NEWSLETTER

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

The Ascension of the Lord

17 May 2026 (Year A)

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

A Regulated Life

We would like to think that COVID was a distant memory and that we are back to 'normal' after that highly restricted period. There was certainly no other time in my life when I have been so anxious to follow rules. No other time when I have wanted to hear what government leaders have wanted us to know. No other time when I have followed instructions so carefully and allowed myself to trust people I have never met and maybe didn't vote for. As a nation we are actually putting our faith in our political and scientific leaders, instead of trying to be critical and argumentative as we usually do.

I believe there are a great many similarities between the guidance that Jesus gave his disciples and the rules that we were asked to live by back then, and even the regulations that have a daily impact on how we live as social beings. Their purpose is the same. That we would live safely, happily and healthily. That we would cooperate with each other to ensure that all people are given the same chance to live life in the best way possible. That we would take care of those who need a hand and accept the help of those so ready to assist.

Things which are often seen as restrictions are frequently sensible practices at a time when factors beyond our control are impacting our lives. Jesus was wanting his followers to be able to make the best of their lives when times were difficult, not by restricting them, but by providing them with strategies for living the best lives they could manage. It really depends on if we see restrictions and disciplines as a form of punishment or as a lesson for life, as impeding our happiness or a means to contentment. Don't dismiss them simply because they might be uncomfortable. They may in fact be sign posts to a better managed life.

Fr. Peter

Liturgy and Prayers This Week 18 May to 24 May 2026				
	Bulimba	Buranda	East Brisbane	Kangaroo Point
Wednesday	7pm (Mass)		8am (Mass)	
Friday	8am Adoration, 9am (Mass with school in attendance)	9am (Mass)		
Saturday	9am (Mass) 5.30pm (Mass)		5pm (Mass)	
Sunday	8am (Mass) 5.30pm (Mass)	8am (Mass)		9am (Mass)

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
E: stlukes@bne.catholic.net.au
W: www.stlukesburanda.com

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
W: www.catholicparishebkpt.org.au

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 • KANGAROO POINT/EAST BRISBANE • BURANDA

Prayer Requests—please pray for the departed loved ones and those suffering illness from Bulimba, Kangaroo Point/East Brisbane and Buranda parishes, especially Brian Nolan, Yolanda Yorke, Peter Mahoney ***recently deceased and also for*** Mildred Bakunowicz, Patricia Vieyra, Mary Hooper, Peggy Teache, Harold & Dulcie O'Connell, Robyn Illett, Bill Hanley, Patrick and Clare Dugger, Begley and Bourke families, Mal Thomson, Moira Dugera, Attilio and Ida Michieletto.
Please remember the sick – Kay Bradnock, Luigia D'Allura, Hazel Langthorne, Pete Waldron, Margaret McLaughlin, Anita Xavier, Lance Tutanoa, Roy Hogan, Catherine Kearney, Madonna Lapez, Rita Zoch, Patrick Larkin, Robyn Britnell, John Mann, Anne Bardwell, Michael Mulligan, Leo Rawlings, Tony Cotter, Angelina Lee, Margaret Robba, Baby Noah Joseph.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR 2026

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
(for children Year 3+ who have completed Sacrament of Baptism)

Parents wishing to enrol their child in the Sacrament of Confirmation are invited to attend one of the following information sessions :

Thursday 20 August 7pm *OR* Friday 21 August 9:30am

Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Thursday 29 October across two sessions

Information on the program will be explained at these sessions with resources available to enrol your child

KANGAROO POINT/EAST BRISBANE PARISH LUCKY NUMBER
Last week's winner: **MARION KELLY**

KANGAROO POINT ST VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS—As winter approaches, we are asking parishioners who may have unwanted blankets in their households to consider donating these essential items to our Conference. If you can help, please leave any donations at the pious goods stall at the front of the church you attend. All donations will be gratefully received. Our conference meets at St Joseph's church at 6.00pm every 3 weeks on a Monday. Our next meeting will be held on **Monday 18 May 2026**. Newcomers are always welcome.

RCIA ENQUIRIES—in recent months several people who have a background in other faith traditions, have expressed an interest in knowing more about the Catholic faith. Some of these people are presently attending Mass and have even expressed a desire to become Catholic. If this is of interest to you, then you are invited to an informal gathering at St. Benedicts East Brisbane on Wednesday 20 May at 7pm. to enquire further into what is involved in becoming initiated into the Catholic faith.

