



Mother of Mercy Parish

Living and Growing in the Spirit

St John's church
688 Nudgee Rd, Northgate

Our Lady Help of Christians
9 Bowman St, Hendra

St Cecilia's church
30 College St, Hamilton

PARISH MISSION

To co-create a welcoming community where all can encounter and be transformed by Christ, realise their call to discipleship, be empowered to serve, and attract new disciples.

Parish Office Telephone: 07 3268 3040
Priest— Urgent After Hours Telephone: 0416 387 188

PARISH PRIEST: REV NEVILLE YUN
Email: pp.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR: Teresa Gittins
Email: pmc.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR: TBA
Email: yc.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH ADMINISTRATION Telephone: 07 3268 3040
Monica Johnson and Erin McMillan (Parish Secretaries)

Email: hendra@bne.catholic.net.au
Helen Price (Finance Secretary)
Email: finance.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Office - 9 Bowman St, Hendra Q 4011

Mail: PO Box 3109, Hendra Qld 4011

Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:00am-12noon

Website: www.motherofmercyparish.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council: Neville Canham

Parish Finance Council: Max Walters

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults:

- ◆ **Compliance Officer:** Mrs Kath Shaw
Email: safeguard.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au
- ◆ **Incident reports:** Vicki Ward M: 0407 550 571

Workplace Health & Safety Officer: TBA

PARISH SCHOOL: Our Lady Help of Christians
23 Bowman St, Hendra 4011 **Telephone:** 07 3268 3070

PRINCIPAL: Mr Adam Bennie

AP-RE: Kym Waters

Email: phendra@bne.catholic.edu.au

Weekend Masses: See listing on back page

Weekday Mass: Friday 9:00am St John's, Northgate

Reconciliation/Confession: By appointment

What's happening in the Parish this week?

Sunday 10to Saturday 16 September 2023

- Sun** Morning tea after Mass (Parish Centre Courtyard)
Sacrament of First Holy Communion (OLHC)
- Tue** Parish Spirituality Discussion Group (Parish Centre)
1:00-2:30pm Parish Prayer Engine (OLHC)
- Fri** 9:00am Mass at St John's, Northgate
- Sat** Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 6am-5pm (OLHC)
7.30am Men's Bible Study Group (Parish Centre)



Have a great week ahead

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) 10 SEPTEMBER 2023



Hi all,
We had a lovely wedding last weekend. That's probably the largest wedding entourage I've ever had at a wedding. Congrats to **Torie and Matt!!** We also have a wedding of parishioners **Ashwind and Joveena** at OLHC this Sat. Congrats in advance. I went on retreat this week at **The Abbey with the Benedictine Sisters at Jamberoo**. There were 19 of us priests who are 10 years or less ordained plus Fr Frank and Fr Dan.

Here's a group photo at the Jamberoo Pub.



Our theme was **loneliness and contemplation**. We were blessed to have abbess Sr Hilda Scott give us some input on contemplation. Contemplation is not some esoteric idea or thing that takes ages to master. Guess what, everyone is doing contemplation! God is continually contemplating us and we from time to time contemplate him. God is looking and loving us into existence. Without God's love nothing would exist. God's sole job is to love us. He's not there only to fix wars, feed people that are starving or solving the worlds or our problems. Our job is to love as much as we can in return. So whether you talk and listen to God in nature, ironing clothes, in the car commuting, with the kids in tow or saying a last minute prayer, these are all forms of contemplative prayer. So next time you're praying, make an extra cuppa for God and see what God wants to say to you and know he wants to hear our needs. Sr Hilda's mum used to do this as her way of contemplating. Remember friends, just as there are a million and one ways to be loved by God there are the same and more ways to pray!!
Blessings Fr Nev

Parish Messages.....

