



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**



Parish Priest

Fr. Tomi Alexander

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Kaitlyn Erasmus

Sacramental Prep. Co-ordinator

Patricia Dunn

Finance Council

Chair—Susan Shay

Secretary—Melissa Cahill

pfc.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

Parish Postal Address

St Mary's Parish Centre

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Parish Office—Hours

Monday: 10:00am - 2:00pm,

Tuesday

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

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St Mary's Primary School

07 5541 2005

Principal:

Mrs Diane McClure

pbeaudesert@bne.catholic.edu.au

McAuley College

Phone: 07 5542 3000

Principal:

Mr Jason Pacey

sbeaudesert@bne.catholic.edu.au

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (5TH/6TH SEPTEMBER 2026)

The readings today confront us with a truth that can be uncomfortable and yet remains essential: love, that greatest of Christian virtues, sometimes requires us to speak difficult words. In a contemporary world that more often than not encourages us to not get involved, to keep our thoughts to ourselves, to stay silent lest we draw the ire of the world around us, our readings say 'No'. In the face of a preference for silence, the faithful Christian is called to speak with love a message that sometimes does not want to be heard.

The prophet Ezekiel is appointed by the Lord to be a watchman over the People of God, responsible not only for his own faithfulness but also for warning others when danger approaches. Ezekiel is called to both hear what the Lord has to say, and then tell others—to tell the People of God—what has been heard, calling them to the same act of hearing that Ezekiel is called to. No doubt it would be a very uncomfortable position in which to be placed. Yet silence, in this context, is not neutrality; it is a failure to love.

Saint Paul, in writing to the Church in Rome, deepens this idea by reminding us that love, and love of neighbour in particular, is the fulfillment of the law. Every commandment finds its meaning not in rigid rule-keeping but rather in genuine concern for the good of the other. Love does not harm a neighbour, Paul writes, and therefore love must sometimes act, speak, and even challenge, rather than remain comfortably silent.

This call reaches its fullest and most practical expression in the excerpt from Matthew's Gospel we hear today. Jesus offers his disciples a concrete way of dealing with sin and conflict within the community. Importantly, this teaching appears in a chapter focussed on humility, care for the vulnerable, and the search for what is lost. Chapter 18 of Matthew's Gospel is not about control or punishment; it is about reconciliation and the restoration of relationships.

Jesus begins simply. If someone sins against you, go and speak with them, point out their fault between just the two of you. The first step is personal, respectful, and private. In our contemporary world, this is already a radical instruction. We live in a culture that often prefers indirect conflict—silent resentment, online commentary, gossip, or public outrage. Jesus instead calls us to courage and discretion. Love requires us to face the person, not talk around them, and not about them.

If the first approach fails, Jesus instructs the disciple to involve one or two others, not as allies or enforcers, but as witnesses who help ensure honesty and fairness. The process is meant to slow things down, not escalate them. Each step increases support, accountability and care, while still holding the door open for repentance and reconciliation.

Only when all else fails does the matter reach the wider community. Even here, the goal is not exclusion for its own sake. The language Jesus uses—treating the unrepentant member 'as a Gentile or a tax collector'—must be read through the lens of Jesus' own actions. He relentless sought out Gentiles and tax collectors. The community is to remain open, hopeful, and prayerful, even when communion is strained.

The Gospel challenges two opposite temptations in contemporary Christian life. The first is silence masquerading as kindness. We tell ourselves, 'It's not my place', or 'I don't want to cause trouble'. Yet Ezekiel reminds us that refusal to warn is a failure of responsibility. Avoiding difficult conversations may protect our comfort and peace, but it can damage souls and relationships.

The second temptation is harsh correction without love. Unfortunately, Matthew's Chapter 18 is often used as a weapon rather than a remedy. Jesus did not authorise public shaming, impulsive judgement, or the use of authority to dominate. Every step is framed by patience, proportionality, and care for communion. Truth must always be spoken *in love*, never *instead of* love.

The words that follow are crucial: 'Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them'. This promise is not just about gatherings for prayer; it is also about communal discernment, reconciliation, and difficult conversations undertaken in Christ's name. When we seek to repair relationships with humility and sincerity, Christ himself is present and active, even when outcomes are uncertain.

For contemporary life, our Gospel today has concrete implications. In families, it calls us to address wounds honestly rather than letting resentment harden over time. In parishes, it invites a culture where accountability and mercy belong together. In workplaces and schools, it challenges the habits of avoidance, public complaint, or digital outrage, offering instead patient dialogue and respectful truth-telling.

Paul's letter to the Romans reminds us that love is an ongoing debt, one that is never fully repaid. Christian love is not passive tolerance but active commitment to the good of the other, even when that good requires discomfort or sacrifice. Ezekiel reminds us that love sometimes means warning, while Matthew teaches us how to do so without destroying relationships and communion. Today's Gospel reading reassures us that we are not left alone in this demanding task. Christ stands in the middle of every effort at reconciliation undertaken in his name. May we have the courage to speak the truth with gentleness, the humility to listen, and the trust that God is at work whenever love seeks to heal that which is broken.

Readings for this week (5th & 6th September)

Twenty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

First Reading: Ezekial 33:7-9

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

Responsorial Psalm:

O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:15-20

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Readings for next week (12th & 13th September)

Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

First Reading: Sirach 27:30-28:7

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Second Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Tuesday 8th September— The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast)

Mercy Day Mass at McAuley College

When: Monday 7th September at 9am

Where: The Oakland Shed, McAuley College

Please join us to celebrate our Mercy Charism, our Catholic Identity and commission the 2027 School Leaders. Refreshments to follow.

