

## PARISH OFFICE

4 Klumpp Road  
Upper Mt Gravatt 4122  
PO Box 10, Mt Gravatt 4122  
Ph: 3849 7158  
E: umg@bne.catholic.net.au  
www.umgcatholic.org.au

### Parish Priest

Fr Rony Kalapurackal Chacko  
E: chackor@bne.catholic.net.au

### Associate Pastor

Fr Francis Fernandes

### Pastoral Associate

Pauline Thomas  
E: pa.umb@bne.catholic.net.au

### Parish Manager & Local

#### Safeguarding Rep.

Debbie James  
E: umg@bne.catholic.net.au

### Administrative Assistants

Rani Ponomarenko/Lorraine Neagle  
E: sec.umb@bne.catholic.net.au

### Emergencies & after hours:

Ph: 3849 7158

### St Vincent de Paul

Welfare: 1800 846 643

## MASS TIMES

<b>Monday</b>	9.15am St Catherine's
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.15am St Bernard's
<b>Wednesday</b>	7.00am St Catherine's
<b>Thursday</b>	7.00am St Bernard's
<b>Friday</b>	8.00am St Bernard's 9.30am St Martin's
<b>Saturday</b>	5.00pm St Bernard's 6.15pm St Catherine's
<b>Sunday</b>	6.30am St Bernard's 7.30am St Martin's 8.30am St Catherine's 9.30am St Bernard's 5.00pm St Bernard's

## RECONCILIATION

**St Bernard's:** Saturdays 4.00pm  
**St Catherine's:** By appointment

## BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS

by arrangement with the  
Parish Office.

## Parish Office Hours

8.30am - 4.30pm Mon-Fri

## PARISH OFFICE WILL CLOSE MIDDAY, WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER AND REOPEN MONDAY 19 JANUARY 2026.

After hours emergencies please call  
3849 7158, leave a short message  
with your name & phone number. Your  
call will be returned as soon as  
possible.

## Upper Mt Gravatt Wishart Catholic Parish



St Bernard's, Upper Mt Gravatt  
St Martin's, Eight Mile Plains  
St Catherine's, Wishart

*Guided by the Holy Spirit, we aim to be an evangelising, faith-filled parish  
whose members care for one another and are welcoming and inclusive.*

*The Upper Mt Gravatt Wishart Catholic Parish acknowledges the Jagera and Turrbal  
people, the traditional custodians on whose lands we live, work and worship.*

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

20 / 21 December 2025

READINGS: Isaiah 7:10-14   Romans 1:1-7

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-24

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE



Priest: Lord, our God,  
we praise you for your Beloved Son,  
Jesus Christ;  
His came to show your love for all peoples.

All: **Prepare the way of the Lord.  
We light this candle in love.  
The love found in our coming  
saviour, Jesus.  
Let us prepare then,  
the way of the Lord.**

Dear friends,

Today's Gospel from Matthew invites us to contemplate the quiet strength and obedient heart of St Joseph. In St Joseph, we witness a man who listens deeply, trusts completely, and responds generously to God's call. His obedience is not passive; it is loving, courageous, and responsive, shaped by a heart attuned to God's voice.

Matthew tells us that Joseph faced a moment of deep confusion. Mary, his betrothed, was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph could not fully understand this mystery, yet he chose the path of compassion, seeking to protect Mary from shame. It is in this moment of uncertainty that God speaks to him through an angel: *"Do not be afraid."* These words change everything. Joseph rises from fear into faith, from hesitation into obedient action.

His response is immediate. He takes Mary into his home, embraces the mystery of the Virgin Birth, and accepts his role in God's saving plan. Joseph becomes the earthly guardian of Jesus, not through power or prestige, but through humble obedience. His "yes" allows God's promise to unfold.

St Joseph teaches us that obedience is not blind submission; it is trusting God even when the path is unclear. It is listening with the heart, surrendering our fears, and allowing God to lead us beyond our own understanding. Like Joseph, we are invited to welcome Christ into our lives, our families, and our decisions.

As we reflect on this Gospel, may we learn from Joseph's quiet strength. May we cultivate a heart that listens, a faith that trusts, and a willingness to say "yes" to God's surprising invitations.

