



St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Bulletin

Vol 5, Issue 01

12 January 2025

The BAPTISM of the LORD

First Reading: [Is 40:1-5,9-11](#)

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it.

Second Reading: [Titus 2:11-14,3:4-7](#)

He saved us through the water of rebirth and renewal in the Holy spirit.

Gospel: [Luke 3:15-16,21-22](#)

When Jesus had been baptized and had been praying, the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.



[Readings and Commentaries](#)

PRAYING With CHILDREN
SUNDAY LITURGY

TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

Baptism of the Lord

Fr Frank Jones



The Lord is a God of love and sensitivity. This is what the power of baptism does for all of us, it deepens our relationship, with God the Father. [Watch now.](#)

Recently Deceased

Howard Hall, Yvonne Harrison

Anniversary

Lesley Parsonage, Peter Ta Peng Huat

Sick

Mike McAuliffe, Dorothea Feodoroff, Kathleen Cosgrove, 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

WCCM (Christian Meditation)

Monday at 9.30am Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mater Dei: Monday & Friday 6 - 7pm



THE JUBILEE YEAR OF 2025

Pilgrims of Hope Pope Francis will inaugurate the Jubilee Year of 2025 on Christmas Eve this year. It will come to its conclusion on the feast of the Epiphany 2026. He has invited all the dioceses of the world to inaugurate the Jubilee locally on Sunday, 29 December, which is not the most convenient time in this part of the world. Nonetheless, the Dean of St Stephen's will lead a celebration inaugurating the Jubilee at the Cathedral, blessing the Holy Door and leading the people through it as a sign of walking as pilgrims with Christ into newness of life. I invite parishes and deaneries to be as creative as possible in inaugurating and celebrating the Jubilee Year. The Jubilee looks back to the first Roman celebration in 1300; and Rome has always been the epicentre of celebration, as it will be of the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage which I hope to accompany in September next year. But the Jubilee Year also looks back much further to the biblical jubilee, which was celebrated every fifty years. It was a time of renewal for the people of God, a time to make a new beginning, a time to focus again on the God-given identity of ancient Israel as a community of slaves set free in a world which says that slaves can never come free. The Jubilee Year is therefore a call to recognise the many forms of slavery, overt and covert, that are found in this culture and in our own lives – and to renew our faith in the possibility of freedom and commit ourselves anew to what freedom requires. Any pilgrimage – even the little pilgrimage of walking through the Holy Door – is a farewell to an old enslaving way of life and an embrace of a new way of life which the Lord crucified and risen makes possible. The motto of this Jubilee Year is “Pilgrims of Hope”. Any journey we make through this year we make not as tourists or holiday-makers but as pilgrims. It is a journey of faith. And it is driven by a hope which is not mere wishful thinking but the proclamation of a true hope in a world which often seems hopeless, a hope grounded ultimately in Easter. This hope is an expectation that what God has done in Jesus he will do in the world and even the cosmos. God will bring light from darkness, life from death. The Letter to the Hebrews tells us that “there remains a sabbath rest for the people of God” (4:9). In a deeply restless world, may this Jubilee Year be a time of sabbath which God alone can provide, refreshing our souls and putting new heart into the Church as we take the path traced by the Archdiocesan Synod and its Action Plans. Amen.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE



Christ's baptism portrayed in Mosaic tile from the chapel of Our Lady of Pompei

THE BAPTISM of the LORD

Christ's baptism remarkably shows all three Persons of the Trinity at the same time: the Son being baptized, the Holy Spirit descending, and the Father speaking from the heavens. In this event, the Father and the Holy Spirit confirm the deity of Christ, and Jesus submits to his Father's will.

Dear God,

We thank you for the gift of baptism, a source of immeasurable beauty and grace. As we receive Jesus into our lives through this sacred rite, may our hearts be forever open to His love and guidance.

Help us, as baptized individuals, to live our lives in accordance with your divine will, shining as beacons of love, compassion, and faith.

Grant us the strength to be the best we can be, nurturing our families and communities with the light of Christ that dwells within us. Amen.

Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Wednesday 15/01/2025	Weekday, Ordinary Time 1	9am	SPC
Friday 17/01/2025	St Anthony, abbot	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 18/01/2025	2nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 19/01/2025		8.00am	SPC
		9.30am	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

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PARISH TEAM

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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

FUNERAL SERVICE

The funeral service for **Howard Hall** will be held on **Tuesday 14th January, 2025**
at Mater Dei commencing at 11am.

It will be livestreamed on the link below

www.qualitymemorial.services/howard-hall

Our deepest condolences to Charyn and her family in their
time of loss. Please keep the family in your prayers.



Beloved PARISHIONERS,

As I have said many times, "Things will be a lot harder for me as you will miss only one of me while I will miss hundreds of you."

But looking at things from the brighter side of life, we accept that life is an unending chain of comings and goings, of letting go of the past and welcoming in the future.

The future is always full of possibilities, with side-tracks and gaps along the way, but as we remain firm in our desire to continue the journey, we must continue to support one another with our prayers.

Thank you for being a friendly, welcoming and wonderful parish community. It has been a privilege to work with and live amongst you. May your tribe increase! God bless you all, and all the best!

