

# 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

26<sup>th</sup> / 27<sup>th</sup> August 2023

## Parish Priest:

Fr David Pascoe  
0414 675 356  
[pascoed@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:pascoed@bne.catholic.net.au)

## Associate Pastor:

Fr Anthony Odionyenfe  
0401 914 559  
[odionyenfe@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:odionyenfe@bne.catholic.net.au)

## Parish Secretary:

Sharron Macrae  
[admin.livingwaters@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:admin.livingwaters@bne.catholic.net.au)

## Finance Officer:

Kath Rawlinson  
[finance.livingwaters@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:finance.livingwaters@bne.catholic.net.au)

## Parish Office Information

30 Beerburrum Road,  
Caboolture, 4510

**Phone: 5430 9377**

## Postal Address

P.O. Box 483,  
Caboolture, 4510

## Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
8.30am - 4.00pm

## Parish Website

[Living Waters Parish](#)

## Parish Facebook Page

@ [livingwatersparish](#)

## Safeguarding Commitment

The Archdiocese of Brisbane has **zero tolerance** for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount. Stopline: Phone: 1300 304 550  
Safeguarding Coordinator  
Sharron Macrae  
[admin.livingwaters@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:admin.livingwaters@bne.catholic.net.au)

## Social Justice Sunday

**Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples** (*Australian Catholic Bishop's Social Justice Statement 2023-2024*)

Last Saturday a group of parishioners gathered at Mt Archer Retreat Centre. After taking substantial time to pray with and reflect upon the Easter to Pentecost Resource, "Voice Crying in the Wilderness," their intention is to develop over time a Parish Reconciliation Plan. This is in tune with the Archdiocesan Reconciliation Plan promulgated in 2019, the endorsement of the Uluru Statement from the Heart by both the Archdiocese and the Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference, & No 5 of Archbishop Mark's Apostolic Priorities for the Archdiocese, "Engaging Anew with First Nations Peoples." This year's Catholic Bishop's Statement reinforces the group's intention to engage with this essential priority for us as a Church.

As the Catholic Bishop's Statement says, in part: Christ identifies himself with those who are poor and marginalised. We find him in their midst. In the love and honour we offer to them, we offer love and honour to Christ himself, who loves us beyond all imagination. This love we are invited to practise is not simply at the level of one person to another. It has a social and political nature, too. It is our mission as followers of Christ to infuse the structures of society, including its political structures, with a love that seeks to be attentive to those on the peripheries like Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, to learn from the wisdom that flows from their rich experience as well as from their culture and spirituality, and to accompany them on a journey to seek liberation from all that oppresses them and us. ... It is an essential part of our Christian mission to infuse society with the love which Christ offers. This is a love which does not patronise or pity Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. It is a love which seeks them out where they are, listens to them and learns from their great wisdom and which walks with them to a place where we are together freed from every injustice and oppression. In the current moment, this is an invaluable example that the Church can offer to all Australians as the way to reconciliation and peace in our land. (Listen, Learn, Love p.17).

**In this week's newsletter** are some of the brief reflections from members of the Parish RAP Steering Committee after last Saturday's gathering. I commend them to your reflection, along with the Catholic Bishop's Social Justice Statement and invite you to join with those continuing to gather to create our Parish Reconciliation Action Plan.

*Peaceful blessings, Fr David*

## Reflections From Members of the Parish Reconciliation Action Plan Steering Committee

**Three** words strike me from our National Anthem – “**We Are One**”. I feel the Holy Spirit is asking me to strive to make this happen. *Andrew Vlieg*

**Together** we walk this land for Reconciliation in peace and harmony. Reconciliation starts with us, it's not hard to show compassion and good will to each other. *Uncle Ivan Pickering*

**Reconciliation** is about deep listening to each other, reflection, being open to change in an atmosphere of respect. *Br. Ray Weston*

**To** seek and to share a Holy Spirit inspired way through the bewildering maze of perspectives to a just reconciliation with First Nations peoples. *Colleen Mason*

I appreciate the opportunity to engage with first nations cultures, histories and perspectives to enhance my cultural awareness and understanding. *Lisa Freeth*

