



# 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 Phone:** 0403 743 874

**PARISH PRIEST:** REV MICHAEL GRACE

**Email:** pp.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

**SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR:** TBA

**Email:** sacramental.clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

**YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR:** TBA

**Email:** yc.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION Telephone:** 07 3268 3040

Monica Johnson (Parish Secretary)

**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 4 to Saturday 10 February 2024

Sun Morning tea after 9.30am Mass (OLHC)

Wed Opening Mass for OLHC Primary School (OLHC)

Thur 9.00am Mass (St Agatha's, Clayfield)

Fri 9:00am Mass (Anointing and Healing)  
(St John's, Northgate)

Sat 6am-5pm Adoration of Blessed Sacrament  
(OLHC)



*Have a great  
week ahead*



## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YR B

### WORD OF GOD SUNDAY

4 FEBRUARY 2024

St Paul is famous for his preaching of the Gospel. With a singular zeal, he dedicated himself to founding churches and then supporting them. He supported them by his presence and teaching as well as, famously, through sending letters of encouragement and advice.



In this weekend's second reading, Paul writes to the church of Corinth, reflecting upon the mission he has dedicated his life to. He recognises this mission as a call from God, arising from the commission he received from Christ. For him, to proclaim the Gospel was not an 'option', one possibility among many, but rather an obligation, the very purpose of his life. Paul fulfilled that obligation with unparalleled dedication. He is undoubtedly the greatest and most impactful evangelist to ever live.

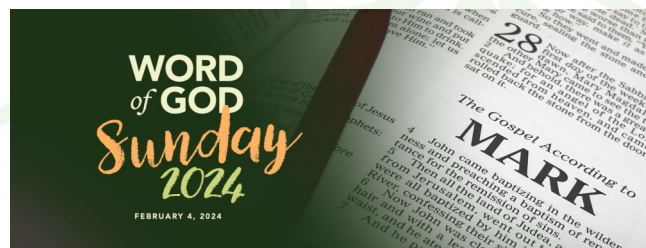
While Paul's mission is singular and unrepeatable, he by no means bears the responsibility of proclaiming the Gospel alone. As a priest I can say with Paul, that I have the formal obligation to preach the Gospel. Others share in the work of formal preaching in various ways.

You too are called and commissioned to share the Gospel, by virtue of your baptism. While not all are preachers in a formal sense, each person is obliged to do their bit, according to the particular gifts that God has given them. Parents and grandparents are called to be diligent in passing on the faith to their children and grandchildren. Those engaged in business, witness to the faith by their integrity and values. Others show a special care in hospitality, or liturgy, or care for the poor and vulnerable.

The call of Christ is the call to be a 'servant to all'. Paul is a shining example of humble and dedicated service. May we too dedicate ourselves to the work of the Gospel and imitate him in his zeal and humility.

**Blessings,**

**Fr. Michael.**



The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 4 in 2024 (Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B). Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God. Visit [www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday) to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.

## Parish Messages.....

- ◆ **\*REMINDER\* THIS TUESDAY 6 FEBRUARY—Special Lenten Women's Retreat:** Lisa McKerr from Evangelisation Brisbane will lead this morning of prayer and reflection in preparation for Lent...please see notice below.
- ◆ **LENTEN DISCUSSION SESSIONS:** Lenten discussion sessions will commence in the parish shortly ....please see the notice below. All are very welcome!
- ◆ **DATE CLAIMER: FR RICHARD LEONARD TALK:** Fr Richard Leonard will be celebrating the **5.00pm Ash Wednesday Mass at OLHC, Hendra** and will follow this with a talk on Prayer....please see the notice below. All are warmly encouraged to attend.
- ◆ **Passion Play 2007 - The Greatest Story Ever Told:** To watch the Passion Play 2007, held at the Botanical Gardens Brisbane, please go to the following link: <https://youtu.be/EbLU1fixR1s?si=DQTI0WJYDkIq4VRv>
- ◆ **MUSIC BEFORE MASS:** Jim, our wonderful organist, will be at Mass half an hour early for those keen to rehearse.  
**This weekend (3/4 Feb), 9.30am OLHC Mass.**  
**Next weekend (10/11 Feb), 5.00pm OLHC Mass.**

## Lenten Discussion Sessions

All are warmly invited to join our Lenten Discussion Sessions in the Parish. Sessions will be held:

- \* **Sundays** during Lent from 11-11.45am from 18 February in the Parish Centre at Hendra.
- \* **Thursdays** during Lent from 4.00-5.30pm at AVEO Clayfield, 469 Sandgate Rd, Albion.

