



St. Mary's Catholic Parish Beaudesert

EMBRACING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

St Mary's, **Beaudesert** ~ St John the Baptist ~ **Tamborine Mountain** ~

St Patrick's, **Tamborine** ~ St Margaret Mary's, **Canungra** ~

St John's, **Kerry** ~ The Sacred Heart, **Christmas Creek** ~

St Joseph's, **Rathdowney** ~ St James', **Palen Creek** ~ St Joseph's, **O'Reilly's**



Parish Priest

Fr. Kevin Njoku

E: pp.stmarys@bne.catholic.net.au

Administration Assistants

Kaitlyn Erasmus
Emma Le Breton-Stott

Youth Co-ordinator

Position to be advertised.

Sacramental Prep. Co-ordinator

Patricia Dunn

Finance Council

Chair—Susan Shay
Secretary—Melissa Cahill
ppc.stmarys@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Pastoral Council

Chair—Anthony Marshall
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Care & Concern

Contact the Parish Office
5541 1068

Safe Guarding / Workplace Health & Safety

Kaitlyn Erasmus
safeguardcvadult@yahoo.com

Parish Postal Address

St Mary's Parish Centre
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Parish Office—Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
& Friday: 9:00am - 2:00pm
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St Mary's Primary School

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McAuley College

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Principal: Mr Jason Pacey
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The Presentation of the Lord (1st/2nd February 2025)

Previous to this scene in the gospel, Jesus was circumcised and named according to the Jewish law (Lk 2:21) and, in addition to the adhering to the time of purification, Jesus as the firstborn is being presented to the temple also according to the Jewish law. All this paints a picture of Jesus being steeped deeply in the Hebraic tradition, with his family honouring their traditions and showing devotion to God that was the revealed way at the time of Jesus' birth.

Two other characters are introduced in the gospel scene—Anna and Simeon. They are described as righteous and devout (in the case of Simeon) and a person devoted to Temple worship, fasting and prayer (in the case of Anna). Luke is clearly making a point that devotion to the Law of Moses, the central most important place of revelation of God as it had existed to that point, was integral part of the Christ event. As if to underscore the point, the closing line of the reading states 'When they had done everything the law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee ...' (Lk 2:39). There is something worth reflecting on about the devoted piousness (in the best sense of the word) displayed by the characters.

The first reading speaks of a messenger 'preparing a way' (Mal 3:1). The Christian tradition interprets this as a prophetic image of John the Baptist. It then follows this with the line 'the Lord who you seek will suddenly enter his temple.' The word 'suddenly' is key here. The original Hebrew *pit'om* can be rendered as suddenly meaning abruptly or quickly. As such, it is often understood in relation to the appearance of John the Baptist who, according to Luke, is born six months before Jesus. However, the term *pit'om* equally holds the notion of surprisingly or startlingly, as in an event one does not see coming (e.g. Josh 10:9; 11:7).

When Jesus is brought to the temple in the Gospel narrative, this too is a surprising event in many respects. Jesus would have been one of many hundreds of first born males that would have been brought to the temple in any given year as was customary in the day. The 'surprise' is that the babe presented in this case is Jesus the Christ, the salvation for all people, 'light to enlighten the Pagans' and the 'glory of your people Israel'. Obviously for Simeon who utters these words it is indeed a pleasant surprise. But what was it that allowed him to see what could otherwise be easily missed, an event that one could easily not see coming as the first reading implies? Why was it that Simeon and Anna were able to perceive what Jesus was while others might not? There are two parts to answering these questions. They were devoted to their faith in God, devoted to expressing that faith in worship and diligent in their practice. That devotion to the law of the Lord, a tradition that has its roots at the time of Abraham many thousands of years before Christ, allowed Simeon and Anna to see, in some sense at least, the newness of God's saving revelation in Christ in their contemporary experience.

