



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**



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (22nd/23rd February 2025)

Parish Priest

Fr. Kevin Njoku

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

Administration Assistants

Kaitlyn Erasmus
Emma Le Breton-Stott

Youth Co-ordinator

Awaiting decision

Sacramental Prep. Co-ordinator

Patricia Dunn

Finance Council

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

Parish Pastoral Council

Chair—Anthony Marshall
pcc.stmarys@bne.catholic.net.au

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
1 Bromelton Street
Beaudesert Qld 4285

Parish Office—Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
& Friday: 9:00am - 2:00pm
07 5541 1068

E: stmarys@bne.catholic.net.au
W: www.stmarysbeaudesert.com

St Mary's Primary School

07 5541 2005
Principal: Mrs Renay Condon
pbeaudesert@bne.catholic.edu.au

McAuley College

Phone: 07 5542 3000
Principal: Mr Jason Pacey
sbeaudesert@bne.catholic.edu.au

Brothers and sisters,

Today's readings reminds us of the essential virtues and elements of our Christian life which include mercy, compassion, love of God and neighbour, self-control, appreciation of values, moral responsibility, awareness of sin, and the sacred sense. These, and other practicals of the Christian life mark our ongoing spirituality and Christian growth.

In my country—Nigeria, we have this famous adage in broken English which says, "do me, I do you, God, no go vex!" Which means in English language, "if I pay you back with the same evil, God would not be angry." Everywhere in the world, various legal systems have predetermined punishments for the offences people commit against each other like, traffic offences, murder, manslaughter, defamation, insults, and others. It seems that nature supports retaliation as a balancing factor in the present age. In the First Reading (1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,12-13, 22-23), we learn about King Saul's relentless hunt for the life of David. David had the death warrant of his enemies in his hands, yet he refused to pronounce it. But, he left it for God to do in His way and at His appropriate time. He kept to God's word: "Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Do not take revenge. Vengeance is mine" (Rom 12: 17-19; Deut. 32:35). Consequently, David made a wise decision not to kill Saul. He returned kindness for wickedness, gave love in exchange for hatred, and overcame evil with good. In the second reading (1 Cor. 15:45-49), St. Paul reminds us how the "First Adam" made a wrong decision of disobedience, bringing death into the world, whereas Jesus, the "Second Adam," made the right choice of fulfilling his Father's saving plan for mankind by accepting acute suffering and a heinous death

In today's Gospel (Luke 6:27-38), Jesus gave a very important sermon on these essential virtues and elements that must guide our lives and actions as Christians. It is a new commandment because it overrules the Old Testament law of reprisal attack or retaliative justice. There is no doubt that humanly speaking, it is a very difficult one. It demands a lot of sacrifice and courage. In God's ways and thoughts, the good should prevail over evil. In the Book of Proverbs (17:13), God says, "if anyone returns evil for good, evil will never leave his house." In his letter to the Romans (12:17-21), St. Paul instructs that we should not repay evil for evil, but we should be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. Hurts and wounds do not heal so fast. In some cases, their scars do not disappear entirely during one's lifetime.

May we learn to leave vengeance for God, and never take every opportunity for revenge against our offenders. Forgiveness heals all wounds and wipes all scars away.

Let us avoid bowing to pressures from circumstances or our colleagues to do evil. This is because two wrongs can never make one right. Payback or revenge may hurt one even more than it will hurt one's offender. Sometimes, we may win the war but not the peace, love, and friendship.

Sometimes in life, you might be hurting over something or someone and planning to retaliate. You might be "right" because you are not at fault. However, take a little time to think through what our Lord is reminding us today:

To your enemies, show love.
To those who curse you, bless.
To anyone who strikes you, do not retaliate.
To anyone who asks, give (if you have).
To anyone who offends you, show mercy and forgive.

God is good! All the time.

Fr Kevin

Readings for this week

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (23rd February)

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.

