

PARISH NOTICES

Dates for your Diary



Sun 21st Feb. Second Sunday of Lent
 Mon 22nd Feb. Divine Mercy Prayer Group
 IN ENGLISH. 6.00pm
 Wed 24th Feb. Rosary 6.30pm
 Fri 26th Feb. Stations of the Cross

Collections For Last Week

First ☹️ ↓
Second ☹️ ↓
 ☺️ ↑ = Income up on last week.
 ☹️ □ = Income steady.
 ☹️ ↓ = Income down

Welcome to our Community! Have you moved into our parish lately? We would love to hear from you. Please give the Parish Office a call on 3818 0111. If you call at the information point after Mass, a member of the Parish Council will give you a welcome and information pack. We hope that you will enjoy your time in the parish and join in our activities.



For the Sick and housebound. If you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like a visit from a priest or to receive Holy Communion, please let the parish office know and a visit can be arranged.

21st Feb Second Sunday of Lent

Gen 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 9:28-36

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

28th Feb Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 17:3-7, Rom 5:1-2, 5-8, John 4:5-22 (Year A)



Services times this week:

Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00pm
 Sunday 7.30am Mass
 9.00am Mass

Weekdays

Monday No Mass
 Tuesday 9.00am Mass
 Wednesday 9.00am Mass
 Thursday 9.00am Mass
 Friday 9.00am Mass
 Saturday Vigil 6.00pm
 Sunday 7.30am & 9.00am

Reconciliation Sat 5.00 – 5.30pm

Cleaning: 26th Feb. Lulu Family

If you would like to help out on this roster, please contact Pam Dodrill on 3288 4594. (Roster approximately once every eight weeks) The current Roster is available from the Sacristy.

We Pray for the Sick:

Audrey Congreve, Colin Jackson, Sr Helen Stanley, Breda O'Sullivan, Ellen Parker, Rose Logan, Edna May Tournay, Keith Auld, Kathy McMonagle, Kevin Ward, Matthew Berwick, John Ward, Allan Peterson, Kathleen Doherty. Rachel Scriben, Stan Brown, Carmon Z, Nancy McCarrick, Kath McGrath, Maria Vink, Claire Curry, Phil O'Dwyer, John Doherty, William Ryan, Hudson McHardy, Hini Habchi, Jamie Teal, Jaiden Madasferi, Maureen Shackleton, Macey Ingham, Nada Payne, Carmel Vig, Rebecca Habraken, Sr Carmel, Wendy Marshall.
 (Some names have been removed from this list, so please contact us if you need these names back on. If you know someone who can come off the sick list please contact us)

Anniversaries: 21 –27 February

Walter Sears, Roy Dennis, Helmut Schadwell, Maria Lupeamanu, Madonna McCarthy, Erlinda Basco, Joseph Portelli, Roslyne Watson, Mavis Goonatilalee.

Recently Deceased: Ivan Vuksic

LOOP SYSTEM



The church Sound System at St Francis Xavier's is fitted with a Loop System. If you wear a hearing-aid set the control to the "T" setting to obtain a clear sound.

A gift in your Will can provide support for the many ministries of your Parish and ensure a legacy of faith for future generations. A gift in your will is a wonderful way to express your Catholic faith. After you have provided for your loved ones, please consider a lasting memory to your parish. Booklets available from Parish Office.



Newsletters by Email.

If you would like this newsletter sent to you by email each week, simply send an email to goodna@bne.catholic.net.au title it 'newsletter' and the next week you should receive the email.



St Francis Xavier Parish

6 Church Street (GPO Box 450) Goodna, Qld. 4300

Office Hours: Monday - Wed 9.00am — 4.00pm

Friday 9.00am –4.00pm Closed Thursdays

Website: stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au

Ph: 3818 0111 Fax 3818 1420 Email: goodna@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Clergy: Fr Roger Burns PP. Fr Paul Chanh

Parish Secretary: Mrs Marie Hodges

St Vincent De Paul: For Assistance Please call 3010 1096 - Weekdays only . Meetings:
Fortnightly on Tuesday 7.00pm. Call 0479 163 335

2nd Sunday in

Lent

21stFebruary

2016

Embracing the suburbs of Goodna, Bellbird Park, Camira, Carole Park, Collingwood Park, Ellen Grove. Gailes, Kruger, Redbank, Redbank Plains, Wacol and beyond.

Good News: How to become human.