- ◆ **Sacramental Journey News:** This Sunday, at the 9.30am Mass at OLHC, thirty-one children from the parish will receive their First Holy Communion. In receiving the sacrament of Eucharist, these children become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church. We congratulate the children on this special occasion and we pray that they will always return to the great gift that our Lord Jesus has given to them in this sacrament – the gift of His very self. May they always be nourished and sustained by His Body and Blood. Thank you to the parents for all your efforts in the preparation period. May God bless you all, Teresa | Sacramental Coordinator
- ◆ **World Day of Migrants and Refugees:** As part of celebrating World Day of Migrants and Refugees, and the diversity and vibrancy of Catholic faith traditions, MOM parish invites all on **Sunday 24th September**, to come in their cultural dress and bring a plate of traditional food to share after Mass.

MENS BBQ

DETAILS

WHEN: 6PM, SATURDAY
16TH SEPTEMBER
BBQ FROM 6PM
GUEST SPEAKER FROM 7PM

COST: \$10 CASH TO COVER
FOOD & DRINK
[BYO ALCOHOL]

WHERE: OLHC PARISH
CENTRE
(9 BOWMAN ST
HENDRA)

RSVP: WED 13TH SEPT.
SMS TO JOEL OR BILL

FUEL UP! (STEAK & SALAD)
FANTASTIC COMPANY!
FABULOUS SPEAKER!



DADS - BRING YOUR SONS!



DARE TO DIVE DEEPER AND DISCOVER



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JOEL PERKINS: 0438 241 524
BILL NOTT: 0418 183 400

Parish Activities

Parish School Playgroup Currently operating each week (in school terms). Held in the OLHC OSHC, 23 Bowman St, Hendra, every Friday 9:00am-11:30am (babies to Prep). All welcome. For enquiries, call School Office 3268 3070.

Parish Spirituality Group: The group meets at 9.30am on the first Tues of the month in the Parish Centre to discuss the gospel reading for the next Sunday.

Mother of Mercy Parish Prayer Engine of the Parish: This prayer group prays for the intentions of the parish and the personal intentions of parishioners. Prayer intentions can be placed in the special baskets at each of the churches and Parish Office. **The Prayer Engine will meet at OLHC Church, Hendra every Tuesday, from 1:00-2:30pm.** All are welcome to join in prayer!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: First Friday of the month after the 9:00am Mass at St John's, Northgate. All welcome.

Anointing and Healing Mass: Second Friday of the month at 9:00am at St John's, Northgate. All welcome.

Portofino Mass: Fourth Wed of the month at 11am. Due to safety and security reasons, only residents of Portofino attend. Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion distribute Holy Communion to residents every Sunday.

SATURDAY ADORATION: The Blessed Sacrament is exposed every Saturday, including holiday times, from 6am—5pm at OLHC Hendra for personal prayer. Entry to the Church is via the Bowman St side door. Please sign in and out. For enquiries, please contact Julie Anne on 0418 193 235 or Pat on 0411 597 781.



DATE CLAIMER: Learning about the Gospel of St Mark—OCT 2023

Last year, we explored the Gospel of Matthew in some detail in preparation for this liturgical year. Next year, we will use the Gospel of Mark as the predominant source of our Sunday Gospel readings. With this in mind, we have prepared a short (four week) course on Mark's Gospel which will be offered during October 2023. The dates and session times are:

Wednesdays: October 4, 11, 18 and 25 (9.30am) in the parish centre.

The session will be repeated as below:

Wednesdays: October 4, 11, 18 and 25 (7.00pm) in the parish centre.

If there is any group who would like some other arrangement, please let us know via the parish office, and we will endeavour to accommodate you.

Come and increase your appreciation and knowledge of Mark's picture of Jesus' life and ministry.

You might be surprised. (Adult Formation Team)



In this 150th year of the Cathedral of St Stephen
Archbishop Mark Coleridge
invites couples together with family and friends

Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

Saturday, 30th September 2023
Mass at 11:30am

followed by refreshments on the Cathedral grounds.

Other couples married at the Cathedral or Chapel, are also invited to attend with family and friends to celebrate 150 years of weddings at the Cathedral.