**What** I gained from our retreat day - we must listen to our indigenous people, as they proclaim their needs, rather than returning to past paternalistic ways. *Cheryl Vlieg*

I was heartened by the strength of support for recognition of the need to listen to and take to heart the words of the Uluru Statement from the Heart. We also recognise that we have much to learn from the original custodians who lived in harmony with the environment and sustainably managed it for 60,000 years. We also recognise that that we need to acknowledge our past and move forward in love and harmony towards a better future. *Brian O'Neill*

I was gobsmacked last Saturday and Sunday at Parish gatherings! On Saturday I was overwhelmed by the collective passion among 12 of us in Buruja about how our Parish can contribute to cultural reconciliation between us and our indigenous sisters and brothers. Listening to and learning from Uncle Ivan opened my eyes. On Sunday the Gospel told us about Jesus and the Canaanite lady. The change of Jesus' attitude to the lady confirmed to me about how God's love for all of us is not rigid. As Christians we are called to imitate Christ so we too can change our attitudes. Our Archdiocese is not telling us what or how to think – just asking us to listen, learn and love and to embrace the dreams and hopes of our indigenous sisters and brothers in Christ. *Peter Lopez*

**Being** in a group of 'like-minded' people who recognise the need to close the gap and walk hand in hand with all our brothers and sisters in Christ was indeed an enriching experience, the presence of the Holy Spirit guiding us throughout the day was so very tangible. Thank you also to the Christian Brothers for sharing their beautiful piece of Country with us. *Sharron Macrae*

I learnt a lot about myself from the retreat session, particularly about listening to the Indigenous ways of resolving issues. I had a lot of my suggestions that I wanted to progress, but I needed to listen to others first, as there are better ways that we can all progress. *Phil McKone*

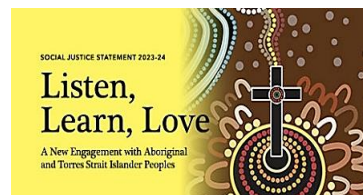
**Thanks** to the Spirit for gracing us with Gospel joy and for guiding us into the landscape of reconciliation – with God, our neighbours and ourselves. *Br. Richard Walsh*

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### **Social Justice Sunday - 27<sup>th</sup> August**

This year's Social Justice Statement, *Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples* invites Catholics to understand that Catholic social teaching and Catholic social action are not simply theoretical and academic exercises. Bishop Vincent Long (*Chair of the*

*Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service*) says “We hear what God is saying to us about justice by being with our sisters and brothers on the peripheries of society.” Bishop Long goes on to say “Listening is hard. Hearing about young people taking their lives, about so many people ending up in jail, of children still being taken away from their parents and grandparents and about the ongoing racism is tough. Our attitudes and actions towards First Nations Peoples need to be grounded in justice, love and humility, we need to listen with deep respect and learn from them about what needs to be done to improve their situations. We need to walk with them, day by day, and work with them to bring about change for the better – for their people and for all of us. Strengthening our relationship with our First Peoples is integral and indeed critical to the strengthening of the whole nation. Access the statement at: <https://bit.ly/SJS2023-24>





From the Desk of Miss Catherine Meiklejohn (APRE)

**Reconciliation Action Plan Launch**

Last Friday we launched our school Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). We are proud to say that our RAP is our commitment to all First Nations people – past, present, and emerging. Here at St Peter's Catholic Primary School, we are walking together in a movement of the Australian people for a better future. Some of the commitments within our RAP include:

- Providing opportunities for our First Nations children,
- Building relationships with the local community and local Elders,
- Building the culture competence and responsiveness of all staff,
- Celebrating days of national significance.

**We concluded our liturgy with the following prayer:**

**God of the Dreaming, God of our Being; We give thanks for this community of courageous hearts, ready to serve You as: People of Hope, People of Light, People of Justice, People of Reconciliation. In the spirit of Makarrata, help us to be brave as we work together to lasting make change of Reconciliation. Amen.**

Go gently Catherine.