LOOKING AHEAD
No 8am Mass at East Brisbane on Wednesday 27 May 2026

A sense of humour is a gift from God. Laughter unites us.
One of my neighbours owns several cats. On a recent visit she introduced them to me. 'That's Astrophe, Erpillar, Aract and Alogue'. 'Where on earth did you get such unusual names?' I asked. 'Oh, those are their last names', she explained, 'their first names are Cat!'

LITTLE STEPS SJ INITIATIVE

THIS WEEK'S ACTION

Living Laudato Si' through everyday actions at home

Begin and end the day with gratitude for creation.

STS PETER AND PAUL'S PARISH BAKE STALL—Saturday 6 June after 5.30pm Mass and Sunday 7 June after 8am Mass. We are seeking volunteers to donate home-made sweet and savoury treats. All proceeds go towards St Vincent de Paul services for Family and Dometic Violence. Contact parishbakestall@gmail.com for more information

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS— As part of our parish's journey of reconciliation, we warmly invite parishioners and members of the wider deanery community to the launch of our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). Journey with our First Nations brothers and sisters as we gather to listen, learn, reflect and build a shared understanding together. During the evening we will listen to first hand reflections from a local Indigenous man, learn about local Aboriginal history from a historian, explore the importance of truth telling and understand how our parish can engage with the Archdiocesan RAP. The evening will feature several guest speakers, with wine and cheese and nibbles provided.
Saturday 30 May, 6:45pm - 8:30pm in the parish hall.

Attendees can make a voluntary donation towards the cost of the evening via cash, EFTPOS or bank transfer as follows -
Archdiocesan Development Fund
BSB 064-786
A/C 100026385

All are welcome as we continue walking together in faith, reconciliation and hope.
The Social Justice meets Sunday 24 May in the parish boardroom after the 8am Mass—all welcome to join the conversation.

SAVE THE DATE: 18 JULY 2026—To celebrate the centenary of St. Peter & Paul's, there will be a special celebratory '**Wedding Mass'** for all couples married at Bulimba. Couples, widows, widowers and surviving partners are welcome to the Mass on Saturday 18 July 2026 at 10.00am. Please RSVP to the Parish Office.

ANNUAL MASS ATTENDANCE COUNT continues this weekend (16/17 May) and next (23/24 May) where demographic information is collected surrounding gender and age. These figures help us to understand how many people are being reached in local communities and across the whole Archdiocese. We appreciate your participation. THANK YOU

SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION—we continue to pray for children and families journeying towards receiving the Sacrament of First Communion and the table of the Lord. May God bless their journey, and may we, as their companions, walk faithfully beside them until we all meet at the table of grace.

THANK YOU—Sincere and grateful thanks to Fr Kevin, Veronica, Rob, Michael, those who helped prepare the lovely morning tea and gifts and all present for my farewell. I was very touched by all the kindness and words of appreciation. You will be remembered always with prayer, gratitude and affection. *Sr Gen*

BRISBANE EAST DEANERY NEWS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER QLD is hosting a mini retreat for couples: **"The Vow"** on Saturday 30 May 2026 at St Oliver Plunkett parish hall, 21 Beauvardia Street, Cannon Hill. 9am-12.30pm followed by a shared lunch. No cost, however please bring something sweet or savoury to share. Presenters: Mel and Maria Noronha with Fr Neville Yun. Take time out of your schedule to stop the hurry and worry. Please RSVP to Vince and Cathy Agius at vicandcathywwme@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP AGES 12-17 — Our Lady of Graces parish, Mayfield Road Carina. Next gathering **Friday 22 May** from 6:15pm. If your children are planning to be part of the OLOG Youth Group, please register via the following link https://carinacatholic.flocknote.com/signup/251332. This once-off form will collect details of the child/ren involved as well as Emergency Contact details if needed. For more details carina@bne.catholic.net.au

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: Through His death, resurrection and ascension, Christ showed us the path to eternal life. Know that the Lord is with you always, through your struggles and triumphs, and that he will hear your prayers. 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.

THE ORDER OF THE MASS

◆ FIRST Reading: Acts 1:1-11 ◆ SECOND Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23 ◆ GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20

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

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy;
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world.
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.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:17-23

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

GOSPEL Matthew 28:16-20

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

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