



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.

Parish Secretary: Mrs Marie Hodges

(Local Safeguarding Children Representative: Marie Hodges)

St Vincent De Paul: For Assistance Please call 3010 1096 - Weekdays only .

Meetings: Fortnightly on Tuesday 7.00pm. Call 0479 163 335

**32nd Sunday
in Ordinary
Time**

**6th November
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: “We are children of the Resurrection”

Christ has gone before us; his resurrection is an ever-present comfort and a sure hope. Even in the face of death for ourselves or our loved ones, we can be confident that our Father is God eternal.

If we believe that there is something after death, our outlook on life is entirely different to those who do not believe. In the gospel we are presented with the Sadducees who did not believe in the resurrection. Their limited view of life deteriorated in trying to create puzzles which would confuse or upset the people who believed in the resurrection.

They could not have picked on a better person to challenge than Jesus, as his resurrection would guarantee the resurrection of those who would follow him. How much time and energy has gone into debate about life after death and what heaven is like. In one sense it does not matter one iota, and on the other hand it is very important. Possibly the most important aspect is assuring that after the resurrection we are welcomed and invited to stay in the Kingdom.

Jesus by his resurrection has opened the door for us, but we have also to play our part. The Beatitudes (cf Mt 5:1-10 or Lk 6:20-23) could be seen as a recipe which would lead to a life in the kingdom of heaven. This is more than a one-off action, it is a way-of-life, which leads to the invitation from the Father to share in the riches of the banquet and a life of joy and peace. The alternative is almost to horrendous to even consider.

On the television, we are inundated with adds which help us to plan for retirement and death. Health adds tell us of the dangers of particular life-styles and so on. Many people take these adds very seriously. How about us in terms of the adds which we have received from another source, namely the teaching of Christ himself?

“What good deed must I do to possess eternal life?” Jesus was asked by a young man. His answer: “Why do you ask me about what is good? There is one alone who is good. But if you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.” (Mt 19:16-17)

Our reaction to that statement of Jesus, may be the same as the rich young man who asked the question—‘which one?’ It is the same reaction which leads some to ask, how much of the Mass must I be present for? The answer is simple, all the commandments and all of the Mass. If we believed that our eternal life depended upon both of these, then how different would we be and how different would the world be.

Once we are baptized, we begin a journey—step by step, it leads us to our reward in heaven. The baptism is not an isolated action, but the beginning of a process, a pilgrimage which ends when we stand before the throne of God. Our faith is demonstrated not as much by our devotions, or participation in Church activities, but rather in our good works. St James in his letter states that, ‘As a body without a spirit is dead, so is faith without deeds.’ (James 2:26)

So the bottom line is that if we want to remain in the kingdom after we are judged, we can do something about it here and now. We need to keep the commandments, and the indicator as to whether or not we are keeping them and being guided by them, will be in the works that we perform.

2016 National Church Life Survey. Thank you to all who completed Survey forms last weekend. There are still some available for those who were not able to take part in the survey. Please remember that we have had to purchase the forms so we need as many as possible completed to help the survey.

The survey can be completed online if you have a tablet, computer or smart phone. Log in to survey.ncls.org.au You will need to enter the Church Code TAB04801

November—Month of the Holy Souls. Remembrance Book and Mass Intentions.

You are able to have your deceased relatives and friends, listed in the Remembrance Book which is before the altar during the month of November. Make a list, place it in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket. You can also make a request for a Mass intention. Again list your intention and place your offering in the envelopes at the door or one from your collection envelopes. Place the envelope in the collection basket. The Masses will be said throughout the year.

Confession: The Sacrament of Reconciliation. Possibly one of the reasons for the low response for the sacramental preparation, is that the majority of adults do not make use of this Sacrament. The reconciliation rite at the beginning of each Eucharist, deals with what we call venial sins. That does not mean that the going to ‘Confession’ has lost its place.

From time to time it is good to take stock and approach this sacrament, even if we have not committed a grave or mortal sin. How are we really with God and neighbour is an important assessment for us to make. Sometimes in looking at what acts make us keep asking God for his forgiveness can reveal the real sin that lies behind our sinning. With the help of God and the priest in the sacrament of Reconciliation, we can begin to tackle our waywardness and hopefully sin less. In the same way.

