



NEWSLETTER

Catholic Parishes of Bulimba • Buranda • East Brisbane • Kangaroo Point

Fifth Sunday of Lent

6 April 2025 (Year C)

◆ FR PETER DILLON Administrator, Kangaroo Point East Brisbane and Buranda ◆ FR KEVIN SMITH Parish Priest, Bulimba

Was Jesus a Politician?

If you are feeling a little bit “over” politics at the moment you could be forgiven. If we can bear to stay focused on the upcoming Federal election here in Australia, then we probably have little time to be worrying about what might be happening in the United States.

There are one or two dinners that I have attended in the past, where the host has proclaimed that there should be no discussion about religion or politics at the table. While it might seriously narrow down the conversation topics, I do understand that for some people both these areas are full of emotion and deep conviction, such that any discussion invariably turns into an argument, and before long someone is offended or insulted and the party is over, before dessert is served. Always a disappointment, for me.

Some time ago, Fr Frank Brennan S.J. was being interviewed on the radio in relation to off-shore detention of refugees, a topic he is well informed about and quite balanced in his understanding of the complexities involved. A little later he was berated by a politician, who said in quite colourful language that “Father should spend more time worrying about his flock and leave politics to the professionals”.

While this is not a new argument, it is, in my view, a weak one given that the concerns of ‘our flock’ are issues of justice and concern for the powerless and the poor of our society. Poor, does not always equate with money, but can refer to those who have had their rights denied or have had any control of their lives taken over by their state or country. It can refer to people who have not been given any voice in the present or future government and are directed, rather than lead, in the way that they live their lives.

Oddly enough, it was another politician, the late Senator Warwick Parer, who said to me after a Mass he had attended, that all priests were politicians, in that their concern and service was directed toward both country and community, while the priest’s loyalty was primarily directed to the law of God. Whether you agree with the Senator or not, the real issue is that it is the duty of both priest and politician, and indeed all people of goodwill and intention, to speak out and seek to do the right moral thing when an injustice is clear. While we are certainly free to ignore this duty, it does not diminish the fact that as citizens of the world and those of us who profess a relationship with God are bound to be responsible to and for the lives of our fellow travellers.

This of course, begs the question is it possible to be loyal to more than one country and more than one law, as in the case of civil and church laws. As Christians, we should understand what it means to show allegiance to our country when we enjoy its services and security, its rights and benefits and we should respect and protect those rights and opportunities, as well as its laws and legislators. To cheat our country is to disrespect its citizens, and to cheat them is to cheat God, who we believe created them.

But of course, we are also citizens of the Kingdom of God to which we also owe allegiance and obligations. Generally, Church and State are not in conflict, but in recent years, as our country moves away from its Christian foundations, certain glaring areas are emerging as points of difference, and more truthfully, conflict. Matters such as global warming and off-shore detention have emerged as matters of justice and morality. It might be easy to say that these are political issues only and have no place in the purview of the Church, but if justice for the oppressed and care of the planet was only meant for politicians, then Jesus would have died for no reason.

How do we decide which value to support and what are our obligations when conflict is evident? I believe that Jesus was quite clear when he recognised that our lives are a blend of secular and religious values, but we are compelled to follow those laws that are just and fair, that are equal and supportive, that are offered to all citizens and are not exclusive. Unfortunately, it’s not a matter of picking the issues that suit us or we feel more emotionally connected to. Jesus did not say that all such values would be immediately obvious and manageable so we should be realistic in knowing what must be discerned through prayer and open discussion, but our first loyalty is to God, since we believe that everything we have has come from God, even the power given to our country and its leaders. Following Christ example, we should be prepared to protect those values at all costs, just try not to get arrested or killed in the process. Fr Peter

Liturgy and Prayers This Week 7 April to 13 April 2025

| | Bulimba | Buranda | East Brisbane | Kangaroo Point |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|---------------|----------------|
| Wednesday | 7pm (Mass of Reconciliation) | | 8am (Mass) | |
| Friday | 8am Mass + Adoration + Benediction | | | |
| Saturday | 9am Mass 5.30pm (Mass) | | 5pm (Mass) | |
| Sunday | 8am (Mass) 5.30pm (Mass) | 8am (Mass) | | 9am (Mass) |

BULIMBA PARISH

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BURANDA PARISH

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St Luke’s Church

43 Taylor Street

Woolloongabba QLD 4102

KANGAROO POINT EAST BRISBANE PARISH

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St Joseph’s Church

26-36 Leopard Street

Kangaroo Point QLD 4169

St Benedict’s Church

81 Mowbray Terrace

East Brisbane QLD 4169

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.

AROUND OUR PARISHES

BULIMBA

Prayer Requests

Please pray for our departed loved ones, especially Sr Joan Ryan SGS, Maureen Cosgrove, Joan Uscinski, Anna Fracchia, Patrick Aitken **recently deceased and also for** Colleen Hunter, Mary McDermott, Leon Bakunowicz, Patricia Vieyra, Mary Hooper, Emma Moretto, Peggy Teache, Ann Toomey, Harold & Dulcie O'Connell, Robyn Illett, Bill Hanley, Patrick and Clare Dugger, Begley and Bourke families, Mick Shelton, Wyn Watson, Brian Rawson.

