NEWSLETTER

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

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

20 September 2026 (Year A)

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

HOW TO BECOME A SAINT

If the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church is to be believed, it is really rather difficult to become a saint. So much so that I've given up on even trying. There are several requirements. First, one must be dead, which does tend to dampen the ambitions of many a popular preacher! Second, one must have lived a very virtuous and holy life. Not necessarily from birth, but certainly from the time when a person first began to follow Christ in earnest. Third, one must have produced at least two miracles, that is, unusual phenomena that may not, after careful investigation, be accounted for by reference to the normal processes of what is natural. It is quite permissible, as it happens, to produce a miracle after you are dead.

Of course, sainthood was not always so. In the New Testament a saint is simply a disciple, a person who has heard the gracious call of Christ to follow and chosen to obey that call out of a fundamental faith and trust in God. At one level, then, sainthood should never be understood as something one may earn through a life of exemplary virtue or heroic deeds. Sainthood is a gift of God's love and forgiveness in Christ. It is also true, nevertheless, there are those who really believe and trust in this love of God, living their lives out of its power, and there are those who don't. The thing we need to accept is that the power is God's, not ours.

Underneath all the rules and procedures, under all that debris of centuries, what the canon-law of saints really says is this: that saints are people who shine with faith and trust not in themselves, their own virtues or achievements but in the virtues and achievements of Christ on their behalf.

The saint is not one who gets everything right, who is always successful and admirable. The saint is one who trusts in God, who believes God's promises, even when the chips are down and there seems little foundation for faith. The saint is one who, in a sense, becomes who he or she is because he or she is first able to allow God to be who *God* is, and this in the midst of a body and soul given over to God to do with as he wills. This is a calling not simply for the especially intelligent or gifted or capable. It is a calling for us all, because in the end sainthood is not about self-generated achievement or sanctity. It is about trusting that Christ will complete his work in us, even when our sin looms large. It is about believing that we will get there because *Christ* has promised to get us there.

Fr Peter

Liturgy and Prayers This Week 21 September to 27 September 2026				
	Bulimba	Buranda	East Brisbane	Kangaroo Point
Wednesday				
Friday	8am (Mass + Adoration + Benediction)			
Saturday	9am (Mass) 5.30pm (Mass)		5pm (Mass)	
Sunday	8am (Mass) 5.30pm (Mass)	8am (Mass)		9am (Mass)

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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 Mary Fuller, Mary Grieve, Sr Teresa Lanigan SGS, Elaine Kamp, Stephen Baker, Michael Kotiw ***recently deceased and also for*** Caitlin Donohue, Patricia Vieyra, Mary Hooper, Harold & Dulcie O'Connell, Robyn Illett, Bill Hanley, Patrick and Clare Dugger, Begley and Bourke families, Moira Dugera, Patricia Romero, Ross Saffioti, Margaret Turpin, Sandra Swales, Candelario Iquin, Ted Mazur, Joyce Dickens, Leoncio Rodriguez, Ross Saffioti, Ann Cleary.
Please remember the sick – Kay Bradnock, Hazel Langthorne, Pete Waldron, Margaret McLaughlin, Anita Xavier, Lance Tutanoa, Madonna Lapez, Rita Zoch, Patrick Larkin, Anne Bardwell, Michael Mulligan, Leo Rawlings, Tony Cotter, Angelina Lee, Margaret Robba, Connie Sladen, Kim Koster.

KANGAROO POINT/EAST BRISBANE PARISH LUCKY NUMBER
Last week's winner: **LYN HORNER**

ST LUKE'S PARISHIONERS are encouraged to bring their cans and bottles for recycling towards **Containers for Change**. They can be placed in the receptacle in the church foyer.

WELCOME to Fr Pan Jordan once again, who will celebrate Mass at Bulimba this weekend while Father Kevin is on annual leave.

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 a Carer's meeting to be held in the parish hall of Sts Peter and Paul's, Bulimba on **Tuesday 22 September 2026** from 10am-12pm.

Please note there will be **NO 9am MASS** on **Friday 25 September** at St Luke's. Funeral requiem Mass for parishioner and St Luke's Green resident Mary Fuller will take place at 12pm.

Bulimba **SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE** will meet **Sunday 27 September 2026** after the 8am Sunday Mass in the parish boardroom. Consider joining the conversation. All welcome.

LOOKING AHEAD

25 Sept	Fr Fadi on personal leave until10 October
5 October	Public Holiday—Office closed
18 October	Sts Peter and Paul's, Centenary Mass
21 October	NO 8am Mass at East Brisbane

A sense of humour is a gift from God. Laughter unites us.
A very religious man went on a safari. While there, he saw a huge lion. The man didn't have a gun and there was no way he could outrun the lion, so he did the only thing he could. He got on his knees and prayed 'Dear God, I was always a good Christian. Will you perform a miracle and give this lion some Christian feelings?'. That moment, the clouds parted and a beam came from above and touched the lion's heart. The lion raised his paws to the heavens and loudly prayed, 'Thank you Lord for this meal I'm about to receive'.

LITTLE STEPS SJ INITIATIVE
THIS MONTH'S ACTION
Living Laudato Si' through everyday actions at home
Season of Creation 2026
What ways can we meaningfully accompany young people, as they face the challenges of our climate change?

THE SEASON OF CREATION runs from the World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation - September 1 - to the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi - October 4. It is a time set aside each year to focus on God's gift of creation and our responsibility to care for it, our common home. The theme for the Season of Creation in 2026 is "Living Water"
Pope Leo's message for the World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation 2026 is available at https://www.humandevelopment.va/en/news/2026/messaggio-papa-leone-xiv-giornata-preghiera-creato-2026.html

The Bulimba Social Justice Committee invite you to pause and read the weekly reflection and prayer (*attached to newsletter mail out or at the church doors*).

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 can never be called "generous". All that we possess we have received from God. It is our vocation to return to God all the talents God has entrusted to us. 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 CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN warmly invites couples who are celebrating 50 years of marriage and above to the annual **GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS.** Saturday **26 September 2026** at 11.30am, the Cathedral of St Stephen, 249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

Hey **MARRIED COUPLES!** Are you in your first decade of marriage? If at least one of you are Catholic, we'd love to hear form you. The Children and Families team from Archdiocesan Ministries invites couples in their first 10 years of marriage to contribute their valuable insights to a professional survey being funded by the Australian Catholic Bishops. All answers are anonymous and confidential, and participants can contact the researchers directly with any questions via the survey link at *tinyurl.com/MarriageSurveyPMRC* or by scanning the QR Code

The Adult Formation team of Archdiocesan Ministries invites you to the final **POWERHOUSE OF PRAYER** of the year. In this one day October retreat, Archbishop Emeritus Mark Coleridge, who has previously spoken of prayer as beginning in listening, will turn the Psalms as Scripture's own school of that listening. Saturday 17 October 2026, 9am at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, 267 Wellington Street, Ormiston. Registrations close 9 October; get your tickets at tinyurl.com/POPOctober 2026

THE ORDER OF THE MASS

◆ FIRST Reading: Isaiah 55: 6-9 ◆ SECOND Reading: Philippians 1:20-24,27 ◆ GOSPEL: Matthew 20: 1-16

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 near to all who call him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
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

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55: 6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:20-24, 27

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results - I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.
Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went.

At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too."

In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first."

So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat."

He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

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Printed June 2026