Use of the Parish Centre Toilets on a couple of occasions, the toilets at the back of the Parish Centre have been left in conditions that have prevented others from using them. On weekdays whilst the Centre is being used for Out of School Hours Care, the toilets are not available for church use. This means that up to 9.00am and between 2.00 and 6.00pm parishioners and visitors are not allowed to use these facilities.

If you discover the toilet blocked, then please report it so that it can be dealt with. Parents, please remember that your children should be accompanied if they use the toilets during the celebration of church services. We are governed by the State and National rules with regards to safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. Please play your part responsibly.

Young Children at Mass etc. All children attending Masses and other celebrations should be supervised by a parent or responsible adult. We ask you not to allow your children to roam around outside. This applies to Masses, choir practices and Prayer Group meetings.

Parish Christmas Lunch Monday 21st November, 10.30am –2-00pm.

Entertainment will be provided by children from St Francis Xavier Primary School and Irish singer Bob McDowd and his accompanist Kath Hogan. If you have that day free no matter what age you are please come along and enjoy your fellow parishioners company and the good food that will be provided.

Names will be taken after Masses as from this weekend 5/6 November until Friday 18 November or ring Marie in the Office during office hours on 3818 0111 or Agnes on 3271 2452.

Ipswich Awakening Christmas Day Community Dinner Sunday 25th December, 3.00-6.00pm. Venue: North Ipswich Reserve Corporate Centre– 43 The Terrace, North Ipswich.

Do you want to make a real difference in someone’s life this Christmas? We need table hosts, prayer team members, entertainers, hospitality and children’s craft and activity volunteers to make this day a success. Or maybe you can help us with the set-up of the venue and the many preparations needed in the weeks before? For more details of you can get involved: Please email info@ipswichawakening.com.au or call Lee-Anne on 0421 794 748 to be sent a Volunteer Information & Registration Pack.

Humour “Do you believe in life after death,” the professor asked one of her more “creative” students. “Yes, absolutely!” the student replied.

“Well, then, I’m so relieved,” the professor continued. “Last week after you sent me the email about missing last week’s test for your grandfather’s funeral, I saw him at Starbucks on my way to class.”

Spirituality for Life



The voice of the Spirit speaking of gratitude, generosity, responsibility and increase



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)

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time. 30th October 2016

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word.”

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 There are two important lessons here. First, we are called to be generous with our encouragement and hope. As God shows us mercy,

we must be merciful to others. Second, joy is contagious! The joy we receive from doing good works not only strengthens us, it encourages others as well. (Accessed on 30th October 2016 from <http://archstl.org/stewardship/page/bulletin-inserts>)

THE CALL – THE CALL OF STEWARDSHIP

Following Jesus is the work of a lifetime. At every step forward, one is challenged to go further in accepting and loving God’s will. Being a disciple is not just something else to do . . . it is a total way of life and requires continuing conversion. – *A Disciple’s Response. A Pastoral Letter on Stewardship*

As Vatican II remarks, all Christians are “bound to show forth, by the example of their lives and by the witness of their speech,” that new life of faith which begins in baptism and is strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit in confirmation.” (Ad Gentes, 11)

There is a woman I know who I see receiving communion at Mass every week. She positively glows! I didn’t know who she was, so I asked a fellow parishioner about her. While she has all the ‘attributes’ of our lives – a family, a job, a mortgage – my fellow parishioner told me she has stripped her life of all unnecessary encumbrances.

Though prosperous, she doesn’t work to get rich, she works to make a living and because she has found a job she likes. Though involved in our parish and the community, she doesn’t do it for public acclaim, but because she cares about helping others. Though she is a boss at work, a parent and spouse at home, an elder sister in her family, her direction of those for whom she has responsibility is merely to share wisdom, provide guidance, and support others.

She has found happiness in the ultimate paradoxes: that totally giving over control of one’s life to God is the truest liberation, that giving up your life brings eternal life!

Questions:

How is stewardship a part of being a disciple?

What does it mean to you to be a steward of the Church?

Do you see your baptism as creating a responsibility to follow Jesus?

Stewardship means I am not in control. It means the gifts I take for granted will not always be mine. It means that when it comes down to the basic gifts of life, love, faith, and relationships, what I possess and who I am makes little or no difference. *Archbishop Thomas Murphy.*

