



# 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



## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

14 APRIL 2024

During this Easter season we continue to rejoice. Jesus, having offered himself as the perfect and acceptable sacrifice for sin, conquered the grave, thereby proclaiming the superabundance of God's mercy. St John writes, in this weekend's second reading, that 'if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father'. St John invites us to place our trust in Christ even as we continue the ever-present struggle with sin. In Christ alone is found salvation and healing.



Sometimes the Church is accused of proclaiming 'cheap grace'. The accusation is that the forgiveness offered by God seems too easy to obtain. Indeed, God does not hold us to account. As the psalmist writes in Psalm 130: 'If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand'. We can offer no price sufficient for our redemption, so God demands no price at all. Nevertheless, this is not 'cheap grace'! Rather, Christ took upon himself the cost of sin, bearing it on the cross. Our freedom was purchased at very great cost indeed.

While we do not pay the cost, Grace is not meant to leave us unchanged. Rather, moved by the love that the Father has shown us, we are called to respond with love in return. This is unsurprising. Love draws love. There is nothing that will provoke the response of love in the beloved more than the knowledge that they are loved!

To know God, is to know love. This is why St John goes on to write 'we can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments'. If we do indeed know the unconditional, unbreakable love of God, if we have pondered the extent of His Mercy and felt it in the depths of our soul, then love will be drawn from us. 'God's love comes to perfection' in us and is expressed by holiness of life.

**Blessings,**

**Fr Michael**

## What's happening in the Parish this week?

### Sunday 14 to Saturday 20 April

Sun 14 Morning tea after 9:30am Mass (OLHC)

Tue 16 1:00-2:15pm Prayer Engine (OLHC)

Fri 19 9:00am Mass (St John's, Northgate)

10.30am Funeral of Margot Forgan-Smith  
(St Cecilia's, Hamilton)

Sat 20 6am-4.30pm Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament (OLHC)



## ANZAC DAY 2024

Mother of Mercy Parish's **Anzac Day Commemorative Service** will be held at St John's, Northgate (688 Nudgee Rd, Northgate) on Thursday 25 April.

**6.00 am Wreath laying and dedication**

**6.15am Commemorative Mass**

**Followed by breakfast in the adjacent hall.**

All military, family friends and parishioners most welcome .

*St John's is the only Dedicated Navy War Memorial Church in Australia, home to the Honour Board HMAS Moreton, commemorating the 174 lives lost in WWII.*

If you would like to volunteer for this event please leave your details on the sign on sheets in the churches or phone the office.





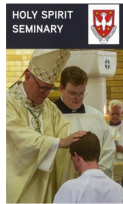
## Parish Messages.....

### Happy Birthday Lyn Smith!!

Lyn, a wonderful St John's parishioner of over 50 years celebrated her 80th birthday this week. Lyn, you are a wonderful face of God alive in our parish and we are blessed to have you amongst us. **God's blessings to you Lyn!**



- ◆ **VOLUNTEERS KEENLY SOUGHT:** Volunteers are keenly sought for **Eucharistic Ministry and Readers of the Word** for our Masses at OLHC, Hendra. We have a small and very dedicated group of parishioners who currently assist however we would like to share the ministry load as much as possible. Please contact the Parish Office if you can to contribute to this valuable ministry.
- ◆ **NOTE RE EMAIL BOUNCE BACKS:** For the information of parishioners, over the last few weeks email send-outs of the newsletter received 100+ bounce back/rejection of email messages. The majority of these were from addresses which were from **bigpond.com** and **yahoo.com.au** users. It may be that the security/privacy settings have been upgraded for your email provider. You may wish to check your junk mail inbox or contact your provider for clarification.
- ◆ **2024 YEAR OF PRAYER CARDS:** Pope Francis has invited the whole Church to celebrate a Year of Prayer to prepare for next year's Jubilee for the Church. Prayer cards are available at the back of the Church. The cards also contain a QR code to a Year of Prayer webpage for those that may wish to access help to go further on the journey of prayer. The webpage can be found at: <https://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/year-of-prayer/>.
- ◆ **Holy Spirit Seminary 2024 Prayer Calendar for Seminarians and Priests:** These calendars can be found at the back of the Church. Please take one home and consider praying daily for each seminarian. Your prayers will make a difference in their lives as they walk the path to the priesthood.



## 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 meet at 9:30am on the first Tuesday 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 1:00-2:15pm.** 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 Wednesday 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, 6am—4.30pm at OLHC Hendra for personal prayer. **For any enquiries, contact Julie Anne 0418 193 235 or Pat 0411 597 781.**



## 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 on **Sunday 28 April**, so please come along to join us! The Birthday Book is at the Coffee Spot in the Parish Centre Courtyard—please add your name!



**Would you like to contribute to the Alpha team?**  
If you feel called to join our team, please diarise the team training on **Sunday 28th April** from 11.00am.



### Come and try Alpha

**SUNDAYS 11am-1pm**  
From 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024

The new Australian version of the Alpha film and discussion series will run on Sundays from 11am from 19/5/24 at the MoM parish centre, 9 Bowman St, Hendra. We will share hospitality, watch a video or 2 and discuss in small groups & we hope that you will join us.

