NEWSLETTER

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

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

13 July 2025 (Year C)

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

Faith in a World of Choices

Some people are multi skilled. I don't mean complex multi-skilling, like simultaneously holding a crying baby on your hip, madly tossing the stir-fry ingredients around the pan and having a deep and meaningful conversation with an 8 year old. I'm told this is called "parenting", and I put that in my 'too hard basket' many years ago. No, I'm thinking of those talents like knitting, playing the piano, riding a horse, navigating obscure (to me) computer programs and making a sponge cake, to name a few. While it is possible to learn these skills, the proponents seem to know how to do these things from the get-go. I've tried them many and given up because I found them hard-going and lacked the necessary stick-at-itness and concentration to master the processes involved. It would seem that we have become attuned to the immediate outcome, that very few of us are prepared to keep practicing and honing the skill required that we give up when the first trace of boredom kicks in.

I'm sure most of us can remember clubs, organisations or groups that we have joined, been part of for a time, then, through boredom or changing circumstances, we drifted away. Our churches are a bit the same. We look at them; large buildings often with seating for several hundred, and we assume that because we don't fill it three times over every Sunday, then something is very wrong. The reasons our churches were so large and easily filled lies partly in geography and the way society was back when these same churches were built. In our grandparent's time and earlier, young people were socialized into the faith. The church was the centre of faith life. Generally speaking babies were baptised, went to a Catholic school, then married someone from a similar community. Today, because we are such a mobile society, the way we live, work, recreate, communicate and worship has changed enormously.

When we look at the empty spaces in the pews we're inclined to believe that it's the fault of the people who we think should be there. Maybe they should. I don't really know. What I do know is that Jesus fed 5000 people and then ended up soon after with just a little band headed by Peter. Where did the others go? In any gathering there will be one or more who no longer "go to church" or they call themselves a lapsed Catholic. The reasons are legion: "I had enough religion at school to last me a lifetime", a remarriage after a divorce, a case of sexual abuse by a familiar and trusted Church figure, a choice to use contraception, Sunday sport and shopping …. the list could go on and on.

In the years after Jesus died it took faith, not to mention courage, determination and a strong will, to join the fringe movement that gathered around the apostles sharing their memories of him. Becoming a follower of Jesus, a Christian, was an adult thing, a deliberate choice that involved struggle and conflict. Twelve hundred years later St Thomas Aquinas said that every choice is a renunciation. That informed choice to follow Jesus through Baptism has eroded through the centuries. We baptise babies and trust that the personal choice will follow later. Often it doesn't, and baptism or christening has just been a cultural rite of passage that has lost its real meaning.

We baptise and hope that faith will follow. What if it was the other way around and Baptism was the sealing of a freely chosen and informed following of Jesus? Are we brave enough to begin to face these kinds of questions as we live out our own faith journey?

Fr Peter

Liturgy and Prayers This Week 14 July to 20 July 2025

	Bulimba	Buranda	East Brisbane	Kangaroo Point
Wednesday	7pm (Mass)		8am (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)

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St Joseph's
26-36 Leopard Street
Kangaroo Point QLD 4169

St Benedict's
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 Cielo Patricia Medrano Lindarte, Elena Whale ***recently deceased and also for*** George Bracken, Paul Troja, 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, Karen Baker, Mike West, Timmons and Lyons families, Patrick and Pat Boyle, Ross Saffioti, Saffioti and Jarrett families.
Please remember the sick in your prayers – Luigia D'Allura, Hazel Langthorne, Pete Waldron, Margaret McLaughlin, Anita Xavier, Lance Tutanoa, Roy Hogan, Catherine Kearney, Madonna Lapez (nee Cullen), Natalina Rossi, Carol Visueshwara, Rita Zoch, Patrick Larkin.

OFFICE CLOSURE—please note the office will be closed next Monday 14 July + Tuesdays 22 and 29 July with Helen on leave. Please phone before visiting to check that we are open!

CATHOLIC FORMATION—MODULE TWO: UNDERSTANDING, PRAYING AND LIVING THE SCRIPTURES - join this ten-week formation course starting Monday 4 August at Holy Spirit Seminary, Banyo. Deepen your faith through Scripture. Brochures at church doors or visit www.catholicformation.au

PLAY MATTERS playgroup resumes for Term Three in the parish hall next Thursday 17 July from 9am. Parents and carers with children under five years of age are welcome to join in the low cost activities on offer and explore toys through play.

A sense of humour is a gift from God. Laughter unites us.
My husband almost fell down the stairs and now we are in a heated debate as to whether my gasp was out of fear for his safety or excitement about a possible life insurance payout!