All are welcome to celebrate as one community.

Parish Newsletter Sick List

We are looking to make sure our parish sick list is current and contains accurate information.

If you would like a name removed or added please contact our parish office via email or phone so that we can ensure this happens.

Money Counters

31st August—Trish	7th September—Peter
14th September—Colleen	21st September—Trish

Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters

Barbara Barnes, Hope Hartley, Leanne Deerrain, Jan Dore, John Breckon-Thomas, John & Therese Hagan, Nereza Don, Marie McIlhatton, Rev Geoffrey Reader, Fae Eyears, David Murchie, Tony Torre, Janet Young, Rosie, Lauraine Ward, Katrina Foster, Moya Mitchell, Michael Gough, Andrew Gough, Liz Murray, John McCormack, Damian McCormack, Janette Escreet, David Ward, Denice Ward, Holly Anne, Nathan Craze, Heather Neeson, Bernice Mahoney, Bernadette Fitzgerald, Olwin Wendt, Caroline Gee, Lorelle Benyon, Clayton Musk & Moyla Shannon.

We remember and pray for those who have recently died,

and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

James McGrath, snr (25th August)

Ada McGrath (25th August)

Jan Moran (29th August)

Honorah Daly (30th August)

May Taylor (4th September)

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

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Feast Day

Mass will be held at the special time of 9am on **Tuesday 8th September** to celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

There will be no 5pm Mass on this day.

Working Bee at Tamborine Mountain

Saturday 12th September from 8am. If anyone can lend some time to help at St John the Baptist church for garden clean-up and washing windows, it will be appreciated. Please phone Robyn; 0418 762 115. *Thank you in advance.*

Rosary at Tamborine Mountain

The Rosary at Tamborine Mountain now has a new start time of **7am** before the Sunday Mass each week. Thank you to those who continue to support this ministry.

August Income Report

(some figures may not be 100% accurate— use this as a rough guide only)

Collection:	\$6,282.20
Beaudesert:	\$4,377.00
Tamb Mtn:	\$853.85 *
Christ Ck:	\$460.00
Kerry:	\$130.30
Canungra:	\$306.05
Rathdowney:	\$155.00
Credit Cards:	\$1,975.00
Direct Debit:	\$4,181.50
Giving App:	\$699.00
EFTPOS:	\$295
Total:	\$13,432.70

Still waiting to receive the collection from the weekend of the 29/30th. The total for this will be added to next month's totals

Bible Reflection– 23rd Sunday (6th September)

Jesus said to his disciples: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother."

Matthew 18:15

Reflect today on the first step of reconciliation outlined by Jesus in the Gospel: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone." Take sin seriously. Acknowledge its presence in your relationships, especially the close ones. See yourself both as one who is sinned against and as one who sins. Identify the offenses that diminish love. Confront those sins with courage and humility. Reject the false comfort of resentment, and seek instead the true consolation that comes from unity and charity. This is the path that leads to a share in the holy love between Jesus and His Blessed Mother- a love they desire us to know and live.

Archdiocese of Brisbane Clergy and Parish Bulletin Vol 24#17

No Family Mass– 13th September

Family Mass for the 13th September has been cancelled. Family Masses will resume in term 4 from the 11th October. We hope to see you there. *Thanks for your understanding.*



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WEDNESDAY
28TH OCTOBER 9:30 AM TO 1PM



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Booking required by 25 October 2026



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Every conversation matters and what we do next matters too

National Child Protection Week runs from 6-12 September 2026. This year's theme, 'Every conversation matters: shifting conversation to action', reminds us that listening to children and young people is one of the most important things adults can do but listening also needs to be followed by action.

We want every child and young person to know that they have a voice, that there are adults who will listen, and that they can seek help when something worries them or does not feel safe.

Child safety is a shared responsibility. By keeping conversations open and being prepared to act, families, schools and communities can work together to help children feel safe, supported, respected and heard.

Loving God,

You created every child in your image, precious, unique and worthy of love.

Give us ears that truly listen, eyes that notice when something is not right, and hearts that respond with courage and compassion.

May our community be a place where children are respected, where their voices are valued, and where their safety is never taken for granted. Help us move from good intentions to meaningful action. Guide the decisions we make, the conversations we have, and the way we respond to those who need our care.

Following the example of Jesus, who welcomed children and placed them at the centre, may we always uphold the dignity, safety and wellbeing of every child and young person.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

EVERY CONVERSATION MATTERS

SHIFTING CONVERSATION TO ACTION

**NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK
6 - 12 September 2026**



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: 7th—13th September

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

Monday 7th	Tuesday 8th	Wednesday 9th	Thursday 10th	Friday 11th	Saturday 12th	Sunday 13th
McAuley College Mercy Day Mass 9am Beaudesert 5:00pm	Beaudesert 9:00am <i>The Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Tamborine Mt 9:00am Beaudesert Adoration 4:30pm Mass 5:30pm	No Mass	Beaudesert 8:50am	Kerry 4:30pm Beaudesert 6:30pm	Tamborine Mt 7:30am Canungra 9:00am Beaudesert 9:30am <i>No Family Mass</i>

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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Phone: 1300 304 550

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Online Report: www.bne.catholic.stoplinereport.com

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