I warmly welcome each of you and your families to our Christmas celebration. As we stand just days away from Christmas, I am reminded how much I miss celebrating with my own family. Yet coming together as a parish family is a moment of grace and a beautiful sign of God's love among us. Please check the newsletter for our Christmas Mass times.

*Fr Rony*

# Christmas Masses

## St Bernard's Wednesday 24 December

4.00 pm Vigil Mass  
6.00 pm Vigil Mass  
12.00 am Mass of the Night

## Thursday 25 December 9.30 am Mass of the Day

## St Catherine's Wednesday 24 December

5.00 pm Vigil Mass  
7.00 pm Vigil Mass

## Thursday 25 December 8.30 am Mass of the Day

## St Martin's Wednesday 24 December

9.00 pm Mass of the Night

## Thursday 25 December 7.30 am Mass of the Day

### WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Especially Dominic Dinh Vuong Thach, Hazel Roots (sister of Brian Horsey), Robyn Fitzgerald, Brian Kennedy, Danny Rynne, Judith Burns, Lyn Roehrig who died recently. Also Mavis Horsey, Phenella Wilson, Elaine Anderson, Ted Paulsen, Fr Aspinall, Peter Quinn, Tom Begg, Darrel Petersen, Wai Yee Wong, Mark Anthony, Ted Cavanagh, Jan & Joe de Lange, Nudge Noonan, whom we remember.

### UP COMING EVENTS IN THE PARISH

#### SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER

##### PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROLS - ST BERNARD'S CHURCH

6.00pm, Sausage Sizzle  
(Social Justice fundraiser)  
6.30pm, Carols.

#### MONDAY & TUESDAY DECEMBER 22 - 23

##### St Bernard's Church

##### ADORATION & RECONCILIATION

5.30pm - 6.30 pm

##### VESPERS & BENEDICTION

6.30pm

### CHRISTMAS EVE MASS - CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children aged between 8 and 16 are invited to be part of the children's choir for the

**5.00pm Christmas Eve Mass  
at St Catherine's Church, Wishart.**

**Please Note:** Practice will be on  
Tuesday 23 December from 9.00am - 10.30am  
at St Catherine's Church.

If your child is interested  
please contact the Parish Office at  
[umg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:umg@bne.catholic.net.au) or  
phone 3849 7158.



### BAPTISMS

We congratulate

**Hudson Sanders**, son of James & Freya,  
**Johnathon Ringshaw**, son of Jeromey & Rachel,  
**Lily Skaarup**, daughter of Ryan & Courtney.  
They will be baptised in the Parish this weekend.

### JESSE TREE SYMBOLS

During Advent we add two symbols each week to the Jesse Tree, reminding us of the faithfulness of God and of the men and women God used to prepare the world for the coming of Jesus.

 Jonah's **Big Fish** reminds us of the lengths to which God will go. Moses' burning bush, Balaam's donkey (Numbers 22), angels, dreams - when God has a message, God finds a way even when we think we can outrun or hide from it.

The **Flower** reminds us of the promise that the root of Jesse would see new life, new branches bearing fruit (Isaiah 11:1). Ultimately, this shoot would be fulfilled in Jesus. Flowers are also often used as reminders that even in harsh or difficult places, like deserts, God is still at work.



### SVDP CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Members of the St Bernard's and St Catherine's SVDP Conferences wish to express their thanks to parishioners for your generous support for the SVDP Christmas Appeal. Many needy families and individuals in our local area are currently having a touch of brightness added to their Christmas due to your generosity.

Envelopes are still available in all churches. Please place in the collection baskets at Mass or at the Piety Store. Alternatively parishioners can donate online directly to either Conference:

**SVDP St Bernard's**  
• BSB 064786  
• Acct 100026560

**SVDP St Catherine's**  
• BSB 064786  
• Acct 100026611

### SVDP PIETY STORE

The following items are available at the St Bernard's/St Martin's Piety Store

- \* **Christmas Cards** (pkt 8 for \$5);
- \* **2026 Sisters of St Joseph Calendars** (\$10);
- \* **2026 Columban Calendars** (\$10)

## ENTRANCE: *O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL*

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O Come Thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orde'rest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
and teach us in her ways to go. **R.**

O Come, Desire of nations,  
bind in one the hearts of all humankind;  
bid thou our sad divisions cease,  
and be Thyself our Prince of Peace. **R.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PSALM 23

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Accl. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

A virgin will give birth, birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel; God is with us. **Accl.**

## APOSTLE'S 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

## EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATION

Save us Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and  
Resurrection you have set us free.

