



St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Bulletin

Vol 5, Issue 43

3rd November 2024

31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: [Deut 6:2-6](#)

Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.

Second Reading: [Heb 7:23-28](#)

This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal priesthood.

Gospel: Mark [12:28-34](#)

This is the first commandment, and the second is similar to it.



'You must love your neighbour as yourself. However Jesus took the command a little further. In its original context, 'neighbour' meant only the Jewish people. However, Jesus' mission is to everyone. The command is to love all people, not just our own kind. [Read more here](#)

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Two-Minute Homily by Fr Francis Bellomo OSA for the Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time 2024, Year A



We say something out loud and using our hands make the sign of the cross. And it's a wonderful reminder of our identity in Christ. [Watch now.](#)

SUNDAY READINGS READ AT HOME

[Read here](#)

Recently Deceased

Christian YR Vanathas, Margaret Caradine, Bill Mahoney, Irene Tan, Steve Porritt

Anniversary

Terry Stewart, Andrew Mahoney, Paul Quinlivan, Murray Dick, Gerard McCaffrey, John Healy, Neal Mooney

Sick

Dorothea Feodoroff, Kathleen Cosgrove, Howard Hall, Robert Minns, Tim chen chen zuo Zu, Mary Thomas, Antonio Ferrante, Deborah Austin, Lorraine Stevens, Carol Black, Moira De Silva, Juliana Ryman, Lorna McConnachie, Margaret Sullivan, Bernie Knapp, Mary Davidson, Val Bonney, Ryan Ferguson, Linda & Andrea Pisano, Estelle Freney, Toni Bennett, Deiana Martin, Kathy Fraser, Les Grimson, Carmel Selva

WCCM (Christian Meditation)

Monday at 9.30am Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mater Dei: Monday & Friday 6 - 7pm



Hello Fr Anthony ...

Fr Anthony Odionyenfe, was ordained on the 23rd of July 2016, at Mater Dei Cathedral, Diocese of Umuahia in Nigeria. Before sojourning to Australia in late October 2021, he has worked in different capacities as associate pastor, parish priest and as manager of BANPAC (a pastoral and hospitality centre). He's looking forward to greeting you "IBIALA" (i-bia-la) or "Hello" in his native tongue.

This Weeks Gospel Reflection...

From the moment in Chapter 12 of the Book of Genesis when God promises salvation to Abraham, the story of the Old Testament people is one of them repeatedly being called to faithfulness. In the Book of Deuteronomy, we listen to Moses, who having just received the Ten Commandments, now tells the people not to regard these Commandments as a list of instructions to be obeyed, but words to be written on their hearts.



When Jesus is questioned by the scribe about which is the first of the commandments, without hesitation, Jesus sums it all up by reminding him that everything begins and ends with the love of God and our neighbour. Happily, and for once with one of the scribes, the conversation ends in agreement and Jesus is able to assure him that he is "not far from the Kingdom of God." Notably the scribe has recognised that love is more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.

I suggest that here we have a fruitful focus for our meditation. The Law of God is not there to make life difficult for us or to catch us out, but when it is written on our hearts, it enables us to live a life of love: to live life to the full. When Jesus came into our world he presented us with a wholly new vision of God. He reveals that God is a Father who has created us for love and in sending his Son has shown us the ultimate meaning of sacrifice, for we now know that we have a God who *literally* loves us to death.

Accordingly, in the letter to the Hebrews the nature of priesthood and sacrifice is explored. Christ has made the ultimate sacrifice "once and for all." Now it is up to us to imitate his sacrificial form of loving by recognising that love is the emptying of ourselves so that we can give ourselves completely to God and our neighbour.

That is precisely why we gather each Sunday to celebrate the Eucharist: the memorial of Christ's sacrifice and the means whereby he fulfils his promise to be with us always; the means whereby he unites us with himself and one another by feeding us with himself.

