



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

Awaiting decision

Sacramental Prep. Co-ordinator

Patricia Dunn

Finance Council

Chair—Susan Shay

Secretary—Melissa Cahill

pfc.stmarys@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Pastoral Council

Chair—Anthony Marshall

ppc.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

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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

Third Sunday of Lent (22nd/23rd March 2025)

Brothers and sisters,

All three readings on this Third Sunday of Lent speak of God the Father's mercy and compassion, even in disciplining His children, while giving them chances to repent of their sins and renew their lives, despite their repeated unfaithfulness.

The first reading (Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15), tells us how God showed His mercy to His chosen people in Egyptian slavery by giving them Moses as their leader and liberator. The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (v 6) revealed Himself to Moses from the burning bush and assured Moses of His Divine presence with His people and of His awareness of their sufferings in Egypt. God declared His intention to use Moses as the leader who would rescue His enslaved people. Then God revealed His name as Yahweh ("I AM Who I AM") and renewed His promise to the patriarchs (v 8), to give them a "land flowing with milk and honey."

In the second reading (1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12), St. Paul warns us that our merciful God is also a disciplining God. He reminds the Christians of Corinth as he is reminding us today, that they must learn from the sad experience of the unfaithful Israelites in the desert who were punished for their sins by a merciful and just God. The merciful and gracious God is also just and demanding; hence, the Corinthians, and we, must be free from sexual sins and idolatry.

In the Gospel today (Luke 13:1-9), our Lord Jesus Christ tells a parable about the barren fig tree. The owner of the fig tree comes searching for fruits on it over three years but found none, and he threatens to cut it down. However, the gardener begs the owner to give the tree one more year of intensive care and afterwards he can cut it if still bears no fruits. Citing two tragic events, Jesus exhorts the Jews to repent and reform their lives. With the parable of the barren fig tree, Jesus also warns them that the merciful God will not put up with them indefinitely. Although God patiently waits for sinners to repent, giving them grace to do so, He will not wait forever. Time may run out; therefore, timely repentance is necessary. One can say, "A Lent missed is a year lost from the spiritual life."

God expects us to show our repentance and renewal of life, especially during Lent, by producing fruits of love, mercy, forgiveness, and selfless service, instead of remaining like a barren fig tree in Christ's Church.

Sisters and brothers, we never know when we will meet a tragedy of our own sins. Let us turn to Christ, acknowledge our faults and failings, and receive from him mercy, forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. There is no better way to take these words of Jesus to heart than to go to sacramental confession, and there is no better time to go to confession than during Lent. Repentance helps us in life and in death. It helps us to live as forgiven people and helps us to face death without fear.

The Lenten Season invites us to true repentance. The parable in the Gospel today sets out to show that God is giving us time to repent following the intervention of the gardener to allow the fig tree life for one more year.

May we return to God as the Israelites did after four hundred years of their slavery in Egypt. God responded to them through Moses via the theophany of the Burning Bush as we saw in the First Reading (Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15). The Burning Bush shows the ever-present (I AM) burning love of God that is waiting for us this Lenten Season.

Peace be with you.

God is Good, All the Time!

Rev. Fr. Kevin Njoku



Readings for this week

Third Sunday of Lent (23rd March)

First Reading: Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord;

the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:1-9

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Readings for Mass next week

Fourth Sunday of Lent (30th March)

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

Responsorial Psalm:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

Tuesday 25th March, *The Annunciation of the Lord*, Solemnity

Meetings 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.

Multicultural Day—Sunday 25th May

Parish Jubilee Celebration—Sunday 27th July

Join our small team of Catechists making a difference

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 the Parish Office on 5441 1068.

All volunteers must be willing to obtain a blue card and keep Archdiocesan mandated safeguarding training up-to-date

Choir Practice

Choir Practice for Easter Masses is every Tuesday at 7:00pm in St Mary's Church, until Easter. All welcome!



You can support Project Compassion in 2025 by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.



Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters

Margaret Fechner, 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

Patricia Chrobak (28/2/1946—13/3/2025)

Funeral to be held at St Mary's, Wednesday 26th March at 11:00am

Colin Woodhead (10/12/1930—17/3/2025)

Funeral to be held at St Mary's, Saturday 5th April at 11:30am

and those whose anniversaries occur at this time

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



Do you know anyone who is not getting out much, particularly seniors? Would they like to have a chat with a friendly volunteer once a week?

Cuppa PLUS Inc is a not for profit, which is all about trying to reduce social isolation in the community. We are keen to give those who are interested in being part of staying connected a call once a week for a chat.

All information will be kept confidential. If this is of interest, please email at cuppaplus@gmail.com or call **0494 383 643**.



Holy Baptism

We welcome to our Parish, Florence Gnech and Oscar McFarlane who will be Baptised into the Catholic Faith on Sunday.

Reconciliation and 24 hours for the Lord

Next Friday (28th March) the First Rite of Reconciliation will be held at St Mary's from 4:00pm, prior to the 24 hours for the Lord (24 hours of Eucharistic Adoration), commencing with Mass at 6:00pm. Please join us for these special events.