## FR RICHARD LEONARD SJ Guest Celebrant and Speaker at Mother of Mercy Parish

Time: **Mass at 5.00pm then 6.00pm talk**  
(Topic: **Why Bother Praying?**)

Date: **Ash Wednesday 14 Feb 2024**

Place: **OLHC Church, Hendra**



Jesuit priest Richard Leonard has degrees in arts and education, as well as a Master's degree in theology. Fr Richard did graduate studies at the London Film School and has a PhD from the University of Melbourne. He directed the Australian Catholic Office for Film & Broadcasting for 22 years. Dr Leonard is an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Catholic University and has been a visiting scholar within the School of Theatre, Film & Television at UCLA and a Visiting Professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome.

Fr Richard has served on juries at the Venice, Berlin, Warsaw, Hong Kong, Montreal, Brisbane and Melbourne International Film Festivals and he has lectured on faith and culture all over the world. He is presently the parish priest of North Sydney.

Fr Richard has been published in *America Magazine*, *Eureka Street*, *US Catholics*, is regular columnist with *The London Tablet* and is often on ABC Radio.

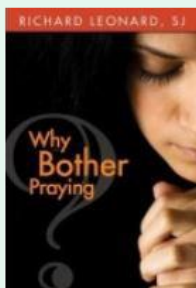
He is the author of 13 books including:  
*Where the Hell is God?*

*Hatch, Match Dispatch: A Catholic Guide to Sacraments*  
*What are we doing on earth for Christ's sake?;*  
*What's it All About? Living lives of faith, hope and love.*  
*The Law of Love: Modern Words for Ancient Wisdom*  
His latest book, "Why God?" will be released early in 2024.

**Transport can be provided for those requiring assistance to attend.**

**Gold Coin Donation.**

Open to all, family and friends most welcome!



## 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.**



## Special Lenten Women's Retreat

With Lisa McKerr from Evangelisation Brisbane

Tuesday 6th Feb from 9.00—11.30am

Parish Centre Meeting Room, Hendra

The session will have a Lenten Preparation theme. Lisa's sessions are prayerful, reflective and a great start for our Lenten Season.



RSVP Kate McLean 0422 575 546 or please contact the Parish Office on 3268 3040.

## MENS Breakfast and Seminar: Saturday 2/3/24, 7am – 2pm

**WHAT?** Deacon Dr Peter Pellicaan will lead a half-day Seminar. You may remember Peter was a previous guest speaker at one of our Men's Dinners last year. We will be joining Men from 2 other parishes. We are grateful that MEN CONNECT (a parish group like ours) have invited us to participate.

The morning starts at 7am with a traditional cooked breakfast and coffee. Two elements will be covered: **What does it mean to follow Jesus as a husband, father, uncle and son?** and **what does it mean to follow the example of Jesus in the workplace, church and the community?** There will be plenty of time for discussion and personal reflection.

**WHEN?** SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> of MARCH 2024. 7am – 2pm.

**RSVP** On or before SAT 17/2/24 (HURRY! numbers are limited to venue capacity) For catering purposes, please RSVP Bill on 0418183400 or Joel on 0438241524.

**WHERE?** St Peter Chanel School (library room), 41 Chaprowe Rd, The Gap.

**Cost?** \$25 cash (on the day) or bank transfer (beforehand). Bank transfer is strongly preferred as it assists with catering

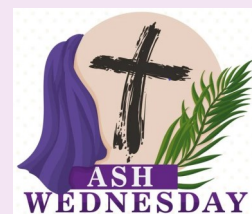
## Ash Wednesday Masses —14 February 2024

**6.30am** St John's, Northgate

**9.00am** St Agatha's, Clayfield

**5.00pm** OLHC, Hendra  
(Fr Richard Leonard, Mass and talk)

**6.00pm** St Agatha's, Clayfield



## NEWS FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOL

School has started well, and it has been exciting to welcome back all 187 students. This is the highest our enrolment has been in over 10 years!



We have also welcomed a number of new teaching and support staff.

We look forward to seeing you at Parish/School events throughout the year.