To register to attend the Mass
and for catering purposes please
RSVP: Friday 22nd September 2023
cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au
3324 3030

If you have photos or stories to share
of your wedding at the Cathedral,
please contact David Todd.
email: toddd@bne.catholic.net.au
telephone: 3324 3030
by 1st September 2023

ALPHA Come and try an Alpha Session

Our Holy Spirit retreat afternoon is on this **Sunday 10th September 11.30am at ACU Banyo**. All who have joined in the majority of the 1st 6 Episodes either with this or other Alphas would be most welcome to join us on this afternoon.

For more information please go to: www.alpha.org.au/try

The remaining sessions of the new Australian version of the Alpha film and discussion series is running on **Sundays 17/9 and 1/10 from 11am at the Mother of Mercy Parish Centre, 9 Bowman St, Hendra.**

RSVP: hendra@bne.catholic.net.au (or 3268 3040)

Parish Birthdays

Have you entered your birthday in our Parish Birthday Book?

Each last Sunday of the month, we celebrate the birthdays of our Parish family members with a Birthday cake after the 9.30am Mass at Hendra. The next celebration is this **Sunday 24 September**, so please come along to join us! The Birthday Book is at the Coffee Spot in the Parish Centre Courtyard—please add your name!



IGNITE CONFERENCE 2023: WONDER
21—24 September 2023, St Laurence's College,
South Brisbane



Step into colour and light and register for Ignite Conference 2023: Wonder. Tickets availablesee QR code.



NEWS FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOL

Staffing Update: Last week we conducted interviews for the substantive Assistant Principal position for OLHC Hendra. It is my pleasure to inform you that Mrs Kym Waters has been successful and will stay on with us as our APRE. Congratulations Kym!



QCMF: On Friday 18th August our Middle Years students represented our school beautifully at the Queensland Catholic Schools and Colleges Music Festival at Villanova College. The choir was prepared by our Music teacher, Anne-Maree Eyles, and they received a Silver Award for their performance. Well done!

Book Week: Well done to all for another fantastic Book Week. The children did a wonderful job embracing the fun of our dress-up parade. A huge thank you to Mrs Keaveney-Jones who led the activities for the week. It was amazing to see the joy on the faces of the children and dressing up as a whole staff group is always a highlight of the week!

Warm regards, **Adam Bennie** Principal

Observe in Faith, Reflect with Courage, Improve through Action

AGEING WISELY—SEMINAR

The **Archdiocese of Brisbane's free Ageing Wisely seminar** provides advice and information on a range of pertinent matters, as a service to older parishioners. The seminar will feature professional guest speakers and a range of information sessions on estate planning and legal advice, retirement planning and financial advice, charitable gifts in Wills and perpetual endowments, funeral planning and in-home community support services.

Please join us Date: Tuesday, 26th September Time: 9:30am - 1:30pm

Venue: Sandgate Brighton Parish Hall 108, Brighton Road, Sandgate 4017
Morning tea and lunch will be provided free of charge

PLEASE SEE FLYERS AT CHURCH DOORS FOR AGENDA/PROGRAM

World Wide Marriage Encounter - Weekend Dates

13-15 October—Live In Weekend

Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston

For More Information Contact: David and Maria Murphy

Phone: 0481 307821

Email: qldbbookings@wwme.org.au www.wwme.org.au

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

17 SEPTEMBER 2023

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

First Reading: Sirach 27:30-28:7

Second Reading: Rom 14:7-9

Gospel: Mt 18:21-35



Commemoration of Saints

Wed 13 Saint John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor **MEMORIAL**

Thu 14 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross **FEAST**

Fri 14 Our Lady of Sorrows **MEMORIAL**

Sat 16 Saints Cornelius and Cyprian **MEMORIAL**



PRAY FOR US....

WE PRAY FOR....