Responsorial Psalm:
The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49
Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
I give you a new commandment;
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Luke 6:27-38
Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Readings for Mass next week

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (2nd March)

First Reading: Sirach 27:4-7
Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

Responsorial Psalm:
Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58
Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Luke 6:39-45
A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Meetings

Jubilee Committee Meeting—Monday 24th Feb, 6:30pm

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

World Day of Prayer

World Day of prayer, Friday 7th March, 2025, at 10am. Seventh Day Adventist Church, 45 Anna St, Beaudesert. *All welcome.*

Family Mass

Our first Family Mass for the year will be on Sunday the 23rd of February at 5:30pm. Please come along and celebrate with us!

Join our small team of Catechists making a difference

We are fortunate to have many public schools that allow teaching of the Catholic faith in our Parish. There is an opportunity to spread the gospel message to these children!

Join our small team of Catechists as a temporary volunteer in a classroom guided lesson. Your gift of time would be a valuable contribution to the future of the Catholic community.

If interested please contact Rose on 0405 733 442, or the Parish Office on 5441 1068

Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters

Tony Torre, Maria Malcotti, 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, 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

Gerard Patrick O'Reilly (26th February)

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

First Holy Communion

Please pray for the members of our community that are making their first Holy Communion this weekend—Georgia Colley, Abigail Furlong, Joe Ryan, Elijah Lane, Isaac Llamas, Emily Guarino, Claire Deaville, Noah Deaville, and Natalie Mairleitner.



May they always be with Christ, His Sacred Hearts beating with theirs, and His precious Blood running in the veins of their souls.

School Mass— Time Change

From the 28th February, the **Friday morning** "School Masses" will begin at **9:15am** to allow McAuley College students to join us. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend these Masses alongside the future of our Church.

Choir Practice

Choir Practice for Easter Masses begins on **25th February** and continues every Tuesday at 7:00pm in St Mary's Church, until Easter. All welcome!

Lenten Program

Our Lenten program begins on **Tuesday the 11th March** at 2:00pm, in the Parish Office, continuing each week until Easter. All are welcome to 'Start Anew in Christ' to examine their hearts and open themselves to be renewed and empowered by the Holy Spirit who makes all things new.

McAuley College DUX 2024 – Kieren Cahill

Congratulations to the 2024 College DUX, Kieren Cahill who was recognised as part of our 2025 Commencement Mass. Kieren attained an ATAR of 98.95 and received 6 A's across all of her subjects. She was also presented with a Principal's Commendation Award a Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority Commendation Certificate. Keiren is flying to Melbourne this weekend where she has been awarded and accepted, the Narm Scholarship into the University of Melbourne and will be studying a Bachelor of Biomedicine.

Keiren is one of our regular parishioners who meets at Christmas Creek. We would like to congratulate her in a special way on the 27th April, for the Jubilee of teenagers. Well done Kieren, and all the best.



Money Counting

3rd March—Colleen
March—Peter

10th March—Trish
7th April—Peter

Bible Reflection—23rd February 2025

The measure of love and goodness that Jesus requires of his hearers is extraordinary. Jesus sets this standard without ambiguity or compromise. This extraordinary requirement is possible and demanded of us because 'the Most High' has already extended kindness and mercy to us beyond measure.

Despite the fact that King Saul had tried repeatedly to kill David, David did not respond in kind but respected the anointed of God, and this models for us the behaviour described for us in the gospel.

The measure of our ethical behaviour is not only determined by social standards, philosophical systems, or public polls, but by Jesus himself.

<https://www.liturgia.com.au/App/Calendar/2025/2/23>

Stations of the Cross

Beaudesert;

Fridays 6:00pm (beginning 7th March)

Tamborine Mountain;

Wednesdays 8:30am (beginning 12th March)

Pope's blessing on our milestone birthdays and anniversaries

For our milestone birthdays and anniversaries this Jubilee year, we are applying for papal blessings, from Rome. Please submit your name by February the 28th -next Friday-, and the parish will cover this. If you submit your name at a later date, we can still source a blessing for you but it will be covered at your own cost. This is a very exciting opportunity for celebration. Please celebrate with us!