Jesus assured us the Holy Spirit would lead us to all truth: the truth about God, about ourselves and about the world around us. At each Eucharist we invoke the Holy Spirit to make Christ present so that we can indeed be transformed into his Body and be able to proclaim a message of love, hope, compassion and reconciliation to a world which so desperately needs more people to have God's word written on their hearts. When we are sent forth from the Eucharist this weekend, may it be with renewed confidence that God's word is written large on our hearts.

Timothy J Buckley CSsR

Sourced from www.majellan.media

Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Wednesday 06/11/2024	Weekday, Ordinary Time 32	9am	SPC
Friday 08/11/2024		9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 09/11/2024		5.30pm (Father Ray Chapman)	Mater Dei
Sunday 10/11/2024	32nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME	8.00am	SPC
		9.30am (Father Stephen Byrnes)	Mater Dei
		5.00pm	SPC

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: [StJohnsWoodTheGapParish](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsWoodTheGapParish)

Bulletin: *Email this address if you require a copy*

bulletin.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH TEAM

Fr Terence Nueva

Parish Priest

E: nuevat@bne.catholic.net.au

M: 0438 946 000

Silvana Geldenhuys

Parish Secretary

E: poa.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

Ann Lister

Local Safeguarding Representative & Parish Office Assistant

E: poa2.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

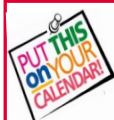
Remembering those who have gone before us

We gather with hearts filled with both sorrow and reverence, as we remember those who have gone before us. We honour their lives, their impact, and the love they shared with us. Each person we remember leaves behind a legacy woven into the fabric of our community—a legacy of kindness, courage, and faith.

Though they may no longer walk among us, they remain with us in spirit, inspiring us to live with the same grace and love they showed. We continue to hold each family in our prayers.



DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR



Saturday 2nd November 5:30pm – Mass of Remembrance (As All Souls Day falls on Saturday this Mass will be held at Mater Dei)

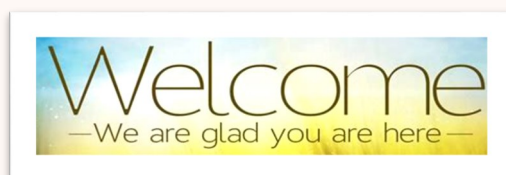
Sunday 24th November 5pm SPC—Youth led Mass and Pot Luck Dinner

Sunday 1st of December after 5:00pm Mass – **Volunteer BBQ Dinner** (if you have anything you would like to donate towards our raffles on the night please drop it at the Parish office) Any assistance appreciated.

"May the church be the place of God's mercy and love, where everyone can feel themselves welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live according to the good life of the Gospel. And in order to make others feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged, the church must have open doors so that all might enter. And we must go out of those doors and proclaim the Gospel." —Pope Francis continuing a series of meditations on the church June 12

This weekend, is welcoming Sunday, say hello, it's nice to meet you to someone you may not know or haven't spoken to in awhile. When you enter the church we ask that you write your name on a tag and wear it so that at the end of Mass people will know who you are.

Thanks for supporting this initiative.



HOME ROSARY



This week's rosary will be said at the home of Anton & Ann on Monday 28th October. Contact the Parish Office for further details.

A vocation Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - B

'Master, grant that I may see'. The values we were blind to in our youth now become clear. Blindness gives way to vision through faith in Jesus. As children of God, we are called to do good things and to witness God's love. **Please pray for Vocations.**

To find out more call 1300 133 544 or scan the QR code



Please check out our [Parish Webpage](#) and [Facebook Page](#) for regular updates.



**DON'T FORGET ADVENT RESOURCES NOW AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH OFFICE for \$5 as well
as the COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR 2025 for \$10**

YOUTH LED MASS!

The next Parish YLM is on the **24th of November at 5pm at St Peter Chanel Church** and we'd love YOU to be part of it. Even if you don't wish to participate come along to celebrate Mass anyway, invite others. Following Mass will be Potluck Dinner in the hall so stick around afterwards too!

