very much appreciated by parents who perhaps are renewing their own faith life. For those who help them prepare, this is also a very rewarding moment of grace. For some years now, we have been blest with volunteers who are involved in this ministry of baptism preparation for an hour on a Sunday morning after Mass. However, from the start of this year, we are introducing a slightly new process with some new content. All the materials and information for the Sessions is provided (with much of the very user friendly content) coming from the Archdiocese. As with all important ministries we are providing the opportunity now for ministers to either renew their commitment or take a well-earned break, as well as providing the opportunity for new people to join this important and worthwhile ministry. We are now seeking volunteers (those who have volunteered in the past together with new volunteers) for this ministry who would like to be part of our parish's Baptism Preparation Team. Each person would be part of a team that delivers the preparation session – in other words, you would be working with 2-3 others at any one session. The time commitment would be minimal (once a quarter, depending on the size and make-up of the team).

Prior to the new system starting, there will be an information meeting for the group to acquaint members with what is required. This will be held on **MONDAY 18 JANUARY AT 5.30PM.**

If you think you would like to give this a go and be part of our Baptism Prep Team, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the parish office on 3399 2386 or via email bulimba@bne.catholic.net.au to register your interest and attendance at the meeting.

Thank you and may John the Baptist pray for us.

PETITION TO STATE PARLIAMENT – THE 'CARE FIRST' APPROACH WORKS BEST.

As you may be aware, Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) legislation will come before parliament in mid-2021. This is a complex life ethics issue and requires action from those who support palliative care and accompanying the sick and vulnerable as the more compassionate way of caring for the terminally ill. There are still options for those who are opposed to euthanasia/assisted suicide and adding your voice to the following petition is one of them. Although this is a secular based petition, please note it is perfectly in harmony with the Catholic position on VAD, in that:

- We support better funding of palliative care instead of legislating VAD
- Faced with a new parliament hosting many first time members, it's wise to follow due legislative process and allow a proper parliamentary committee scrutiny of the new draft legislation

To show your concern about the legislation of VAD, please stand with thousands of other Queenslanders and visit the e-petition page at:

<https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/petitions/petition-details?id=3449>



Liturgy this Week 11 January – 17 January 2021

MONDAY	-		-
TUESDAY	-		-
WEDNESDAY	7:00pm	St. Hilary	Mass
THURSDAY	-		-
FRIDAY	8:00am		Mass followed by Adoration and Benediction
SATURDAY	9:00am		Mass
SUNDAY	6:00pm (Saturday); 8:00am; 5:30pm		Mass: BAPTISM of the LORD
	<i>Readings – Isaiah 55:1-11 1 John 5:1-9 Mark 1:7-11</i>		
OTHER LITURGY AND PRAYER			
RECONCILIATION	Saturday at 9:30am and 5:00pm		
ROSARY/ANGELUS	Saturday before the 9:00am Mass		

ENTRANCE HYMN

ALL THE EARTH

*CHORUS All the earth proclaim the Lord,
Sing your praise to God.*

Serve you the Lord, heart filled with gladness,
Come into his presence singing for joy!

Know that the Lord is our Creator,
Yes, he is our Father, we are his own.

Enter his gates bringing thanksgiving,
O enter his courts while singing his praise.

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GLORIA *Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.*

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,
we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the holy one, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was
buried;
he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the
dead; he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and
Resurrection you have set us free.

COMMUNION HYMN

BE MERCIFUL

*Be merciful, be merciful, just as God is merciful to you.
Answer evil with good, answer hatred with love.
Be merciful as God is merciful.*

As a tender father, God is merciful; as a loving mother,
God is merciful, slow to anger, and full of compassion.

Show compassion to the lost and forgotten;
give comfort to the sick and the dying.
Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Share your riches with the hungry and homeless,
and advocate for those in prison.
Do to others as you would have them do to you.

And, as Jesus taught us, love your enemies,
do good to the ones who hate you.
Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Offer blessings to the ones who curse you,
and pray for the ones who abuse you.
Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Clothe yourselves in love and compassion;
Be forgiving as God has forgiven you.
Do to others as you would have them do to you.

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RECESSIONAL HYMN

TAKE THE WORD OF GOD WITH YOU

Take the word of God with you as you go.
Take the seeds of God's word and make them grow.

Refrain:

*Go in peace to serve the world,
in peace in serve the world.*

Take the love of God, the love of God with you as you go.

Take the peace of God with you as you go.

Take the seeds of God's peace and make them grow.

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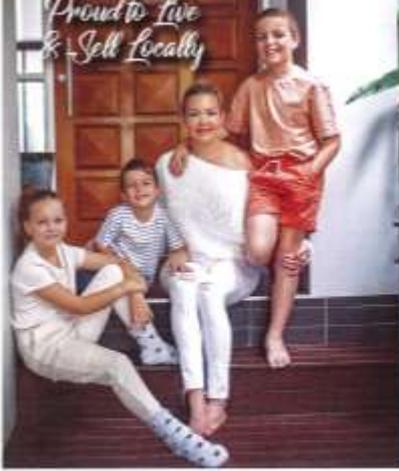
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