In today's world we celebrate many events: Independence Day, Mother's Day and many other special occasions. However, has no one ever thought of celebrating 'Conversion Day'? These days we need to be converted, not only to be Christians, but simply to be human. Have not even the massacres in Rwanda, not the poverty of three thousand million human beings, brought home the need for change in each and every one of us?

God thinks differently. He tells us: 'Rend your hearts.' throughout the ages our Christian Churches have rarely welcomed the word of God. After all, it puts demands on them as well. At least the Churches have not dared to silence it, and every year, during Lent, they offer us time to think about conversion.

We have to be thankful for that, given that we live in a world of injustice and cruelty, where the seven richest men have enough wealth to wipe out poverty within a few years. A world where a footballer, a boxer or a singer earns more than entire towns and villages in Asia, Africa or Latin America and in which they are better known and more admired than the countless martyrs who have given their lives for love.

We live in a world where existence has been trivialised, where the tragedies of injustice are covered up. It is as if nothing serious ever happened in our lives, as if being human didn't have much to do with honesty, with seeing things as they are.

Joel (2:12), Jesus and martyred Archbishop Oscar Romero are all right, despite the little attention paid them by Wall Street or the United Nations Security council. We have to start by accepting that we have hearts of stone and ask them to be made flesh.

Ignacio Ellacuria, the rector of the University of Central America in San Salvador who was murdered along with five other Jesuits, was right in the last speech he gave. In Barcelona in November 1989, a week before his death, he said: 'We have to turn history around.' In words that few would dare speak he said: 'Today's civilisation of abundance must become a civilisation of poverty.'

John Sobrino SJ *El Salvador*

The church in the Third World, has for long suffered and many have paid the ultimate price for speaking out and saying 'enough is enough!' Oscar Romero was assassinated whilst saying Mass. Dom Helder Camara had his house machine gunned because he asked the wrong question. He is famous for a poster which reported him saying: "If I give food the poor they call me a saint, if I ask why the poor have no food they call me a communist.'

Looking at our world today, not much has changed for the better than when John Sobrino wrote the article above. Thousands have been displaced by conflict in Syria and Iraq, famine and drought in Africa have resulted in many deaths in Africa. In our own country, there is conflict about the status of Asylum Seekers, workers in Queensland facing redundancy on a large scale, farmers suffering from the result of long term dry seasons.

Unless we take on board what is happening to our brothers and sisters, and at least keep them in our prayers, we are not entering into the season of Lent, a time of reflection, reconciliation and possibly action. Thank God that he has been generous to us with many blessings, may he help us to share these blessings with others.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Last Sunday in St Stephen's Cathedral, a number of our parishioners were enrolled as candidates for admission to the Church at Easter. We have a group of seven people who will become part of our community at the Easter Vigil. Please keep them in your prayers, their names are: Matthew Buchanan, Simon Couch, Scott Donaldson, Andrew & Kayla Seery, Andrew Scully and Riko Vangalo.

Children in Non-Catholic Schools and Sacramental Preparation Children in year three and above are eligible for the reception of the Sacraments. If you have a child in a Non-catholic school and would like them to take part in the preparation this year, there are booklets available in the sacristy, with the dates of sessions. Enrolment form will be available on Sunday 13th March, and the first session for parents and candidates is on April 17th.

Project Compassion As we were reminded in the School Ash Wednesday Mass, Lent is a time for reflection and self-denial. Fasting and self-denial are not meant to make us feel good or loose weight, they are meant to direct our attention to those in need around us and in the world. Each year through Project Compassion, Caritas are able to help many people through the world. Collecting boxes and envelopes are available at the Church doors, for you to be involved.

Divorced Catholics Pope Francis has invited a group of divorced and remarried believers to a private audience, in the lead-up to the release of a major document on Communion, reports *Crux*. Please remember that divorce does not itself exclude a Catholic from receiving Holy Communion provided that no marriage occurs without first obtaining a Catholic annulment.

An annulment, means that the church has determined, that although a civil marriage took place, there was some element missing which made the vows invalid, and the church tribunal declares the marriage Null.

Unexpected Parish Costs As most house owners know there is always the possibility of costs arising which are unplanned. This month two such costs have arisen with regards to security of the Church and Presbytery. Early in the month, the alarm in the Church failed after a surge. The system we were told was out of date and required replacing to solve the problem. Last week, when we made enquiries regarding the expected changes in telephones and internet, we were again informed that our alarm system in the Parish Office, Presbytery and Parish Centre would not be compatible with the NBN. Recommendation, replace the system with a new version.

