



St. Mary's Catholic Parish Beaudesert

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



Parish Priest

Fr. Tomi Alexander

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Administration Assistants

Kaitlyn Erasmus
MJ Joseph

Sacramental Prep. Co-ordinator

Patricia Dunn

Finance Council

Chair—Susan Shay
Secretary—Melissa Cahill
ppc.stmarys@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Pastoral Council

Chair—Anthony Marshall
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Care & Concern

Contact the Parish Office
5541 1068

Safe Guarding / Workplace Health & Safety

Kaitlyn Erasmus
safeguardcvadult@yahoo.com

Parish Postal Address

St Mary's Parish Centre
1 Bromelton Street
Beaudesert Qld 4285

Parish Office—Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
& Friday: 9:00am - 2:00pm
07 5541 1068

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St Mary's Primary School

07 5541 2005
Acting Principal:
Mrs Diane McClure
pbeaudesert@bne.catholic.edu.au

McAuley College

Phone: 07 5542 3000
Principal: Mr Jason Pacey
sbeaudesert@bne.catholic.edu.au

Sunday of the Resurrection

4th/5th April 2026

Divine Love That No Tomb Can Hold

Easter proclaims the most powerful truth in human history: **no one can stop divine love**. On Good Friday, it looked as though hatred, violence, and fear had triumphed. Human hands tried to silence the voice of love itself. Jesus—the Divine Love made flesh—was crucified and placed in a tomb. Those who opposed Him believed they had ended His mission and buried His message forever. But divine love cannot be chained, cannot be buried, and cannot be defeated. On the third day, Jesus rose in glory. He broke open the tomb, shattered the darkness, and overturned every human attempt to destroy God's plan. The One who died to sanctify us now lives to lead us into eternal life.

The readings of Easter Sunday remind us that the Resurrection is not a legend or a symbolic story. It is a real event witnessed by real people. In the first reading, St. Peter speaks with conviction to Cornelius and his household: *"We are witnesses... we ate and drank with Him after He rose from the dead."* These are not the words of poets or philosophers. These are the words of ordinary men who encountered the Risen Christ in the flesh.

Most of the disciples were simple people—fishermen, tax collectors, ordinary workers. Peter himself was impulsive and weak; he denied Jesus three times out of fear. Yet after the Resurrection, everything changed. Jesus filled them with the Holy Spirit, and these ordinary men became extraordinary witnesses. They preached boldly, healed the sick, cast out demons, and proclaimed forgiveness in Jesus' name. They travelled far beyond their homeland, carrying the Gospel to the ends of the earth. And they sealed their testimony with their blood. No one willingly dies for a lie. Their courage, their miracles, and their martyrdom stand as powerful proofs that the Resurrection is true. Through His Resurrection, Jesus defeated three great powers that had enslaved humanity since the fall of Adam and Eve.

First, He broke the **slavery of sin**. Through His suffering and death, Jesus ransomed us and became the source of forgiveness. As Peter proclaims, "Everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name." Anyone who walks with Christ receives strength to resist temptation and overcome sin. Divine love restores our freedom and dignity.

Second, He destroyed the **slavery of death**. Death is no longer the final chapter of our story. It has become a doorway to eternal life. As the second reading tells us, *"You have been brought back to true life with Christ; seek the things that are above."* Our true home is now in heaven, where Christ is seated in glory. The Resurrection assures us that every tear, every loss, and every grave will one day be transformed.

Third, He transformed **suffering**. The cross, once a symbol of shame and curse, has become a sign of victory and blessing. When we carry our crosses with the Risen Lord, they do not crush us—they lead us to resurrection. Suffering united with Christ becomes a path to holiness, strength, and new life.

The first greeting of the Risen Jesus to His disciples was simple and profound: **"Peace be with you."** He is now the source of true peace—peace that the world cannot give, peace stronger than fear, sin, or death.

May the Risen Lord bless our hearts, our families, and our communities with His peace. May His divine love, which no tomb can contain, fill us with hope and lead us into the joy of eternal life.

Fr. Tomi Alexander

Readings for Holy Thursday (2nd April)

First Reading: Exodus 12: 1-8, 11-14

The law for the Passover meal.

Responsorial Psalm: 'Our Blessing Cup'

Refrain: Our blessing cup is a communion with the blood of Christ; And the bread we break, it is a sharing in the body of the Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Until the Lord comes, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim his death.

Gospel Acclamation: Philipians 2:8-9

Praise and honour Lord Jesus Christ; give praise and honour to the Lord!

Praise and honour Lord Jesus Christ; give praise and honour to the Lord!

I give you a new commandment: love one another, love one another as I have loved you, as I have loved you.

Praise and honour Lord Jesus Christ; give praise and honour to the Lord!

Praise and honour Lord Jesus Christ; give praise and honour to the Lord!

Gospel Reading: John 13:1-15

To the end he showed his love for them.

Readings for Good Friday (3rd April)

First Reading: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

He surrendered himself to death, while bearing the faults of many.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Father, I put my life in your hands

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

He learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise and honour Lord Jesus Christ; Give praise and honour to the Lord!

Praise and honour Lord Jesus Christ; Give praise and honour to the Lord!

Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross.

Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise and honour Lord Jesus Christ; Give praise and honour to the Lord!