Warm regards, **Adam Bennie** Principal

*Observe in Faith, Reflect with Courage, Improve through Action*

### Brisbane Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration 2<sup>nd</sup> year anniversary

The second week of February marks the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the commencement of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration throughout the Brisbane Archdiocese. The original intention of having seven churches with 24 hour adoration, one for each day of the week, has now grown to ten churches including one at the Gold Coast.

To give thanksgiving to God for this blessing, a celebration will be held with proceedings as follows:

**Where:** Little Flower Church Kedron, 80 Turner Road, Kedron

**When:** Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

**Time:** 8.30am – 9am Adoration and consecration of Brisbane Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration to the Holy Family  
9am - 10am Holy Mass

10am - 12 noon A talk on the merits of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration in the Parish Hall next door to the church, followed by morning tea.

The celebrant and speaker will be Rev. Fr Max Polak, priest of the Opus Dei Prelature.

There is plenty of parking and the hall is air conditioned.  
Please bring a plate to share.

### FAITH AND FATHERHOOD 2024

In 2024 married men in their 30s and 40s are invited to gather at the **Chermside Tavern every second Tuesday night at 5.30-6.30pm** to enjoy a beverage and read a gospel passage with the purpose of discussing and applying spiritual truths to their everyday lives.

Look forward to seeing you there.

(We ask you to respect the demographic).

Chermside Tavern - Northern end of **WESTFIELD CHERMSIDE SHOPPING CENTRE**, 395 Hamilton Road, Chermside



### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

11 FEBRUARY 2024

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

First Reading: Lev 13:1-2, 44-46

Second Reading: 1 Cor 10:31 – 11:1

Gospel: Mk 1:40-45

### Commemoration of Saints February 2024

Mon 5 St Agatha, virgin, martyr MEMORIAL

Tues 6 Saints Paul Miki and companions, martyrs MEMORIAL

Thur 8 St Jerome Emiliani,  
Saint Josephine Bakhita, virgin

Sat 10 St Scholastica, virgin MEMORIAL



PRAY FOR US....

## WE PRAY FOR... *Prayer Request*

**The Recently Deceased:** Bernard (Bernie) Larkin, Leo McCourt

**Anniversaries:** John Vider, Anne Gabriel Carmody, John Waymouth Ahern

**The Sick:** Matthew Hand, Maria Ward, 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, Salustia Zavaleta, Brenda Gueizelar, Robert Montalegre, Gloria Morris (sister of Elaine Eneberg), Charlie Richards, Naomi Garden, 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, Angela Krista, Megan Stuart

### 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.



# The Sacrament of CONFIRMATION

Open to all children Year 3 and up who have already received their Baptism

Enrolments Close March 4th!

For preparation schedule and enrolment forms please visit one of the following websites:



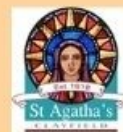
### Mother Of Mercy Parish

Our Lady Help of Christians, Hendra

St John's, Northgate

St Cecelia's Hamilton

<https://www.motherofmercyparish.org.au/confirmation.html>



### St Agatha's Parish

St Agatha's Church, Clayfield

<https://clayfieldparish.org.au/confirmation/>

### EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

We ask all parishioners to please make themselves familiar with the Emergency Evacuation Plans that are located at the Church doors. In the unlikely event of the need for an emergency evacuation of the Church, please immediately and calmly proceed to the nearest exit and gather at the meeting point as outlined in the plan.



**VOCATION VIEW:** The afflicted Job in the Old Testament thinks that his life is like dust in the wind; his restlessness depicts the sorrow and sadness afflicting society today. Are we prepared for the task ahead? To heal the broken-hearted, to bind up all their wounds? How do you choose to respond?

To talk to someone about your vocation, please make

contact with Vocation Brisbane: 1300 133 544

[vocation@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:vocation@bne.catholic.net.au)

[vocationbrisbane.com](http://vocationbrisbane.com)



**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](mailto: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)

*Further Masses continue at present as follows:*

- 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**

Date	Reader <b>OLHC 9:30am</b>	Eucharistic Minister <b>OLHC 9:30am</b>
4 February	George, Clara and Sylvie Shillington	Barbara Nelson and Louise Nott
11 February	Mary Nicholls and volunteer	Lorelei Gozzard and Kate McLean

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 : [hendra@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hendra@bne.catholic.net.au)  
**Cut Off Deadline - 1:00pm Tuesday.**

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