Please remember the sick in your prayers – Hazel Langthorne, Pete Waldron, Margaret McLaughlin, Anita Xavier, Lance Tutanoa, Roy Hogan, Catherine Kearney, Madonna Lapez (nee Cullen), Remy Rossi, Carol Visueshwara, Rita Zoch.

MASS OF RECONCILIATION will be held on Wednesday, 9th April at 7pm. All welcome.

GETTING EASTER READY—rosters will be available at the church doors for all Easter ceremonies. Please consider where you can assist and place your name on the lists. Thank you

CHRISM MASS will be held at St Stephen's Cathedral on Thursday, 10th April at 7pm. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

DROP IN FRIDAY—please join in the conversation and stay for morning tea, 10am in the parish hall Friday 11 April 2025.

DEACON SANG DUC BUI who completed his pastoral placement at Buimba will be ordained to the priesthood on Friday 13 June at 7pm at St Stephen's Cathedral. Sang will celebrate his Mass of Thanksgiving in the parish on Saturday 14 June at 10am followed by hospitality.

PALM SUNDAY—please bring your palms for Blessing next weekend..

HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARY prayer calendars featuring all seminarians available at the church doors.



Easter is the most important celebration in the Church's year as it commemorates the very foundations of our Christian faith.

Please mark these dates in your calendar.

Holy Thursday 17 April 7pm
Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday 18 April 10am
Stations of the Cross

Good Friday 18 April 3pm
Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday 19 April 7pm
Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday 20 April 8am
Easter Sunday Mass

KANGAROO POINT/EAST BRISBANE . BURANDA

Prayer Requests

We ask you to pray for the recently deceased Cliff Hawkins, Brian Prove, Sr Joan Cusack pbvm **and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time**—Rose Payne. **Please remember the sick in your prayers** - Michael Mulligan, Jeanette McMahon, Leo Rawlings, Tony Cotter, Paul Mann

PARISH LUCKY NUMBER (KPEB)

Winners from the previous weeks were: **KATHY WESSEL**
Any parishioners interested in being part of the Lucky Number Draw simply need to speak with Isobel at the foyer of St Benedict's Church at Mass on Saturday evening. Proceeds of the lucky number draw go to support St Vincent de Paul and other social needs in the Parish. **GOOD LUCK!!!**

FUNERAL MASS for Cliff Hawkins will be held on Monday, 7th April at 10am at St Joseph's Kangaroo Point. All welcome to celebrate Cliff's life.

THANK YOU — this is Fr David Pascoe's last weekend to celebrate Mass with the community. We thank him for his assistance during Fr Peter's absence.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD will be held this **Sunday 6 April** in the Coolock Room during the 9am Mass at St Joseph's. You are encouraged to bring your children to hear the Gospel adapted to their level of understanding.

PARISH MORNING TEA will follow Mass. You are invited to bring a small plate to share. Assistance with clean up would be appreciated. **ALL WELCOME.**

LOOKING AHEAD....

11 April 9am MASS at St Luke's **CANCELLED**

13 April Palm Sunday

14 April Holy Week begins



Fifth Sunday of Lent 5th and 6th of April 2025

The life-changing work of Caritas Australia is only made possible by the unwavering generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our local partners on the ground.

Our partners are the true heroes, working tirelessly on the front-lines every day to transform lives and build brighter, more hopeful futures for their communities.



**UNITE
AGAINST
POVERTY**
this Lent

Please donate today

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISHES

As a Catholic community, we are deeply grateful for the goodwill and generosity that sustain our mission and service to others. Your continued support is vital to our work, helping us to live out Christ's love in Bulimba, Buranda, and Kangaroo Point/East Brisbane.

To arrange planned giving for your parish, we invite you to reach out to the parish office for more information.

Thank you for being a cherished part of our faith journey.

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE



A VOCATION VIEW: God continues to open a way for us. How is God doing something new in your life? Perhaps God is inviting you to be a priest or religious. (Isaiah 43:16-21) Scan the QR code to find out more or contact the vocation office on 1300 133 544 or www.vocationbrisbane.com Follow us on @vocationbrisbane

TWO MINUTE HOMILY by priests from across the Archdiocese of Brisbane. You are able to watch this week's homily [here](#).

PENITENTIAL ACT

I confess to almighty God and to you,
my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous
fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus
Praise and honour, Lord Jesus Christ!
With all your heart turn to me,
For I am tender and compassionate.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus
Praise and honour, Lord Jesus Christ!

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
And by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third
day in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son, is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:16-21

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army,
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:
No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done before.
See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not see it?
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.
The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the wilderness
(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.
The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

SECOND READING

Philippians 3:8-14

*Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in
order to gain him.*

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme
advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have
accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so
much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I
am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the
perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection
that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on
faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection
and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death.
That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of
the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won,
but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ
Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from
thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the
past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the
finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in
Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL

John 8:1-11

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the
Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and
began to teach them.
The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been
caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view
of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in
the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in
the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What
have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for
something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started
writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their
question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not
sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent
down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they
went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was
left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He
looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one
condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn
you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'