Praise and honour Lord Jesus Christ; Give praise and honour to the Lord!

Gospel Reading: John 18:1—19:42

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Readings for Easter Vigil (Saturday - 4th April)

First Reading: Genesis 1:1—2:2

A reading from the book of Genesis

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Second Reading: Exodus 14:15-15:1

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

Third Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Responsorial Psalm:

R. We shall draw water joyfully, singing joyfully, singing joyfully; we shall draw water joyfully from the wellsprings of salvation.

Epistle: Romans 6:3-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Give the glory and honour to the Lord!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Give the glory and honour to the Lord!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Readings for Easter Sunday (5th April)

First Reading: Acts 10:34, 37-43

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Gospel Acclamation: 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: John 20:1-9

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.



Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters

Leanne Deerain, Jan Dore, John Breckon-Thomas, Carol Stainkey, John & Therese Hagan, Nereza Don, Marie McIlhatton, Rosemary Ryan, Rev Geoffrey Reader, Marie Harkin, Fae Eyears, Scott Murphy, David Murchie, Tony Torre, D Wilde, Janet Young, Rosie, Lauraine Ward, Katrina Foster, Moya Mitchell, Michael Gough, Andrew Gough, Liz Murray, Josie Buffalino, Sebastian Randall, John McCormack, Damian McCormack, Jenette Escrit, David Ward, Denice Ward, Holly Rogers, Nathan Craze, Heather Neeson, Bernice Mahoney, Bernadette Fitzgerald, Olwin Wendt & Janine Monteath.

We remember and pray for those who have recently died,
Leslie 'Les' John Cox
Andrew 'Jay' Cahill

and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Edna Devlin

Patrick (Paddy) Moran - 27th March 2016

Anthony (Tone) Ward - 29th of April

Sarah-Jayne Kirwin - 5th of April

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

The Easter Octave

An octave is the eight-day period during which Easter or Christmas is celebrated, and includes the actual feast.

The Easter Octave begins on [Easter Sunday](#) and ends on the [Second Sunday of Easter of the Divine Mercy](#) with every day being another solemnity or another "little Easter." The current title for each of the octave is "Monday in the Octave of Easter," "Tuesday in the Octave of Easter" etc., but commonly called "Easter Monday," "Easter Tuesday," and so forth. The Easter Octave "overrides" any other feasts on the calendar.

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Holy Land Collection—Good Friday

All donations collected during Good Friday Masses will go towards the Holy Land Collection, as it does every year. The proceeds from this collection provide support for the shrines and holy places in the Holy Land. *Your donation is appreciated.*

Thank you Volunteers!

A massive thank you to volunteers and everyone who helped to make the Holy week more holy and meaningful. We truly appreciate your efforts.

Story of the Easter Eggs

Although eggs held meaning as symbols of fertility and new life in various ancient cultures, early Christians re-purposed the egg as a powerful symbol of the Easter story itself. Specifically, Easter eggs represent the empty tomb from which Jesus rose from the dead.

In early Orthodox churches, priests blessed Easter eggs and distributed them to the congregation at the close of [Paschal vigil](#) (the service held on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter).

During the Paschal vigil service, the symbolism of the Easter egg was central:

- **The hard outer shell** represented the sealed tomb where Jesus was laid after the crucifixion.
- **Cracking the egg open** symbolized Jesus breaking free from death in the resurrection.

There was also a practical dimension to this tradition. Early Christians observed [Lent](#) before Easter. Easter Sunday was therefore the first day they could eat eggs again, making the blessed Easter egg a symbol of both spiritual resurrection and the end of the fasting season.

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Calling everyone to the Feast of Devine Mercy on the Sunday after Easter
12th April 2026 After 9:30 am Mass at St. Mary's Church Beaudesert .

10:30am Benediction / Adoration – Devine Mercy Chaplet – Blessing and Veneration of the Devine Mercy Image.
The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available during adoration.

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

Money Counters — April

5th—Trish, 12th—Colleen, 19th—Peter, 27th—Colleen

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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 is a group of believers in the parish who meet regularly, and are ready to talk about any questions you may have! To begin a conversation, call the Parish Office 07 5541 1068, or email:

stmarys@bne.catholic.net.au

Are you thinking of becoming Catholic?



Mass Times: 6th-12th April

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

Reconciliation—before weekday Masses. Please call (07) 5541 1068

<u>Monday 6th</u>	<u>Tuesday 7th</u>	<u>Wednesday 8th</u>	<u>Thursday 9th</u>	<u>Friday 10th</u>	<u>Saturday 11th</u>	<u>Sunday 12th</u>
Beaudesert	Beaudesert	Tamborine Mt	Beaudesert	Beaudesert	Kerry	Tambourine Mt
7:00am	5:30pm	9:00am	7:00am	9:00am	4:30pm	7:30am
		Beaudesert			Beaudesert	Canungra
		Adoration			6:30pm	9:00am
		4:30pm				Beaudesert
		Mass				9:30am
		5:30pm				

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: **evangelisation** of our parish and wider communities; **liturgy and prayer opportunities** that form, inform and transform our faith; **pastoral support** through initiatives that invite people to share their gifts and talents; and **leadership** that supports life-long faith formation and promotes responsible stewardship of our resources.

Safeguarding Commitment & New STOPLine

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