St Patrick's Day dinner bookings

Our Parish St. Patrick's Dinner is now only a few weeks away **FRIDAY 14TH MARCH!!!**

Bookings can now be made via **www.trybooking.com** Just type in 'St. Patrick's Day dinner' and you will be able to book tickets and nominate people to be on your table.

If you need assistance with tickets, please contact Joahn on 0400 241 357 or Lex on 0408 065 423

We thank these sponsors and donors who have been very generous in their support of our Parish and ask you to remember to support these businesses.

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We also thank these generous donors for our Multi Draw Raffle

1st Prize *Barney Creek Vineyard and Cottages (2 night accommodation)*

2nd/3rd Prize *Happy Valley Restaurant*

Our Little Shop, Café, Crystals, Gifts, VK Everyday's Café, Ned's Restaurant, Beaudesert Golf Club, Beaudesert Bakery, Scott Bucholz Office, and Back Roads



21st - 23rd February—Jubilee of Deacons

The deacon is obligated to give priority to the spiritual life and to live his diakonia with generosity. His model par excellence is Jesus Christ, the Servant who lived totally at the service of his Father for the good of every person. It is necessary that each deacon must know Christ intimately to live out his ministry to the fullest, whether he is celibate or married.

In his 2021 address to deacons, Pope Francis expressed a greater focus on cultivating humility and generosity in ministry. Speaking to them, the Holy Father says he expects humble deacons, letting all good be a secret between him and God; he expects deacons to be good spouses, fathers, and grandfathers, inspiring others with their witness of joy in everything without complaining; he expects deacons to be sentinels, to both know the face of the poor and also help the Christian faithful recognize Jesus in them.

The deacon exercises his ministry within the communion and mission of a diocesan Church and in direct relationship with his diocesan bishop, under whose authority he is assigned, as a collaborator in the service of God's people. As collaborators in ministry, serving alongside priests, deacons participate in the one apostolic ministry bestowed by Christ upon the Apostles and their successors.

In Pope Francis' 2021 address to deacons he said, "I know that you are also present in Caritas and in other bodies that are close to the poor. In this way you will never lose your bearings: deacons will not be "half-priests" or second-rate priests, nor will they be "special altar boys", no, that is not the path to follow; they will be caring servants who do their best to ensure that no one is excluded and the love of the Lord touches people's lives in a tangible way. In short, one could summarise diaconal spirituality in a few words, that is, the spirituality of service: willingness on the inside and openness on the outside. Willingness on the inside, from the heart, ready to say yes, docile, without making life revolve around one's own agenda; and open on the outside, looking at everyone, especially those who are left out, those who feel excluded." <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2021/june/documents/20210619-diaconi.html>

Prayer

In this Jubilee Year, may deacons do everything with humility, with joy without complaining, and in radical hospitality to the poor and marginalized. May they allow the love of Jesus to flow from them, as they humbly serve others as missionary disciples.

May they listen with tender care and affection to the needs of others, especially the poor in their communities.

In this way, they will be messengers of hope to the world.

Amen

From Pope Francis

"Deacons remind the Church that what Saint Theresa discovered is true: the Church has a heart enflamed by love. Yes, a humble heart throbbing with service. Deacons remind us of this when, like the deacon Saint Francis, they bring God's closeness to others without imposing themselves, serving with humility and joy. The generosity of a deacon who gives of himself without seeking the front ranks has about him the perfume of the Gospel, he tells of the greatness of God's humility in taking the first step - always, God always takes the first step - to meet even those who have turned their backs on him."

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: 24th February—2nd March

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 7.00am	No Mass	Tamborine Mtn 9.00am Beaudesert 5:30pm	No Mass	Beaudesert 9:15am (School Mass— all welcome)	Christmas Creek 4.30pm Beaudesert 6.30pm	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.*

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