The Recently Deceased: Catherine Fenech, Kenneth Lee, Caterina Curcuruto

Anniversaries: Mary Therese 'May' Crimean, Patricia Lane, Catherine Patricia Hyland, David Lyle Barrington-Rowe, Maureen Foxlee, Kathleen Margaret Hickey, Judith Ann Backhash, John Joseph Bein

The Sick: Stan Janssen, Hadge Banks, Paddy "Peter" Ryan, Lyn Smith, Linda Farrell, Tina Watson, Mary Gilmer, Rosaria Fazio, Monica Johnson, Alison Leis, Val Walsh, Carole and Gordon Hodge, Frank McHugh, Trevor Gozzard, Nick Newton, Theresa Claffey, Salustia Zavaleta, Brenda Gueizelar, Robert Montalegre, Gloria Morris (sister of Elaine Eneberg), Charlie Richards, Naomi Garden, Huynh Giang, Ann Wall, Carmel Bates, Heather Skinner, Fiona Brogan, May Donaldson, Keith Wiskar, Leanne Gracie, John Conroy, Anthony Hallin, Br Tom Dempsey, Michael Hardy, David Edmunds, Betty Mahony, Michael Hand, June Thompson, Jan O'Donoghue, Peta Ziegenfusz, Andrew Price and Angela Krista.

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Dubai: Burj Kalifa, Desert Safari, Miracle garden, City Tour

DEPARTURES ON 4TH MAR 2024 FROM MELBOURNE & BRISBANE

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Women of The Way
Retreat
"Open the Eyes
of My Heart, Lord"
Ephesians 1:18

13th - 15th Oct. 2023

Watson Park
Convention Centre
Dakabin, QLD 4503

Contact: Rosa Montegrando 0400 755 516
Women of The Way: wowqld@gmail.com

MYSTERY & MISSION

Art of Liturgical Celebration
28-30 September 2023

Liturgy and Music Conference in Brisbane. Workshops, presentations, panel discussion and exhibits.
Enquiries – liturgy@liturgybrisbane.net.au



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION POLICY

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded.



VOCATION VIEW: How much would the world be changed if everyone were completely forgiving? Probably totally! Jesus' stories of forgiveness are so loved because they are so needed. Re-tell them! Re-live them!

To talk to someone about your vocation, please make contact with Vocation Brisbane: 1300 133 544

vocation@bne.catholic.net.au vocationbrisbane.com



We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationships of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

Items for inclusion in this Newsletter

Please email or write out to: hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

Cut Off Deadline - 1:00pm Tuesday.

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH: We very much appreciate your continued financial assistance and donations to the Parish are most warmly welcomed. This can be best achieved by direct debit to the following account:

Mother of Mercy Parish Account BSB 064 786 Acc—100007977

Please note "Donation" and your name as a reference. Please your receipt to: finance.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au after your payment has been made.

Another way to donate easily is via the **PARISH GIVING APP**: Scan the QR code below, or the code attached to the church collection plates, to your mobile telephone and follow the prompts to complete your giving donation.

<http://parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au>



Do you have a Family Trust? Did you know that making your weekly gift to the Parish through dividend income from your trust reduces your tax obligations? Additionally, these gifts are not counted against your family tax benefit payments. Contact your financial advisor for details on how you can save taxes and help build our Parish community at the same time.

MASS TIMES

- Saturday 5:00pm Vigil:** Our Lady Help of Christians Hendra
- Sunday 8:00am Mass:** St Agatha's Clayfield (Families Mass)
- Sunday 9:30am Mass:** Our Lady Help of Christians Hendra (Families Mass)
- Sunday 5:30pm Mass:** St Agatha's Clayfield (Youth Mass)

Fr James O'Donoghue has been asked to say the following Masses for the time being at:

- Saturday 4:30pm** St Cecilia's Hamilton
- Sunday 7:30am** St John's Northgate

WEEKDAY MASSES

- Thursday 9:00am** St Agatha's Clayfield
- Friday 9:00am** St John's Northgate

Please be considerate of mask wearing at this time.
Please DO NOT attend Mass if you are UNWELL

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS ROSTER OLHC 9:30am

Date	Reader	Eucharistic Minister
10 September	Andrew and Ambrose Devereux	Dona Rotolone
17 September	Neville Canham	Robyn Jeynes

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A PASTORAL STATEMENT ON THE REFERENDUM

The Referendum on the Voice brings Australia to a threshold moment, since it looks not only to our past but to our future, not only to what we have been but to what we can become.

