



NEWSLETTER

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

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

23 February 2025 (Year C)

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

BULIMBA PARISH

P: 07 3399 2386
E: bulimba@bne.catholic.net.au
W: www.bulimbacatholic.com

St Peter and Paul's Church

25 Main Avenue
Bulimba QLD 4171

BURANDA PARISH

P: 0467 775 862
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St Luke's Church

43 Taylor Street
Woolloongabba QLD 4102

KANGAROO POINT EAST BRISBANE PARISH

P: 0467 775 862
E: kpoint@bne.catholic.net.au
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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.

LOVE THY ENEMY—Part 2

... But how do we do this? It seems that if we don't know how to love our enemies, then we don't have the strength to forgive. We preach it as an ideal, and naively believe that we are doing it. But, for the most part, we aren't. We really don't love and forgive those who oppose us. Too often we are distrustful, disrespectful, bitter, demonizing, and (metaphorically speaking) murderous towards each other. If there is much love and forgiveness of enemies in our lives, it's far from evident, both in our world and in our churches. As Ronald Knox once said, as Christians, we have never really taken seriously Jesus' challenge to love our enemies and to turn the other cheek.

I say this sympathetically. We need help. The old saying is true: To err is human, to forgive is divine. So how do we start?

We might start by both acknowledging our failure and admitting our helplessness, individually and as churches. We aren't very loving and forgiving in the face of opposition! Next, we need to highlight this inadequacy and the importance of this failure in our preaching and teaching. Loving our enemies is the real moral and religious litmus test! We don't have a right to call anyone a "cafeteria Christian" or a compromised follower of Christ unless, first of all, we, ourselves, are persons who are gracious, respectful, loving, and forgiving in the face of anyone who opposes us. Let's start, all of us, from this humble place of honesty: We aren't very much like Jesus in the face of opposition.

Then, perhaps most important of all, we need to seek each other's help, akin to the dynamics of an Alcoholics' Anonymous meeting. Alone we haven't the strength to love those who hate us. We need grace and community, God's power and others' support, to retain the most difficult of all sobrieties, that is, to walk within a steady strength that enables us to remain warm, gracious, forgiving, loving, and joyful in the face of misunderstanding, jealousy, opposition, bitterness, threat, and murder.

Speaking personally, I consider this to be the greatest challenge of my life, morally and humanly. How to love an enemy: How do I not let a jealous glance freeze my heart? How do I not let a bitter word ruin my day? How do I not demonize others when they oppose me? How do I remain sympathetic when I'm misunderstood? How do I remain warm in the face of bitterness? How do I not give in to paranoia when I feel threatened? How do I forgive someone who doesn't want my forgiveness? How do I stop myself from slamming the door of my heart in the face of coldness and rejection? How do I forgive others when my own heart is bitter in self-pity? How do I really love and forgive as Jesus did?

I often wonder how Jesus did it. How did he retain peace of mind, warmth in his heart, graciousness in his speech, joy in his life, resiliency in his efforts, the capacity to be grateful, and a sense of humor in the face of misunderstanding, jealousy, hatred, and death threats?

He did it by recognizing that this was, singularly, the most important challenge of his life and mission, and, under the weight of that imperative, by falling on his knees to ask for the help of the One who can do in us what we can't do for ourselves.

Enjoy your week
Fr Peter

Liturgy and Prayers This Week 24 February to 2 March 2025

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

AROUND OUR PARISHES

BULIMBA

Prayer Requests

Please pray for our departed loved ones, especially Leif Acas Gorres, Lucia Bellucci (in Italy), Basil Christoff, Pat Cook, Jan Hoger, Estrella Siddayao, Rose Buenaventura **recently deceased and also for** 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, Bernie Larkin, Begley and Bourke families.

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.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE—Parent Information Sessions will be held on **Thursday, 27th February at 7PM and Friday, 28th February at 9.30AM in the Parish Hall**. Parents of Year 5 children wishing to enrol in this year's Sacrament of Penance are required to attend one of the sessions.

ARE YOU A CARER? Do you look after someone who lives with disability, has a medical or mental health condition or is frail due to age? You might be young or old, looking after a relative or friend 24 hours a day or just some of the time. If you need support, you are invited to our Carer's meeting held in Sts Peter and Paul's parish hall on Tuesday 25th February from 10am-12pm. Everyone welcome.