## COMMUNION: *BREAD OF LIFE*

*Bread of life, hope of the world,  
Jesus Christ, our brother:  
feed us now, give us life,  
lead us to one another.*

Be with your people, Lord, send us your saving  
Word: Jesus Christ light of gladness, come among  
us now. **R.**

Bring to our world of fear the truth we long to hear:  
Jesus Christ, hope of ages, come to save us now. **R.**

We eat this living bread, we drink this saving cup:  
sign of hope in our broken world, source of lasting  
love. **R.**

Hold us in unity, in love for all to see: that the world  
may believe in you, God of all who live. **R.**

## SONG OF PRAISE: *COME TO US, O EMMANUEL*

*Come to us, O Emmanuel.*

God's own sign of hope and promise:

*Come to us, O Emmanuel.*

Holy Child to save all people:

*Come to us, O Emmanuel.*

Blessed One, Emmanuel. **R.**

## RECESSINAL: *JOYFUL IN HOPE*

Joyful in hope, your people pray.

Joyful in hope, we're on our way.

Though the road may not be clear,  
we believe, Lord, you are near,  
in the smile and open heart of a friend.

Joyful in hope, your people pray.

Joyful in hope, we're on our way.

There's sunshine after rain;  
there's laughter after pain;  
and I am with you always, so rise again.

Mary, so open to the Lord,  
when you answered, "Yes", our hope was restored.  
Though you couldn't understand,  
in trust you took his hand.  
So, joyful in hope, we live again.

## PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR CLOSURE DATES

The Parish Office will **CLOSE** at 12 noon on  
**Wednesday 24 December** and will  
re-open at 8.30am on Monday 19 January 2026.

For **EMERGENCIES ONLY**  
please call 3849 7158 and **leave your name,  
number and a short message** on the answering  
machine.

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## MASS CENTRES

**St Bernard's**  
4 Klumpp Rd  
Upper Mt Gravatt



**St Catherine's**  
388 Newnham Rd  
Wishart



**St Martin's**  
Cnr Logan & Chester Rds  
Eight Mile Plains



**Facebook:**  
Like us: <http://www.facebook.com/umgwp parish>

## SCHOOLS

**St Bernard's School**  
Principal: Daniel Hodge  
1823 Logan Rd,  
Upper Mt Gravatt  
Phone: 3849 4800

**St Catherine's School**  
Principal: Paul Mitchell  
388 Newnham Rd, Wishart  
Phone: 3349 7188

**Clairvaux MacKillop College**  
Principal: Wayne Chapman  
24 Klumpp Rd,  
Upper Mt Gravatt  
Phone: 3347 9200

## NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

Our Newsletter is available via email. Please contact the Parish Office if you or someone you know requires access to the newsletter.

## ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

We warmly welcome you and your family. If you have recently moved into this area we invite you to join our Parish.

Please contact the Parish Office on 3849 7158 or [umg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:umg@bne.catholic.net.au)

## LENTEN RESOURCES

With an early start to Lent next year (Feb 18) we need to place our orders for Lenten books early. As Archbishop Emeritus Mark Coleridge is writing the reflections, we have decided to purchase these for our Parish. We believe the books will be \$5 each. Please contact the Parish Office or email [pa.umg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:pa.umg@bne.catholic.net.au) if you intend to buy a book when they become available. Please do not include money now.

Dear Parishioners you are warmly invited to join

# Parish Christmas Carols 2025

**On 21 December Sunday 6.30 pm  
at St Bernard's Church**

**On this occasion, we will thank Fr Francis and wish him well as he becomes Parish Priest at Daisy Hill.**

**A sausage sizzle will begin at 6:00 PM, organized by our Social Justice Group as part of their fundraising efforts.**



**The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year A  
27 / 28 December 2025**

## READINGS

**Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14  
Colossians 3:12-21**

## GOSPEL

**Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.**

*Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.  
Concerning Christian life in the world.*