Fr Terry

menCONNECT

Date claimer

Gentlemen, our "main course" event of 2025 will be a **half-day Gathering on Saturday 22 February**. The speaker will be Fr Ray Chapman, SM, PhD, former Parish Priest, international Renewal Program leader and Spiritual Director and the theme is "**Intimacy: with oneself, with others, and with God.**" [*Intimacy is the ability to be aware of and care about your feelings towards yourself and how to be open in sharing them with others*]

The morning starts at 7am with the traditional cooked breakfast and coffee and concludes at 1pm. The location of the Gathering is the Parish Hall at Saint Peter Chanel, 41 Chaprowe Rd, The Gap. The cost is \$25 and please RSVP Mike on 0459 992 228 before 19 February for catering purposes.

A vocation View **THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

The word Vocation is a "call". The Universal call to holiness is rooted in our baptism. Today, we remember our baptism and our call to love and serve the Lord through a specific vocation. Priest, Deacons, Religious, Consecrated Single or Married. Where are you going? **Please pray for Vocations.**

To find out more call 1300 133 544

HOME ROSARY



This week's rosary will be said at the home of Carmel on Monday 13th January.

Contact the parish office for further details.

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



WITH GRATITUDE—OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER

We thank Father Terry for his service to our Parish. He has enriched our lives and we are so blessed to have had his ministry. We wish him well as he begins his next journey as Chaplain to the Aged Care Centre in Caloundra.



FROM FATHER RAY

Thank you Fr Terry and all the fantastic parishioners of St Jon's Wood/The Gap for the wonderful welcome that you have extended to me over the years, particularly over the past fifteen months. It has been an enormous pleasure to be among you, to worship with you, and to be part of your parish community. I leave Brisbane with many happy memories of your kindness, love and concern. Please keep me in your prayers as I take up my new appointment in Sydney. Since I'll be back in the parish soon, I will not say "good bye" but "see you later"! God bless, Ray.

We would also like to say "see you later" to Father Ray and wish him every blessing as he takes on his new role as Community Leader of the Marist Fathers based in Sydney. Thank you for your time and support that you have given to our parish and may the Lord bless you with a long and healthy life.



flocknote +



ARCHDIOCESE
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Thank you to all the families that have signed up for Flocknote. We invite all of you and visitors to sign-up to Flocknote, our communication and engagement tool. Our Parish (and the Archdiocese of Brisbane) has officially adopted Flocknote for all parishes, as a safe, new, and improved way of communicating in parishes. Flocknote is free for parishioners to use, and there is no need to download anything. Your info is kept secure and private. It only takes a couple minutes to sign up to receive emails from the parish. You are even able to reply directly back to those emails so we can get feedback and hear from you.

As part of our transition period, we would like to invite our parishioners to register on our new database.

If you have any questions, please speak with the Parish office.

There is also a template of the registration form that can be printed for those who don't have access to a phone or computer. If you need a paper form you will need to return it to the parish office and these forms will be added to Flocknote.

Parishioners and visitors are invited to use the link or QR code below and sign up and register with the parish.

<https://thegapparish.flocknote.com/register>

The Archdiocese privacy policy is available here— <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/privacy-policy.pdf>

REGISTER TODAY

- 1 Follow the URL (or scan the QR code) for your parish and enter your email address.
- 2 Flocknote will email you a secure 4-digit code to verify your email address. Enter this code to begin the registration process. If you are already registered, you can update the information we already have.
- 3 Register yourself, and your family much like a parish census form. You can enter as much or as little information as you want.

Your information is secure, and we will never share your information with anyone else. For more information, please refer to our Privacy Policy. <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/privacy-policy/>



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MARIST COLLEGE ASHGROVE CARD AND GAMES DAY

The Marist College Ashgrove P&F Association warmly invites community members to attend their quarterly Card and Games Day.

Attendees are asked to form their own table of up to 4 friends and bring a game that they would like to play – cards (such as Bridge), mahjong, scrabble, or other board games.

Date: Wednesday 19 February 2025

Time: 9:30am for 10:00am until 2:00pm

Venue: Br Cyprian Pavilion at Marist College Ashgrove, entrance via Frasers Road

Parking available in the Br Cyprian Carpark

Cost per person: \$25 which includes morning tea, lunch, tea/coffee, and a lucky door ticket

Pay on arrival with EFTPOS only (no cash)

Raffle Tickets are also available: \$2 each or 3 for \$5

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL – RSVP BY Wednesday
12 February 2025**

FOR BOOKINGS OR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT

Ann Rainbow on Phone: 0411 482 792 or
Email: CardDayPandF@marash.qld.edu.au

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Maureen and Terry Foley who are celebrating their 69th Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations

SOMETHING FOR A LAUGH



After a long and devoted life as a parish priest Father O'Reilly died and went to heaven. When he arrived St Peter gave him a wooden staff, a plain cotton gown and sent him down to the back of heaven.

The next person who arrived in heaven was an airline pilot and St Peter issued him with a bejewelled staff, a golden robe and escorted him right up the front!

Poor Father O'Reilly couldn't work out why he was not more favoured after his long life serving his parishioners, so he asked St Peter.

St Peter said, "Well Father, we work on results here. When you stood up to give a homily, most of your parishioners fell asleep. When that pilot climbed into the cockpit to take off, all his passengers prayed!



Enjoy your week ahead.....