Contact the parish office for more details!



WE WANT YOU

Name badges are available for purchase through the parish office, they have a magnet on the back and are \$10.



Liturgy Brisbane is pleased to announce a morning workshop entitled, **The Parish Liturgy Committee ... What on earth are we meant to be doing?!**

We invite you to send your key liturgy leaders to explore the important role of the Liturgy Committee in visioning, preparing and enabling vibrant, meaningful and welcoming parish worship.

9:00am – 12:00pm— Saturday, 9 November, 2024 Xavier Hall - Holy Spirit Seminary, 487 Earnshaw Rd, Banyo

Should you be interested in attending or getting involved with liturgy in our parish please contact the parish office.



♥ Remembering Our Loved Ones ♥

*“When someone you love becomes a memory,
that memory becomes a treasure.” Anonymous*

Remembering our loved ones keeps them close to us. It is amazing how simple things like a favourite song, a special place, a funny saying, a flower or even a certain meal can bring back memories that make us smile or even feel a bit sad. It is completely natural to experience both emotions. While we may miss them, the love we shared never goes away because we carry a piece of them in our hearts, reminding us that our love remains strong forever. Even as time passes, those memories keep them alive in our minds. Remembering them is a way to celebrate their lives, treasure the happy moments we had and hold onto the lessons they taught us, keeping their spirit with us always.

Dear God, Thank You for the time we had with our loved ones. When we remember them, may their memories bring us comfort and happiness. Help us to hold onto their love and keep their spirit alive in our hearts. Amen.

Sourced from Majellan Media

LITURGY CORNER: The Character and Characters of Advent



Advent presents a challenge for parish liturgy teams, preachers and musicians because the season of Advent, unlike other liturgical seasons, encompasses several different purposes and key figures.

The Roman Document on the Liturgical Year describes Advent as having “a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ’s first coming to us is remembered and as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ’s second coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation”. (GNLY 39)

First the season focuses our attention on the end of time when Christ will come again in glory. Then John the Baptist, who heralds Jesus’ public ministry, takes centre stage. Finally, in preparation for the joyful celebration of Christmas, the liturgy of Advent focuses on the nativity. What joins these diverse elements together is the spirit of ‘devout and joyful expectation’.

The gospel of the first Sunday of Advent looks to the Lord’s coming in glory at the end of time. This year, the year of Mark, the message is urgent: Stay awake! Advent begins therefore by picking up themes that occur in the final Sundays of Ordinary Time at the end of the previous year’s cycle, especially in the feast of Christ the King.

John the Baptist is the central actor in the gospels of the second and third Sundays of Advent. It can sometimes be a little confusing just before Christmas to be hearing stories telling of events some thirty years after Jesus’ birth. It is a reminder that the Church’s liturgy is not a chronological re-enactment of past events but a living encounter with the whole mystery of Jesus’ incarnation, ministry, death and resurrection to glory.

The notion of Christ as the messiah may also assist us to appreciate the fullness of the mystery that is celebrated in Advent. The first readings for these weeks are taken from the prophets who looked forward to the coming of the messiah. In this year B we hear from Isaiah. These texts help to situate John the Baptist as the last of the prophets who prepared for the coming of the Christ, the salvation of God’s people.

The two prefaces provided for Advent reflect the scripture texts of the season. The second is the better one to use on the second and third Sundays because of the explicit mention of John the Baptist:

For all the oracles of the prophets foretold him,
the Virgin Mother longed for him
with love beyond all telling,
John the Baptist sang of his coming
and proclaimed his presence when he came.

The character of Advent changes sharply on the 17th December as the readings now look at the circumstances of Jesus’ birth. On the fourth Sunday of Advent we hear the story of the Annunciation from the gospel of Luke and the focus is on the role of Mary in salvation history.

Elizabeth Harrington @ Liturgy Brisbane

The feast of All Saints' Day celebrates the holy men and women of God who were great examples of living like Jesus.