The total cost of updating the two system is in excess of \$4,000. This again means that we ask you to consider your contributions to the collections at Mass. To remain with income not exceeding expenditure, we require \$2,500 a week income. Rarely do we reach that total, and as a result, we have not funds in hand to meet demands which suddenly appear.

St Mary's Ipswich named Jubilee Church for Year of Mercy Last Saturday, Archbishop Mark Coleridge opened the Door of Mercy at St Mary's Ipswich. The opening was followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation. St Mary's being a "House of Mercy", means that if you wish to make a pilgrimage and obtain the indulgences attached to the Year of Mercy, you do not have to travel into Brisbane. It is hoped that each Saturday, St Mary's will be open for the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 10.00am with Benediction completing the morning at 12.00.

Humour

Strange Math

After the wedding, the little ring bearer asked his father, "How many brides can the groom marry?"

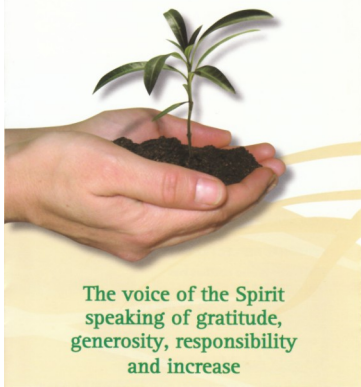
"One," his father said. "Why do you ask?"

Because the priest said he could marry sixteen," the boy said, puzzled.

"How'd you come up with that?" his father asked.

"Easy," the little boy said. "All you have to do is add it up, like the priest said: 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer."

Spirituality for Life



Each one of you has received a special grace, so, like good stewards responsible for all these varied graces of God, put it out at the service of others.”
(1 Peter 4:10)

3rd Sunday of Lent

“He said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.’” (Luke 13:7)

Are you like the barren fig tree? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous, we are called to develop and nurture our gifts and return

with increase. Accessed on 16th January 2016, from <http://archstl.org/stewardship/page/bulletin-inserts>).

Welcoming Refugees and Asylum Seekers

A continuation of the information given last week.

Current Process

The Federal Government currently settle people arriving in Australia through programmes and services under two Commonwealth Departments: the Department of Social Services and the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

Through these departments, particular settlement agencies, under contract with Government, currently provide both direct settlement assistance (housing, advocacy, and counselling) and additional support services (forging community connections, English language support, financial counselling, family and relationship support). Here in Queensland there are two main settlement agencies—MDA (for Brisbane, Rockhampton and Toowoomba regions) and Access Inc. (for Logan City, Ipswich and Gold Coast) with smaller settlement agencies operating north of Rockhampton.

The Federal Government has sent a delegation to the region to work with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees to establish a process to identify the 12,000 people to be relocated to Australia, to conduct security and health checks in-country, and to issue people with permanent visas. It is understood that priority will be given to families, vulnerable women and children. The questions as to whether unaccompanied minors will be included or prioritised is yet to be clarified. Syrians currently detained on Manus island and Nauru will not be eligible for resettlement under this program. Syrians now resident in Australia who wish to bring family members to Australia can apply to do so under the usual family reunification process> Australia has an excellent record in the successful resettlement and integration of people in local communities, so Australians have the benefit in working from strong foundations. (*Catholic Social Services Australia (15 September 2015)*)

However, in the South East Corner of Queensland at least, the first response for direct settlement services will be through Humanitarian Settlement Agencies of MDA and Access Inc. The Catholic Church in the Brisbane Archdiocese will, in this regard, play a more secondary role when it comes to this group of eventual arrivals and is working with these agencies to “fill the gaps” in providing services and resources.

Some issues identified

- ◆ Where the 12,000 new arrivals to Australia are to be settled
- ◆ How the additional demand for housing will be satisfied.
- ◆ Whether unaccompanied minors will be included in the intake
- ◆ How the Government proposes to ensure that people settled in regional areas (who have no connection to Australia through family or individual/community sponsors) remain in regional areas over the long term given that past experience tells us that people move to where there are existing ethnic and/or faith communities and family connections.
- ◆ Whether Government will provide support to agencies to help new arrivals beyond the base needs of food and shelter and provide further funding for the broader services of community development and social concern.

Welcoming Refugees and Asylum Seekers—A Parish Kit (Archdiocese of Brisbane)