



St. Mary's Catholic Parish Beaudesert

EMBRACING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

St Mary's, **Beaudesert** ~ St John the Baptist ~ **Tamborine Mountain** ~

St Patrick's, **Tamborine** ~ St Margaret Mary's, **Canungra** ~

St John's, **Kerry** ~ The Sacred Heart, **Christmas Creek** ~

St Joseph's, **Rathdowney** ~ St James', **Palen Creek** ~ St Joseph's, **O'Reilly's**



Divine Mercy Sunday / Second Sunday of Easter, 6th/7th April, 2024 (Year B)

Parish Priest

Fr. Kevin Njoku

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Parish Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

& Friday: 9:00am - 2:00pm

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St Mary's Primary School

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Principal: Mrs Renay Condon

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McAuley College

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Principal: Mr Jason Pacey

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In our readings this weekend we hear of one of the final recorded encounters between the risen Christ and his followers. The experiences of Mary, Peter and John that have come before today's account have announced extraordinary happenings, but the full extent has not quite reached the disciples gathered in our reading. They are locked away out of fear. In that state, Jesus comes and stands among them. The narrator of our account makes the point that the doors were locked and so the inference we draw is that Jesus becomes present regardless, through the locked doors. The Light that broke into the darkness of the world attested to at the beginning of the Gospel is evoked here again. Now it is the risen Christ that is breaking into a place of fear and powerlessness.

The disciples expressed fear for their particular reasons, but we all sit in places of fear and darkness at one point or another. We all bear the weight of sin; both our own or others and so experience life in a diminished way. However, in Christ, God has entered into those things, into the darkness of sin itself and risen through it.

As we move through this season, we are being asked to reflect and find anew the meaning of Easter – and here we have it. The resurrection of Christ is a victory over all that the crucifixion represents. Jesus' death on the cross represents the worst of humanity; injustice, ignorance, anger, hatred, intolerance, violence and fear. Moreover, the cross represents the cost of such things, the cost of sin as it were. Jesus' resurrection is God's transformation of such things to places of healing, light and life.

The risen Christ enters places of fear and darkness and offers peace. Twice in the reading Jesus states, 'Peace be with you' and, recalling earlier dialogue from John's Gospel, it is peace of a profound kind. Not simply 'as the world gives it' (John 14:27), but one that transcends any time, place and circumstance. Further, the encounter of the risen Christ is transformative. When Jesus 'breaks in' to their midst, the disciples experience joy and, further, receive the breath of Christ; the Holy Spirit which allows them to, in turn, 'break out' from their place of fear and hiding and bring this very experience of Christ to the world.

That is indeed a beautiful witness to us. However, John seems to be anticipating one likely response to all this. Perhaps it is all a bit 'too good to be true'. We have doubt. It is well known that John's Gospel is the last written of the four of the New Testament. Its final form was written after the first generation Christians had passed and the audience of such a gospel message do not have the luxury of 'first-hand experience'. They, like us, are relying heavily on the witness of others that have come before. John is aware that belief will enter a different order as the Church continues to grow through new eras. It is not surprising that belief, and its close cousin doubt, are repeated themes throughout and feature in the concluding sections. As Thomas enters the scene, doubt and belief are given a stronger voice. Thomas has heard the good news, first told through Mary of Magdala and now added to with the witness of those present in the locked room. But it is not enough. He wants his own encounter.

Like Thomas, we can find ourselves in a similar position. We have heard the testimony; we have some understanding of it all. Based on that, we would like to believe that Christ, the presence of God found fully human, has entered into the reality of sin and has emerged victorious. Further, we would like to believe that this power can be found and felt still today. But such belief is not always easy. We doubt for all sorts of reasons. Is the Risen Christ legitimate? Is this power of God real? Perhaps even more poignantly, we might ask, 'Is this Christ for me'? Thomas represents for us those places and moments when we find ourselves in such a state where such questions are asked.

The answer to such questions in the words of Christ, the witness of the first followers and the millions that have come after is 'yes'! This power is real, the Risen Christ is victory indeed. And, yes, this Christ is for you and for me. When Thomas expressed his doubt, he wasn't chided because of it. Rather, he was invited to encounter Jesus in a more profound way.

We are invited to do similar, to put shape to our doubt and seek the risen Christ more fully. However, the encounter we must seek is one of faith. Not blind mindlessness that can be the pejorative assumption of belief in Christ. But, rather, a mindful active and seeking faith. One open to the possibilities of God's loving action. Deep prayer, sacramental engagement, being attentive to Church teaching, and using our gifts in thoughtful participation in our world. In service as well. As we seek to bring love and justice in great or small ways, we will encounter the light of the Lord. As we open ourselves up to Jesus' presence in our lives and as we breath deeper the Holy Spirit, we can experience the transformative love of God.

Thus, like those first disciples, as the season of Easter unfolds, may we find ourselves surprised by the risen Christ's presence and experience the great joy and peace that only God can give.