From the Desk of Mrs Angela Woodriff (APRE)

Every week, before school, two of our year 10 students, Eric and Zac, organise a program known as Life Essentials, which is open to all students. This student-driven initiative is inspired by the Youth Alpha program and aims to create a safe environment where young people can come together and engage in meaningful conversations about faith. During this past week, more than 30 students participated, bringing their questions, enthusiasm, and a genuine sense of curiosity. A big congratulations to Eric and Zac for their dedicated efforts in leading this initiative at our College! We look forward to accompanying you on your upcoming journey, commencing next week at the Commission Ceremony at Stephens Cathedral, where you will officially become Youth Mission Ambassadors for Catholic Mission Month in October. Many Blessings Ange.

For those parishioners who attend the Friday Mass this Friday - 1<sup>ST</sup> September – Mass will be celebrated at St Peter's, due to the College having a pupil free day.

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Little Flower Chit Chat Group will meet this Monday at the Bribie RSL starting at 12 noon. Come along, enjoy lunch, catch up with friends (or make new ones) it's always a great time. Company and chat are free, but you will need to get your own lunch.

**Please Remember in Your Prayers**

**Our Recently Deceased** Sarina Illott, Wayne Hogan, Leo Berge, Terry Farrelly, Chris Hockey, Dorothy O'Neill, Bob McKinnon & Brian Nolan who have recently gone to their eternal reward.

**Those Whose Anniversaries Occur at This Time**

Joyce Jane, Tom Kane, Rob Kane, Magdaline Corry, Halina Powell, Brian O'Hara, Arthur Tanner, Antonio Cavallaro, Margaret Pritchard, Kevin Nel, Evelyn Foley, Mary-Lou Ciantar, Trevor Bryant, Kim Green, Robert Swarbrick, Olive Chandler, Christina Cannon, Aimable Dhollande, Cecelia Kenny, Elm Jorgenson, Steven Gillan, Geoffrey Colless, Spiro Cremona, Mary Kean, Rita Houghton, Betty Johnstone, James Toohey, June Davis, Keith Westerman, Brian McNamara, Myrtle Dows, Ken Thomas, Vera Hughes, Bob Smith, Keith Welsh & Fr Brian Taylor.

**Our Parishioners, Family & Friends who are Sick.**

Arthur Hangan, Pat Hegarty, Ron Jones, Lorna Raffaut, Brian Wyvill, John Murray, John Hempseed, Gregory Kelly, Leo Berge, Shirley Armstrong, June Bell, Mark Poole, Les Jacobs, Hunter Clist, Gerard Brown, Charlie Donaldson, Tegan Myerscough, Ken McKewin, Laurie Barron, Mike & Kaye Brown, Susanne Weir, Jessica Timson, Gerry van Dinter, Helen Teys, Margaret Evans, Michael Cooper, Patricia Twinchek, Ted Hawkins, Ray Davis, Kathryn Mobley.

**SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK**

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

First Reading: Isaiah 22:19-23

Psalm Resp: *Lord, Your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of Your hands.*

Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

**Weekday Readings**

**Mon** *St Augustine* 1 Thess 1:1-5,8-10; Ps 149:1-6,9; Matt 23:13-22

**Tues** *The Passion of St John the Baptist* Jer 1:17-19; Ps 70:1-6,15,17; Matt 6:17-29

**Wed** 1 Thess 2:9-13; Ps 138:7-12; Matt 23:27-32

**Thur** 1 Thess 3:7-13; Ps 89:3-4,12-14,17; Matt 24:42-51

**Fri** 1 Thess 4:1-8; Ps 96:1-2,5-6,10-12; Matt 25:1-13

**Sat** 1 Thess 4:9-11; Ps 97:7-9; Matt 25:14-30

**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

First Reading: Jer 20:7-9

Psalm Resp: *My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.*

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27



**Parish Collections: Parish Giving 19/20 August \$4835.20**

*Thank you for your constant support of our Parish  
both financially and prayerfully.*

Please note for those Parishioners who support the Parish via the envelope system your new ones are at the back of the Church.

Thank you for your generosity.

**Annual Catholic Campaign**

This weekend you will find envelopes on the seats or at the front of our churches. Please take one home with you as you leave, as we will take up this collection next week. Thank you for the support of the wider church and all those who depend on our generosity.

***"The true measure of any society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members." - Mahatma Gandhi***