There is no doubt that Australia has achieved great things since European settlement, and that is a source of national pride. But Australians are increasingly coming to appreciate the devastation that European settlement has brought to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Australia's first Catholic bishop, the English Benedictine John Bede Polding, spoke plainly of their treatment. In 1842 he wrote, "The life of an (Aboriginal) human being is valued no more than the life of a kangaroo, and far less than that of a bullock". Later he wrote, "The Aborigine will demand, 'What right have you to come here? We have not asked you to come, and you take away our lands, you drive away our means of subsistence'." Polding went on to denounce "occupation by force, accompanied by murders, ill-treatment, ravishment of their women...the white man coming for his own advantage, without any regard to their rights". He concluded, "I am making myself [an Aborigine], putting myself in that position, taking away all that I know except that this is my country, that my father lived by pursuing the emu and the kangaroo, that I am driven away from my hunting grounds, that my children and tribe are subjected to the grossest barbarities."

There emerged in time a policy of assimilating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples into mainstream Australian culture. However well-intentioned it may have seemed, the policy led to the dissolution of Indigenous culture. We are now familiar with the concept of *terra nullius* (that before European settlement the land belonged to no-one), the tragedy of the Stolen Generation and the fact that the prior habitation of the First Nations peoples was not recognised in the Australian Constitution.



Australians are now being asked to consider a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament and to executive government, which was asked for in the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*. The hope is that this will not only offer constitutional recognition but also assist towards a more just and equitable Australia, helping to tackle not just the symptoms but the causes of chronic disadvantage.

In response, we need first to see the truth of the suffering of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the disadvantage many experience today as a result. Justice demands that we seek to rectify this disadvantage and its consequences.

We also need to listen to the Indigenous peoples, in order to learn from them and learn to love them, not see them as “the other”. Pope Francis has said of the Indigenous peoples of the Amazon, and how best to engage with them on issues particular to them: “They are our principal dialogue partners, those from whom we have the most to learn. Their words, their hopes and their fears should be the most authoritative voice at the table. Otherwise, the result would be, once again, ‘a plan drawn up by the few for the few’.” The same could be said of the Indigenous peoples of Australia.

In 1986 at Alice Springs, Pope St John Paul II said to the Aboriginal people: “You are part of Australia and Australia is part of you. And the Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received”. Pope Francis and Pope John Paul ask us to listen to the Indigenous peoples and to receive joyfully what they have to offer the whole nation and the world.

Regrettably, the debate on the Voice has been politicised to the point where it is being enacted, as Andrew Hamilton SJ has noted, “as a battle between the Yes and the No side in which the task is not to unite the nation but to smash the opposition”. But the issues surrounding the Voice are not primarily political; they are at their heart moral and ethical, which makes this essentially a conscience vote.

For Christians, it is also a summons to see the issues through the lens of the Gospel and ultimately with the eye of Jesus who is not above or apart from the Referendum process.

Therefore, all Australians need to educate themselves on the issues, asking not so much what we might lose but what the nation might gain. One part of this would be a careful and open-minded reading of the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*.

The status quo is not an option, because the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australia is growing wider rather than closing. Therefore, I urge everyone in the Archdiocese to prepare to vote in a way that looks to the Gospel and, whatever the result of the Referendum, to commit to redressing the chronic disadvantage suffered by the Indigenous peoples and promoting reconciliation for the good not just of some but of the whole nation.



+Mark Coleridge
Archbishop of Brisbane