The second reason is found particularly in reference to Simeon. The Gospel notes that the Holy Spirit rested on Simeon. Not only that, but it was the Holy Spirit which revealed to Simeon that he would see the Messiah of the Lord in his lifetime. The Spirit is mentioned a third time in quick succession as that which leads Simeon to the temple at the time of Jesus' presentation. Previous to the scene in today's gospel reading, Elizabeth, Zechariah and, of course, Mary were able to recognise and play their part in God's unfolding plan by drawing on the Spirit in different ways. Similarly, here Simeon is able to recognise and find joy in the encounter with Jesus because of his openness to the Spirit.

When we struggle to recognise what God is doing in our time, how the ongoing revelation of Christ is to be found in our day and in our midst, perhaps we can look to the characters of today's Gospel reading and attempt to emulate their two-part approach. We need to remain faithful to the way God has revealed God's self in our religious tradition. On the other hand, we need to be filled with the Spirit and open to the ever-new ways that God's saving presence is being manifest. To simply dismiss our Christian heritage is to drift out of touch with the ongoing story of God's revelation. On the other hand, to simply focus on religious practice that has gone before without sensitivity to the dynamic calling of the Spirit is to lose touch with how Christ is revealed in the reality of the here and now. Both extremes risk us missing the blessing of Christ in our midst. We pray we can be emulators of Simeon and Anna – faithful to the best of the old while open to the blessing of the new.

Readings for this week

The Presentation of the Lord (2nd February)

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4
The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.

Responsorial Psalm:
Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18
He had to be made like us in all things.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
This is the light of revelation to the nations,
and the glory of your people, Israel.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40
My eyes have seen your saving power.

Readings for Mass next week

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (9th February)

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8
Here am I! Send me.

Responsorial Psalm:
In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
I preach what they preach, and this is what you believe.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Come follow me, says the Lord,
and I will make you fishers of my people.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11
They left everything and followed him.

Sunday 2nd February— The Presentation of the Lord (feast)

*Wednesday 5th February—St Agatha, virgin, martyr
(memorial)*
*Thursday 6th February—St Paul Miki and companions, martyrs
(memorial)*

Meetings

Finance Council Meeting—Monday 17th Feb, 6:00pm

Events

Morning tea will be served every Sunday after the 9:30am Mass at St Mary's

Morning tea will be served on the first Sunday of each month after the 7:30am Mass at St John the Baptist.

St Patrick's Day Dinner – Friday 14th March, Gallagher Centre

Multicultural Day—Sunday 25th May

Parish Jubilee Celebration—Sunday 27th July

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament—Tamborine Mt

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held before Mass at Tamborine Mountain each Wednesday up to and including the 5th February.

Money Counting

3rd February—Peter 10th February—Colleen
17th February—Trish 24th February—Peter

ILLEGAL DUMPING

Unfortunately illegal dumping of building waste has taken place at the Gleneagle Cemetery. We thank our neighbours there for making us aware. If you see or have seen any dumping on the cemetery grounds please let the Parish Office know as soon as possible.

Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters

Terry Geraghty, Margaret Ford, D Wilde, Baby Jaime, Janet Young, Rosie, Paul Cameron, Margaret Salisbury, Lauraine Ward, Katrina Foster, Moya Mitchell, Michael Gough, Andrew Gough, Michael Johns, Liz Murray, Josie Buffalino, Sebastian Randall, and Julie Fraser

We remember and pray for those who have recently died

and those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Craig Greber (31st January, 2018)

Carmel Shay (1st February, 2010)

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Masses at Country Churches While Fr Kevin is Away

During the year, Fr Kevin commissioned some volunteers to be able to lead "Liturgy of the Word; with Holy Eucharist".

These services will be in the Country Churches on their regular weekends, and at the 7am Monday morning Masses in Beaudesert.

The Wednesday Masses at Tamborine Mountain and Beaudesert will remain the same at 9am and 5:30pm— these will be celebrated by a Marian Valley Priest.

Kerry Pew Restoration

We have 4 long and 1 short pews left for all pews at St John's to be refurbished.

If you'd like to donate towards the refurbishment of a pew, please contact the Parish Office. donors may also have a plaque on the pew for \$20. The long pews will cost \$500 each to restore, and the short \$250 each. **If you donate towards a pew please contact the Parish Office so we can keep track of the donation.** Thank you.