St Mary of the Cross: Random Acts of Kindness

St Mary of the Cross is Australia's first saint. She was passionate about providing education to all children not if matter if they were poor. She lead with compassion and kindness and was able to share God's love with many children across Australia. Can you share God's love too?

MY STORY ST MARY OF THE CROSS

Hi, I'm Mary MacKillop and I am Australia's first canonised saint. When I was made a saint, the church gave me a new name, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. I was born in Melbourne, Australia in 1842 and began working at a young age. I loved children so after working in stores I decided to become a nanny to teach children. I noticed there were lots of poor children in the town where I lived, and they had no education, so I began to teach them too. The priest in my town, Fr Julian Tenison Woods helped me, and we decided to open a school that provided free education for all children. I loved being a teacher, but I felt God was also calling me to be a nun. For me to study to be a nun in Australia, Fr Julian and I had to set up a new order called the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart. In the first year 10 women joined the order and so the order began to grow. In our second year, we set up schools across Australia as well as an orphanage and a refuge for women released from prison. Not everyone in the church were happy with the ideas and ways we were running the Sisters of St Joseph, so I was excommunicated or told to leave the church in 1871. This made me very sad, so I petitioned to change the decision and was allowed back in in 1872. The Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred heart continued to grow, and children received a free education all over Australia. You can be a saint too, just like me. I always say, "never see a need without doing something about it." To me this means making sure you are always looking out for others, making sure you are sharing God's love and compassion with everyone you meet.



A resource from the Children's & Families Team, Evangelisation Brisbane.
evangelisationbrisbane.org.au | 07 3324 3440 | childrenandfamilies@bne.catholic.net.au

I'm fundraising for the World's Greatest Shave

Blood cancer is Australia's hidden cancer crisis. There are 140,000 families facing blood cancer right now. And it takes the lives of 16 Australians every day. Your donation means that together, we're working to stop blood cancer in its tracks.

DONATE HERE—

<https://www.worldsgreatestshave.com/fundraisers/laurendeegan/2024>



Lauren Deegan

I'm shaving my hair on Nov 12, 2024 to raise awareness for blood cancer.

Share my page



23-11-24 SOCCER & TOUCH FOOTY

FOOTY FESTIVAL



GAME ON EVERYBODY

The Archdiocesan Footy Festival is back on and we're calling on high schoolers and young adults from the Archdiocese to join us.

TOUCH FOOTY | 7-ASIDE SOCCER | HIGH SCHOOL & YA COMPS

Footy Festival is a local World Youth Day celebration.

A Touch Footy and 7-aside Soccer comp open to high schoolers and young adults.

Register a Team

Step 1. Pick your stream - We have 4 options, High School Touch Footy, Young Adult Touch Footy, High School Soccer, Young Adult Soccer.

Step 2. Register your team - Register a team in your stream, you don't need everyone's details right away we just need a team contact.

Step 3. Get your team mates details - You will be given a code, once you have collected your team mates details, you can register them to be a part of your team.

Those under 18 will require a parental permission

https://app.tickets.org.au/eb/Footy?mc_cid=3b5b25a51b&mc_eid=75f1e8d767

Our spiritual lives are not always full of joy, peace and light. We can feel discouraged, as though God is absent, and not be attracted to spiritual things. These experiences of spiritual desolation are a normal part of the spiritual life and can be important times for spiritual growth if handled wisely. St Ignatius Loyola offers such wisdom in his rules for the discernment of spirits. This workshop will examine some of these practical guidelines for spiritual growth.

This one-day formation event with guest presenter Fr Robin Koning SJ is hosted by the Archdiocesan Centre for Catholic Formation.

Morning Tea, Lunch and Afternoon Tea provided.

Register Here—

<https://app.tickets.org.au/eb/accfdec24>

Navigating the Soul's Storms

OVERCOMING SPIRITUAL DISCOURAGEMENT