Tedesco, Joe. "Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) - 7 April 2024." Pastoral Liturgy 54, no. 2 (2024): 1-6. <https://researchonline.nd.edu.au/pastoral-liturgy/vol54/iss2/15>

Readings for Mass this Week

Second Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35
The whole group was united, heart and soul.

Responsorial Psalm:
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6
Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31
After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

Readings for Next Week

Third Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 3:13-15,17-19
You have killed the prince of life; God, however, raised him from the dead.

Responsorial Psalm:
Lord, let your face shine on us.

Second Reading: 1 John 2:1-5
Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and those of the whole world.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:35-48
It is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.

Solemnity of the week

Monday 8th April - The ANNUNCIATION of the Lord

Memorial of the week

Thursday 11th April - St Stanislaus, bishop, martyr

Meetings

Monday 8th April - Liturgy Group meeting @ 2.00pm

Wednesday 17th April - Pastoral Council Meeting @ 7.00pm

Monday 22nd April - Financial Council Meeting @ 6.00pm

Wednesday 24th April - Multi cultural day committee meeting @ 6pm, Parish Centre.

Sunday 30th June - Country Church Community Meeting @ 10:30am, Mercy Hall

Social Events

Morning tea will be served every Sunday after the 9:30am Mass at St Mary's

Sunday 7th April - Morning Tea after 7:30am Mass at St John the Baptist, Mt Tamborine

Sunday 7th April - Divine Mercy Sunday, St Mary's Church @ 10:30am

Sat 13th April - St Joseph's Men's Group, St Mary's Church @ 7am

Multi-Cultural Day 2024

Save the Date: Sunday 26th May 2024
Committee Meetings- April 24th & May 16th, 6pm @ Parish Office. All welcome!



Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters:

Michael Johns, Josie Buffalino, Lynne Hiley, Liz Murray, Michael Bown, Rylee Matheson, Brian Fechner, Jennifer Kerruish, Michael Gough, Joan Badman, Moya Mitchell, Andrew Gough, Carol Stainky, Greg Dennis, Tony Grace, Maria Malcotti, Tony Torre, Ann Nisbet, Gordon McGrath, Katrina Foster, Judith Van Kretschmar, Gizella Andrews, Jean Masen, Jay Cahill, Alexander Paterson, Brendan Ward, Lucas Johns, Peter Sorensen, Jason Bown, Debrah Sanft, Michelle & Neil Halpin, Sandra Doyle, Jim Morley, Colin McMahon, Jenny Kettle, Marie Holding, Susan Meyer, Hope Hartley, Benjamin Hartley, Lance Dodds, Christine Connolly, Gizella Laurence and Lauraine Ward.

We remember and pray for those who have recently died

Sister M. Enda RSM @ Emmaus
Violeta Policarpio-Bryce - Funeral: Wednesday 10th April at 11.30am, St Mary's

and those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Molly Grace Wikie - 1st April
Martin Bernard Sullivan - 5th April
Brian James Hickey - 6th April
Stanley Denis Cahill - 11th April

Eternal rest grant on to them and let perpetual light shine upon them, O Lord! May they rest in peace, Amen.



Feast of Devine Mercy

On the Sunday after Easter 7th April 2024 after 9:30 am Mass at

St. Mary's Church, Beaudesert

Benediction and Adoration of the Devine Mercy Chaplet – Blessing and Veneration of the Devine Mercy Image

Did you know that the Lord said that this feast would one day be the "last hope of salvation"?

A MORNING'S PRAYER

"REMAIN IN ME"

A Morning's Prayer- Retreat

The theme for this retreat is based on John 12: 1,4;

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower... remain in me as I remain in you."

When: Saturday 27th April, 2024

Time: 9am - 12pm

Where: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston

Register: www.tinyurl.com/AMP24-2

Money Counting

8th April - Colleen
22nd April - Peter
15th April - Trish
29th April - Colleen

St Mary's Parish Columbarium's

We are pleased to announce that the Columbarium at St Mary's Church, in memory of the late Barry Dauth is now ready. We also have a columbarium at St John the Baptist, Tamborine Mountain. The price for an individual niche is \$1500, this includes a plaque.

If you would like to reserve a niche, or organise to have a loved one's ashes interred, please contact the Parish Office 5541 1068.

Bible Reflection

April 7th, 2024– 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

"The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own..." - Acts 4:32

All that we are and all that we have is a gift from God! Think of your family, your friends, your life, your talents and your money – these are all gifts from God! We aren't really owners of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has blessed us with. We are called to be grateful and generous with all of our gifts for the benefit of others. <https://www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections>



Request for help– Mowing Cemetery

We are currently on the look out for willing volunteers to help mow the Gleneagle cemetery. Presently, 2 volunteers are doing it by themselves but it is beginning to become too big of a job for them to manage. If you can help in any way, please contact the Parish Office. *Thank you.*

Sacrament of Confirmation

We are currently enrolling catholic children in Year 3 and above for the sacrament of Confirmation. *The celebration of this sacrament will be on Sunday May 19th, at 9:30 am at St Mary's Church, Beaudesert.*

A parent **Information Meeting** will take place, on **Tuesday April 16th at 5:30 pm** at St Mary's Church, Bromelton St, Beaudesert. If you are interested, but can't attend the above Information Session please contact the Parish Centre on 5541 1068 or stmarys@bne.catholic.net.au by April 19th.