Easter Liturgy Volunteers Roster

The roster for the Easter Triduum will be at the back of St Mary's Church for anyone to volunteer. Please write your name and contact number on the ministry you wish to help with this year. *Thank you in advance.*

Stations of the Cross

Beauesert—Fridays 6:00pm

Tamborine Mountain—Wednesdays 8:30am

Calling all Local Businesses!

Would you like to advertise your business to all corners of the Scenic Rim at a very competitive rate?

From the 1st April, we will have 2 spaces for advertising open in our Parish Newsletter. Your sponsorship helps our Parish with printing costs, while also giving your business access to our very large demographic, from the young to the young at heart. Our Newsletters are printed weekly, and distributed to each church service and online. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Money Counting

24th March—Colleen
7th April—Peter

31st March—Trish
14th April—Colleen

Bible Reflection—23rd March 2025

(Third Sunday of Lent)

To repent means to change.

Tragedy survived (for example, a near-fatal auto accident, a heart attack) is often experienced as a wake-up call. Repentance calls us to the same reappraisal of what is truly important.

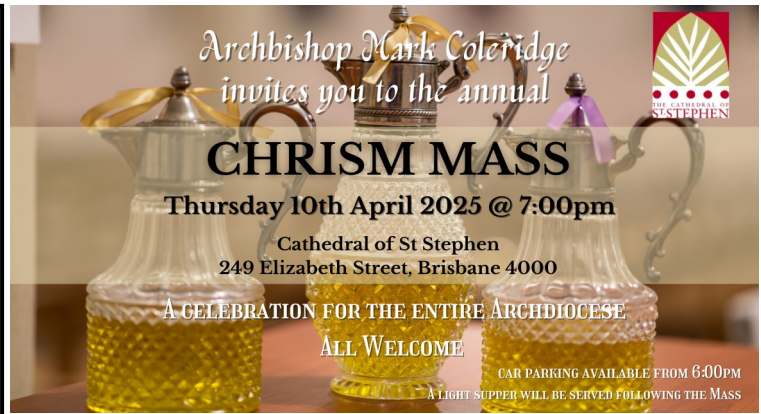
<https://www.liturgia.com.au/App/Calendar/2025/3/23>

Steps to repentance

1. Recognise the sin—Be honest with yourself and God
2. Feel genuine sorrow
3. Confess your sins and talk to God honestly
4. Turn away from sin and seek holiness
5. Receive forgiveness, accept God's grace and move forward

https://www.instagram.com/revival_army/p/DFallN4qNvgj/?img_index=1

God calls us to continued conversion of heart—making a mistake isn't the end.



Lenten Program—Start Anew in Christ

Our Lenten program is on **Tuesdays** at 2:00pm, in the Parish Office, continuing each week until Easter. Please join us.

Parish Safeguarding surveys

The protection and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is at the core of Church mission, and setting the right approach to safeguarding is important. Please help us keep everyone safe by completing one of the below surveys.

The Archdiocese encourages feedback from parish communities about key elements of the approach to safeguarding. To gather this information, we have created three Safeguarding Surveys (child, youth, and adult).

Each of the surveys have 10 questions or less and should take no more than a couple of minutes to complete.

The surveys can be accessed via the QR codes which will also be available on the noticeboard at St Mary's

Please note: Anyone under the age of 18 must have parental consent to complete the survey. Therefore, we recommend that parents complete the surveys with their children.

The surveys will remain open for the next few weeks. Thank you for helping us with this important mission.

Parish Safeguarding Survey 2025



Child Safeguarding Survey 2025



Youth Safeguarding Survey 2025



Jubilee Year within our Parish



The Jubilee Committee has proposed we arrange a 24-hour Eucharistic Adoration for the Day of the Lord Jubilee Celebration. This will commence on **FRIDAY evening (28th March)** with a Mass at 6:00pm and conclude on the Saturday evening before 6:30pm Mass.

There will be a roster at the back of St Mary's Church, or you are welcome to contact the office to show interest. You can nominate for multiple slots or share slots with others. *Thank you.*

Jubilee Masses at Country Churches

***representatives, please keep an eye for more information*;**

Rathdowney- 18th May
Tamborine Mtn- 29th June
Canungra- 12th October

Christmas Creek- 1st June
Palen Creek- 20th July
Kerry- 14th December

Upcoming Parish Jubilee Events

Below are some Jubilee events that the committee have decided to focus on in our Parish.

We welcome any input from you—if you wish to see anything in particular be celebrated, please contact Sam Hamer (committee chairperson) 0409 592 010 or the office.

***these are subject to change*.** Please keep an eye out in the newsletter for further information on these events.

- **28-29th March;** 24hrs for the Lord — Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (volunteers needed)
- **27th April;** Jubilee of Teenagers/Canonisation of Carlos Acutis — Youth Group Event

*Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.*

*May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the
Gospel.*

*May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.*

*May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.*

*May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.*

*To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen*

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 March—30th 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 & 6.00pm (beginning 24 hours for the Lord)	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.

Safeguarding Commitment & New STOPLINE

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