FAMILY MASS will be celebrated on **Sunday 2nd March at 8am** (next weekend). You are encouraged to attend with your children and please stay and join us for morning tea afterwards.

LENTEN RESOURCE will be available shortly.

A sense of humour is a gift from God. Laughter unites us. An old lady offers the bus driver some peanuts, which he accepts. Every five minutes she gives him a handful more. The driver asks, 'Why don't you eat them yourself?' The old lady replies, 'I can't chew. Look I have no teeth'. Then why do you buy them?' the bus driver asks. Old lady, 'Oh, I just love the chocolates around them!'



LITTLE STEPS SJ INITIATIVE

THIS WEEK'S ACTION

Listen and respond to the cry of the Earth, the cry of the poor and the cry of our future.

Spread the word.

Our ideas may inspire others to make positive changes.

PARISH BAKE STALL—Mark your calendars! The Parish Bake Stall is coming soon. Get ready to indulge in homemade goodies and support the Sts Peter & Paul's community on the **1st and 2nd March**. Don't miss out on the chance to taste the best treats around. If you would like to join the bake team, please send an email to parishbakehall@gmail.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE committee will meet Sunday at 9am in the parish boardroom. All welcome to join the conversation.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR 2025

PENANCE (Year 5 children)

Parent information sessions

27 February 7pm **OR** 28 February 9:30am

FIRST COMMUNION (Year 4 children)

Parent information sessions

1 May 7pm **OR** 2 May 9:30am

Celebration of First Holy Communion 14-15 June

CONFIRMATION (Year 3 children)

Parent information sessions

24 July 7pm **OR** 25 July 9:30am

Celebration of Confirmation—Thursday 28 August

KANGAROO POINT/EAST BRISBANE . BURANDA

Prayer Requests

We ask you to pray for the recently deceased Marion White, Peter Hunt, Betty Bryne Henderson, Norm Clark, Lynnette Prosser, Joan Lemas, Sr Joan Cusack pbvm **and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time**— Noreen Rawlings

Please remember the sick in your prayers - Brian Prove, Michael Mulligan, Jeanette McMahon, Leo Rawlings, Tony Cotter, Paul Mann

PARISH LUCKY NUMBER (KPEB)

The winner of last week's lucky number was: **FR PETER**

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!!!**

LENTEN GROUP will commence on Tuesday 4 March at 7pm in St Benedict's church as we prepare for Easter. This is a friendly relaxed evening where we come together to engage in discussion and share thoughts on the Gospel. Continues each Tuesday until 8 April. All welcome.

LOOKING AHEAD....

24 February SVDP meet at 6pm at St Joseph's

26 February **MASS CANCELLED** St Benedict's East Brisbane

2 March Children's Liturgy of the Word @ St Joseph's

4 March Scripture group recommences

5 March **ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES**

8am St Benedicts, 9am St Luke's

7 March Anointing Mass @ St Luke's followed by Rosary

PARISH LADIES LUNCH—you are invited to join at the Pineapple Hotel on Thursday 27 February at 11am for a parish ladies lunch. Please RVSP numbers to Catherine. A lovely time to catch up, laugh and share stories with our parish friends—old and new. If you can't make it this time, we'll see you at the next one! All welcome—Catherine Goldsworthy 0438 649 568

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD will be held **Sunday 2nd March** 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.

MORNING TEA will follow Mass on **Sunday 2nd March**. Please bring a plate to share and join in the conversation. If you are available to assist afterwards with clean up it will be much appreciated.

The Sacrament of Penance is being offered for children in Year 5 or older (*who have received the Sacrament of First Communion*).

Parent information sessions will take place at the parish hall of Sts Peter and Paul at 25 Main Ave, Bulimba on Thursday 27 February at 7pm **OR** Friday 28 February at 9.30am.

Parents will need to attend one of the sessions on offer to receive resources and information on the program.

The individual rite of the Sacrament will be offered from Saturday 29 March onwards

Please contact the parish office for further information

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: Jesus helps our faith be fruitful; the amount we measure out is the amount we are given back. How can we generously follow the call of Christ today? (Luke 6:27-38) 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](#).

◆ FIRST Reading: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

◆ SECOND Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

◆ GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,
we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the holy one,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord is kind and merciful.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;
Love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day, he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting, 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

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

GOSPEL

Luke 6:27-38

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'