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.

Vegetable scraps can be buried in the garden
Nourish the soil and reduce landfill methane

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR 2025

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Information sessions for parents of children in Year 3, or those 8 years of age or older who have been Baptised.

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

Parents wishing to enrol their child must attend this meeting to receive information and resources about the program.

Celebration of Confirmation—Thursday 28 August

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD – resumes Sunday 20 July in the parish hall, during the Sunday 8am Mass. You are encouraged to bring your children to hear the Gospel adapted to their level of understanding. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers who help deliver

KANGAROO POINT/EAST BRISBANE • BURANDA

Prayer Requests
We ask you to pray for the recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time— *Caitlin Donohue, Terry Skehan.* ***Please remember the sick in your prayers*** - *Michael Mulligan, Leo Rawlings, Tony Cotter, Paul Mann.*

PARISH LUCKY NUMBER (KPEB)
Last week's winner: **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 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!!!***

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION at the Cathedral of St Stephen is being offered to parish families with Baptised children who are 8 years of age or older.

Parents and children attendance is required at the following sessions *to be held in the Hanly Room (next to the Cathedral) -*

Sunday 17 August at 2pm for information and resources.

Sunday 14 September at 2pm activity followed by rehearsal.

Celebration of Confirmation
Wednesday 17 September at 6.30pm

For further information please contact Gerry at the Cathedral parish office via crooksg@bne.catholic.net.au

VINNIES UPDATE— St Vincent de Paul 2025 Winter appeal will take place across all three churches (St Joseph's, St Benedict's and St Luke's) during **next weekend 19/20 July Masses.** This is the only appeal that seeks your support as members of the parish in the form of cash donations. The other appeal conducted by the Society in the parish is the annual Christmas hamper appeal.

Parishioners can be confident that all cash collected during the winter appeal will be utilised to meet the ongoing demand for assistance that is provided by our local conference members. Unfortunately our conference does not yet have the capacity to receive donations through credit card facility but we recognise this will eventually be necessary in the future. Conference members will be on hand at each church over that weekend to assist with any inquiries from parishioners.

Parishioners who wish to make a donation via direct transfer can use the following bank details:

BSB	**064 786**
Account #	**100026599**
Account Name	**SVDP East Brisbane/Kangaroo Point Conference**

Since the start of the year our members have undertaken 180 visits providing help to 349 people and delivering assistance that totals approx $17 000. This assistance includes emergency food parcels, clothing vouchers to purchase items from local Vinnies stores, whitegoods (including 10 fridges/washing machines) and financial assistance with rental costs, medications and Go Cards etc.

We wish to offer our thanks to those parishioners who contact us with donations of blankets, bed linen, bath towels, and various furniture items.

This year the St Vincent de Paul Society provided just over $1 million in assistance to 2850 families across Queensland who needed help with the challenge of back to School costs. (Six local families in our local area). Each family was supported with financial assistance of about $500, with much of this cash assistance representing donations received from parishioners.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

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: We are called to love with our whole being. How is God calling you to do that? Pray for generosity to serve God's people. (Luke 10:25-37) 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

THE ORDER OF THE MASS READINGS

◆ FIRST Reading: Deuteronomy 30:10-14 ◆ SECOND Reading: Colossians 1:15-20 ◆ GOSPEL: Luke 10:25-37

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

Turn the Lord in your need, and you will live.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life;
You have the words of everlasting life.
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

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

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 30:10-14

Let the instruction of the Lord God be near you.

Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the Lord your God,
keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in
the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God
with all your heart and soul.
'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength
or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to
wonder, "Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us,
so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it beyond the seas, so
that you need to wonder, "Who will cross the seas for us and bring
it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No, the Word is
very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your
observance.'

SECOND READING Colossians 1:15-20

All things were created through him and for him.

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God
and the first-born of all creation,
for in him were created
all things in heaven and on earth:
everything visible and everything invisible,
Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignties, Powers -
all things were created through him and for him.
Before anything was created, he existed,
and he holds all things in unity.
Now the Church is his body,
he is its head.
As he is the Beginning,
he was first to be born from the dead,
so that he should be first in every way;
because God wanted all perfection
to be found in him
and all things to be reconciled through him and for him,
everything in heaven and everything on earth,
when he made peace
by his death on the cross.

GOSPEL Luke 10:25-37

Who is my neighbour?

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus. 'Do this and life is yours.'

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?' 'The one who took pity on him' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go, and do the same yourself.'

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