St Mary's Parish's Bi-Annual St Patrick's Day Dinner and Entertainment Evening is on again in 2025!

Save the Date

Not to be missed, this evening is sure to be filled with laughter and good company again!

Mark your calendars for this event on Friday 14th March— more information to come.



Welcome Back to School!

Dear God, as we begin this new school year, we ask for your blessings on our students and teachers. Guide them with wisdom and understanding, grant them curiosity and a love of learning. May the classrooms be filled with kindness, respect, and a spirit of collaboration. Protect them all throughout the day, and help them to reach their full potential. Amen.



Bible Reflection—2nd February 2025

Malachi prophesies in the first reading that the Lord is going to appear suddenly in the Temple of Jerusalem to purify its priests and the people.

The people were negligent in their support of the Temple (3:6-12). Israelite wives were being rejected by husbands who wished to marry foreign women (2:14-16). Social injustice was rampant (3:5), and the people doubted God's love (1:2-5). Hence, Malachi reminds them that the Day of the Lord, a Day of Judgment, reward and retribution is coming. He describes the Divine intervention as a two-stage process. First God's messenger will appear to prepare the way by purifying the clergy and refining the cult (v. 3). This purification will take place until they present offerings to the Lord in a spirit of justice and righteousness. Then, the Lord of Hosts will suddenly appear in the Temple (v. 1), to bring judgment and justice against unfaithful sinners (v. 5). The Psalm announces to Jerusalem that Jerusalem is about to receive a great visitor. The Psalmist identifies him as "The LORD of hosts ... the king of glory." <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2020-01/sunday-reflection-vatican-news3.html> (edited for length)

Private Rental Available

Recently renovated timber home- 3 bedrooms, large fenced yard, ride-on mower provided, quiet and secure, just outside Beaudesert. All inquiries, please call **0418 665 528**

*Almighty and ever-living God,
we humbly pray that, as your Only-begotten Son
was this day presented in the temple,
so we may be presented to you with pure and
clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen*

Saint of the Day (2nd February)

St. Catherine De' Ricci, Dominican Virgin of Prato

Catherine de' Ricci, OP (23/4/1522 – 2/2/1590), was an *Italian Catholic nun in the Third Order of St. Dominic*. She is believed to have had miraculous visions and corporeal encounters with Jesus Christ. She is also said to have spontaneously bled with the wounds of the crucified Christ. She is venerated for her mystic visions and is venerated as a saint by the Catholic Church.

She is reported to have been experienced visions of Mary and the Christ child. She would experience ecstasies during her routine, which caused her to lose sleep and seem dull during community prayer services, and clumsy dropping plates and food, so much so that the community began to question her competence, if not her sanity. Eventually the other sisters became aware of the spiritual basis for her behavior. By the age of 25 Catherine had been elected prioress. As prioress, de' Ricci developed into an effective and greatly admired administrator. She was an advisor on various topics to princes, bishops and cardinals. It is reported that she was extremely effective and efficient in her work, managing her priorities very well.

It is claimed that de' Ricci's meditation on the Passion of Christ was so deep that she spontaneously bled, as if scourged and bore the stigmata. During times of deep prayer, like Catherine of Siena, her patron saint, a ring-shaped stigm, representing her marriage to Christ, appeared on her finger.

It is reported that de' Ricci wore an iron chain around her neck and engaged in extreme fasting and other forms of penance and sacrifice, especially for souls in purgatory.

One of the miracles that was documented for her canonization was her appearance many hundreds of miles away from where she was physically located in a vision to Philip Neri, a resident of Rome, with whom she had maintained a long-term correspondence. Neri, who was otherwise very reluctant to discuss miraculous events, confirmed the event.

De' Ricci lived in the convent until her death in 1590 after a prolonged illness. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catherine_de%27_Ricci#/media/File:Catherine-de-ricci.jpg



Jubilee Papal Bull

Tradition dictates that each Jubilee is proclaimed through the publication of a Papal (or Pontifical) 'Bull of Indiction'. By 'Bull' is meant an official document, generally written in Latin, bearing the seal of the Pope, the shape of which gives its name to the document itself.