Country Church Community Meeting

On Sunday, 17th March, we had our first Country Church Collaboration. We wish to thank everyone who attended this meeting, the turn out was very encouraging for the future of our Country Churches.

Going forward, we wish to invite the allocated representatives of each church to please contact the Parish Office to receive the information that was discussed in the meeting and to organise a sub-committee in collaboration with the Pastoral and Finance Councils.

It was decided that these meetings will be held on the 5th Sunday of any given month. The next meeting will be held on **Sunday 30th June, 2024 at 10:30am** in the Mercy Hall.



MODULE THREE

**BEING
SACRAMENTAL**

Being Sacramental

The Archdiocesan Centre for Catholic Formation invites you to participate in their third module; "Being Sacramental". This module will explore what it means to live in a sacramental world; the broader notion of sacramentality, the importance of signs and symbols and the character of each of the seven sacraments in the Church. Also how our relationship with God fundamentally influences how we experience the sacraments. The module will run for ten consecutive Mondays beginning on **Monday 15th April** at the Holy Spirit Seminary. If there is enough interest from our Parish, we can register for online classes. Please contact the Parish office if you are interested.



Congratulations - 90th Birthday

Congratulations to Judy Clarke who is celebrating her 90th birthday on the 9th April. May God bless her and her family.



Holy Baptism

A very warm welcome is extended to Amelia Renshaw who will be baptised into the Catholic faith this weekend.

Has This Ever Happened to You?- Electronic Collection

The ushers come forward to begin the Offertory collection process. You lean over and ask your spouse if they have the envelope? They reply that they left it on the table for you to put in your pocket. Oops! No envelope to give this week! In the rush of getting off to church, we all forget the envelope once in a while. Check out an easier way to give- It's simple! It's safe! And it keeps God at the top of your giving list! Please contact the Parish office to set up a direct debit.

Corpus Christi Procession

Commencing at **2pm on Sunday 2nd June at the Cathedral of St Stephen**, the procession of the Blessed Sacrament will go through the city streets returning to the Cathedral where it will conclude with Benediction.

On the weekend of the procession, a pictorial display of Eucharistic miracles will be on display in the Hanly room of the Francis Rush Centre, 196 Charlotte Street, Brisbane.

There will also be a night vigil of Exposition and Adoration, commencing after the Cathedral's 6pm mass on Saturday 1st June, concluding before the 8am Mass on Sunday 2nd June.

If you wish to walk with the procession to represent our Parish, or for any other enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

Archdiocese of Brisbane Events - Cathedral of St Stephen

This year marks two significant milestones for our Archdiocese. We will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Opening and Blessing of the Cathedral of St Stephen on May 17 and the Golden Jubilee of the Priestly Ordination of Archbishop Mark Coleridge on May 18. We will have celebrations across that weekend for both events, as well as performances by the Queensland Symphony Orchestra on the weekend prior.



FRIDAY MAY 17

Return of the Message Stick & Commemoration of 150th Anniversary
12:30pm Mass

Ecumenical Prayer of Thanksgiving
6pm

SATURDAY MAY 18

Archbishop Mark Coleridge
Golden Anniversary of Priestly Ordination
11:30am Mass

Pentecost Vigil Mass
"Come Holy Spirit and Renew the Face of the Earth"
6pm Mass

SUNDAY MAY 19

Pentecost Sunday
Celebrating 150 Years
10:30am Mass

Are you or someone you know wanting to know more about the Catholic Church or join our faith community?

Would you just like to talk about it without having to commit?

RCIA – A group of believers in the local parish who meet regularly and are ready to talk to you about questions you may have. To begin a conversation, call the Parish Office 07 5541 1068 or Email: stmarys@bne.catholic.net.au



Mass Times: 8th April - 14th April, 2024

Divine Mercy Devotion: Every Sunday 3.00pm—3.15pm—St. Mary’s Church, Beaudesert. All Welcome.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Every Wednesday – Beaudesert 4:30pm

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Beaudesert 7.00am	No Mass	Tamborine Mtn 9.00am	Beaudesert 7.00am	No Mass	Kerry 4.30pm	Tamborine Mtn 7.30am
		Beaudesert 5.30pm			Beaudesert 6.30pm	Canungra 9.00am
						Beaudesert 9.30am

Our Mission

*‘Guided by the Holy Spirit, we aim to be an evangelising, listening and faith-filled parish underpinned by the values of compassion, inclusivity and love of neighbour.’ Our mission is underpinned by: **Evangelisation** to our parish and wider communities; **Liturgy and prayer opportunities** that form, inform and transform our faith; **Pastoral support** through initiatives that also invite people to share their gifts and talents; and **Leadership** that supports life-long faith formation and promotes responsible stewardship of our resources.*

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