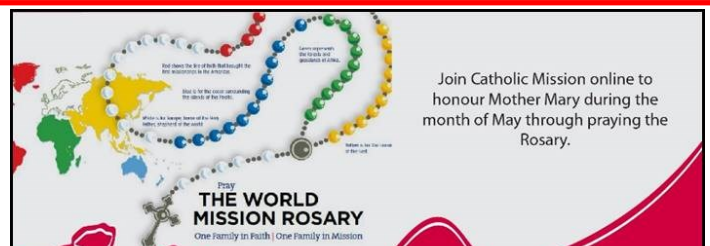
For more information please go to: [www.alpha.org.au/try](http://www.alpha.org.au/try)



**Module 3 – Being Sacramental**, which doesn't require any prerequisites, will commence on Monday 15 April 2024. Sessions will be held on Monday evenings (15 April, 22 April, 29 April, 13 May, 20 May, 27 May, 3 June, 17 June, 24 June) from 7:00pm – 9:00pm at Xavier Hall, Holy Spirit Seminary and will be livestreamed to regional hubs\*.

To download the module 3 prospectus or to learn more about the Archdiocesan Centre for Catholic Formation, visit [catholicformation.au](http://catholicformation.au).

**Organiser: Evangelisation Brisbane**  
[eb@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:eb@bne.catholic.net.au)  
07 3324 3440



## World Mission May Rosary Prayers

Mon - Fri  
Time: 2pm Brisbane / Melbourne time  
12pm Perth time  
Join Zoom Meeting:  
<https://tinyurl.com/cmprayer>  
Meeting ID:  
893 8798 2280  
Password:  
876574



**Please pray for children and their families as they continue their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.**

## NEWS FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOL

Wishing you all a safe and Happy Easter. We are very much looking forward to the break and already excited about Term Two.

Warm regards, **Adam Bennie** Principal



*We must teach more by example than by word. St Mary MacKillop*

## MEN'S DINNER—SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2024

**Maths, Marathons & Ministry (and software companies)**

When: Saturday 27 April 2024

Dinner from 6.00pm

**Michael Forbes from 7.00pm**

Cost: \$15 to cover Chicken and Salad  
(BYO—limited alcohol provided)

Where: OLHC Parish Centre (9 Bowman St, Hendra)

RSVP: Monday 22 April 2024

SMS Joel 0438 241 524 or Bill 0418 183 400

**Dr Michael Forbes** is a mathematician and entrepreneur. He has been a partner in many startup companies, mainly in mathematical software. From 2009 to 2014 Michael was part of the management team at NET Ministries. Through his NET connections, he travelled to Uganda and has become involved in many new businesses there. Michael is also a senior lecturer at the University of Queensland. He and his wife Lisa have three children and 6+ grandchildren, and love going on (very) long walks. Michael is also a keen runner, having run many marathons, including one in 2023 after open heart surgery in 2021 to replace a leaky aortic valve. Michael is a long standing core team member of MenALIVE.

WORLD RENOWNED CATHOLIC PREACHER AND MINISTER



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**Damian Stayne, a lay Catholic evangelist with a powerful ministry of prophecy, physical healing and miracles will be in Brisbane from 18 to 20 April.**

**Ministry events include: a Young Adults Night and a full day and night of Healing, Signs and Wonders.**

**To purchase tickets please go to:**

<https://bit.ly/damianstayne>

For more information, contact

Pat: [pat@ec.org.au](mailto:pat@ec.org.au) or Audrey:

[prayercentrejindalee@ccr.brisbane.org.au](mailto:prayercentrejindalee@ccr.brisbane.org.au)



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.

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

21 APRIL 2024

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**First Reading:** Acts 4:8-12

**Second Reading:** 1 Jn 3:1-2

**Gospel:** Jn 10:11-18



**Commemoration of Saints April 2024**

**HOLY MEN AND WOMEN....**

**PRAY FOR US.....**



**WE PRAY FOR....**



**The Recently Deceased:** Margot Forgan-Smith

**Anniversaries:** Sid Tynan, Hazel Ruby Gordon, Francis Walter Towler, Leonard James Hunter, Felix Joseph Van Ooy, Ellen Mary (Elma) Overell, Claire Elizabeth Condon, Dr Michael Bernard Grattan Geraghty, Marie Magdaline Kirwan, William John Lyons

**The Sick:** Delphine Schulz, Brad Ryan, Lorraine Neville, 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, Brenda Gueizelar, 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



*Silence*  
IN THE CITY

## A mini Silent Retreat

Hosted by Jo Hayes OSB - TV Journalist + Evangelist

**Saturday 20 April - 10.00am to 2.00pm**

Villa Maria Centre, 123 Warren St, Fortitude Valley

\$25—BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

The website link for bookings is [johayes.com.au/silenceinthecity](http://johayes.com.au/silenceinthecity).

## 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:** What could convince someone to turn to God?

That God became man and is the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

Let us pray – Lord Jesus, make your word plain and set our hearts on fire with love when you speak. Enable us to respond to the call to be witnesses of your love.

**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)**



**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.**



**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>
14 April	George, Clara and Sylvie Shillington	Robyn Jaynes and Dona Rotolone
21 April	Serena Varendorff and Bill Nott	Lorelei Gozzard and Kate McLean

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