In the past the seal was usually made of lead and bore, on the front, the image of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, founders of the Church of Rome, and, on the back, the name of the current Pontiff. Later an ink stamp replaced the metal seal, which, however, continued to be used for more important documents.

Each Bull is identified by its initial words. For example, Saint John Paul II proclaimed the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000 with the Bull "Incararnationis Mysterium" (The Mystery of the Incarnation), while Pope Francis proclaimed the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy (2015-2016) with the Bull "Misericordiae vultus" (The face of mercy).

Excerpt from the 2025 "Papal Bull"

SPES NON CONFUNDIT. "Hope does not disappoint" (Rom 5:5). In the spirit of hope, the Apostle Paul addressed these words of encouragement to the Christian community of Rome. Hope is also the central message of the coming Jubilee that, in accordance with an ancient tradition, the Pope proclaims every twenty-five years. My thoughts turn to all those pilgrims of hope who will travel to Rome in order to experience the Holy Year and to all those others who, though unable to visit the City of the Apostles Peter and Paul, will celebrate it in their local Churches. For everyone, may the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the "door" (cf. Jn 10:7-9) of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all as "our hope" (1 Tim 1:1). Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God's word helps us find reasons for that hope. Taking it as our guide, let us return to the message that the Apostle Paul wished to communicate to the Christians of Rome.

The coming Jubilee will thus be a Holy Year marked by the hope that does not fade, our hope in God. May it help us to recover the confident trust that we require, in the Church and in society, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of all persons and respect for God's gift of creation. May the witness of believers be for our world a leaven of authentic hope, a harbinger of new heavens and a new earth (cf. 2 Pet 3:13), where men and women will dwell in justice and harmony, in joyful expectation of the fulfilment of the Lord's promises. Let us even now be drawn to this hope! Through our witness, may hope spread to all those who anxiously seek it. May the way we live our lives say to them in so many words: "Hope in the Lord! Hold firm, take heart and hope in the Lord!" (Ps 27:14). May the power of hope fill our days, as we await with confidence the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and glory, now and forever.

Full document can be requested from the Parish Office. https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/bulls/documents/20240509_spes-non-confundit_bolla-giubileo2025.pdf



Are you, or someone you know, wanting to know more about the

Catholic Church or join our faith community?

Would you just like to talk about it without having to commit?

RCIA is a group of believers in the parish who meet regularly, and are ready to talk about any questions you may have! To begin a conversation, call the Parish Office 07 5541 1068, or e-mail: stmarys@bne.catholic.net.au

Are you thinking of becoming Catholic?



Mass Times: 3rd February—9th February

Divine Mercy Devotion: Every Sunday 3.00pm - 3.15pm, St. Mary's Church, Beaudesert. All Welcome.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Every Wednesday – Beaudesert 4:30pm

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Beaudesert "Liturgy of the Word; with Holy Eucharist" 7.00am	No Mass	Tamborine Mtn 9.00am Beaudesert 5:30pm	No Mass	No Mass	Kerry "Liturgy of the Word; with Holy Eucharist" 4.30pm Beaudesert 6.30pm	Canungra 9.00am Tamborine Mtn 7.30am Beaudesert 9.30am

Our Mission

'Guided by the Holy Spirit, we aim to be an evangelising, listening and faith-filled parish; underpinned by the values of compassion, inclusivity and love of neighbour.'

Our mission is: **evangelisation** of our parish and wider communities; **liturgy and prayer opportunities** that form, inform and transform our faith; **pastoral support** through initiatives that invite people to share their gifts and talents; and **leadership** that supports life-long faith formation and promotes responsible stewardship of our resources.

Safeguarding Commitment & New STOPline

STOPline

Phone: **1300 304 550**

Email: AOB@stopleveline.com.au

Online Report: www.bnecatholic.stoplevelinereport.com

Information can be provided anonymously.

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