

## PARISH OFFICE

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[www.umgwatholic.org.au](http://www.umgwatholic.org.au)

### Parish Priest

Fr Rony Kalapurackal Chacko  
E: [chackor@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:chackor@bne.catholic.net.au)

### Pastoral Associate

Pauline Thomas  
E: [pa.umg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:pa.umg@bne.catholic.net.au)

### Parish Manager & Local Safeguarding Rep.

Debbie James  
E: [umg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:umg@bne.catholic.net.au)

### Administrative Assistants

Rani Ponomarenko/Lorraine Neagle  
E: [sec.umg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sec.umg@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  
Monday - Friday**

**Closed Weekends and  
Public Holidays.**

After hours emergencies please call  
3849 7158 and 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.*

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Year A

28 FEBRUARY / 1 MARCH 2026

**READINGS** Genesis: 12:1-4 2 Timothy 1:8-10

**GOSPEL** Matthew 17:1-9

The common theme of today's readings is **transformation** - the kind of deep change God works within us when we open our hearts to Him. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we are invited to renew our lives so that the grace and light of the transfigured Jesus may shine through us.

In the first reading, we see Abram's transformation. God calls a simple man from a distant land and invites him into a new life. His name becomes Abraham, and his small family becomes a great nation. All he does is trust and obey. His story reminds us that God can do great things with us when we take even one small step of faith.

St Paul, in the second reading, tells that our own transformation happens when we recognise God's loving hand even in our hardships. Lent is not about punishing ourselves; it is about letting God shape us - through prayer, sacrifice, and acts of love - into people who reflect His holiness.

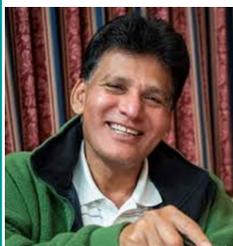
In the Gospel, Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James, and John. His face shines like the sun. His clothes become dazzling white. For a moment, the disciples see who He truly is - the beloved Son of the Father. This glimpse of glory is meant to strengthen them for the difficult days ahead.

The main reason Jesus was transfigured was so He could talk with His Heavenly Father about what was going to happen - His suffering, death, and Resurrection. Another reason was to show His friends, the disciples, His true heavenly glory, so they would stop thinking of Him as a political hero or earthly king. A third reason was to strengthen their faith and give them hope, so they would stay strong when difficult times came.

The Transfiguration shows us that Jesus wants to change us from the inside out. Just as His face shone with God's light, our hearts can shine too when we listen to Him, follow Him, and let God guide our lives. Lent is a special time to let Jesus help us grow, change, and become more loving.

What is one small thing Jesus is asking me to change so I can be closer to Him? How can I show God's light to others this week - through kindness, forgiveness, or love?

**Welcome:** We extend a warm welcome to Fr Sunil Paul SVD, who will be joining our parish community from 4 March until Easter. His presence and assistance during this period will be a great support and relief for me, and we are grateful for his willingness to serve our parish. **Fr Rony**



My name is Fr. Sunil Paul, a member of the society of the Divine Word (SVD) since 1999 I have been working in New Zealand and Australia cities in various ministries. From 2013-21 I served as a Parish Priest of St. Maximilian Kolbe parish, Marsden, Logan. I am currently in Brisbane Archdiocese doing supply work. I am very happy to serve in your parish until Easter Sunday.

**Fr Sunil SVD**

### WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Especially Jennifer Holliday (daughter of Maureen), Ian Ross, Ted Leeson, Gordon Griffiths, Ross Tapsall who died recently. Also Danny Coglan, Simon Tinh, Tom Begg, Darrel Petersen, Dominic Dinh Vuong Thach, Wai Yee Wong, Mark Anthony Wong, Vic Rail, Warren Gould, Grant Jenkins, Rodney Griffith, Anna, Agnes and Joseph, Penny Clarke, Kerry Cooke, Jan Karageorge, Ida Tully, Olga & Joe Doniger, Don Armstrong, Christopher Tracey, Gwen Paul whom we remember.

### UP COMING EVENTS IN THE PARISH

#### TUESDAY 3 MARCH

##### CRAFT GROUP

10.00am to 2.00pm, St Bernard's Community Centre.

##### LENTEN REFLECTIONS

6.30pm, St Bernard's Community Centre.

#### WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH

##### FUNERAL MASS

10.30am, Jennifer Holliday, St Bernard's Church.

##### BOOK CLUB - *Screwtape Letters*

10.00am, St Bernard's Community Centre.

6.30pmm, St Bernard's Community Centre.

#### THURSDAY 5 MARCH

##### AGED CARE MASS

9.30am, Elderlycare, Somerfield St, Mt Gravatt.

##### BETHANY MEETING

10.00am, St Bernard's Community Centre.

#### FRIDAY 6 MARCH

##### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

9.00am, St Martin's Church.

##### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

10.00am, St Bartholomew's Anglican Church.

##### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

7.00pm, St Bernard's Church.

### Parish Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Group

RAP Group Meeting at 11am on Sunday, 1 March 2026, St Bernard's Community Centre.

#### Parish RAP Group Morning Tea Event

The Parish Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Group welcomes you to join us for morning tea as we discuss the novel 'The Yield' by First Nations author Tara Winch (2020 Miles Franklin Award winner). The story of a young Wiradjuri woman returning home to family.

We will meet at 11am on Sunday, 19 April in the St Bernard's Community Centre. Please RSVP to Louise by Wednesday, 15 April at

[lobell1770@gmail.com](mailto:lobell1770@gmail.com).

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026

Our Parish Sacramental Program for the year 2026 is now open. Families who wish for themselves or their children to receive any of the Sacraments (**Baptism, Reconciliation, First Holy Communion or Confirmation**) are warmly invited to register.

For further information and enrolment details, please contact the Parish Office. We look forward to journeying with you in faith during the coming year.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday morning at 9am in St Martin's Church (before the 9:30am Mass) and at 7pm in St Bernard's Church.

At St Bernard's 7pm the prayer chosen will be different each week, different themes and foci reflecting the needs of our Church and our world.

Next Friday (6 March) we will use *Mary's way of the cross* - Mary, the Mother of Jesus, made that first way of the cross. These stations, attempt to present that viewpoint.

Keep an eye on the newsletter each week for a preview of the prayer for the coming Friday.



World Day of Prayer  
AUSTRALIA

**World Day of Prayer** is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who

welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. Each year, women from combined churches in a particular country prepare the liturgy, highlighting the particular concerns and needs in their country. This year, the liturgy was prepared by women in Nigeria.

**Where:** St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, 1357 Logan Rd, cnr Mountain St, Mt Gravatt.

**When:** 10am Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

### Happenings in the Archdiocese

(Please see Notice Board for more information)

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March: The "Spirit of Hope" Monthly City Prayer Ministry, St Stephens' Chapel following the 10am Mass in the Cathedral.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March: Monthly Anointing Mass at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, 51 Cecil Road, Bardon.



Caritas  
AUSTRALIA

**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**

Project Compassion 2026 shares four stories from around the world. Last week we met Sisilia from Tanzania, and over the next few weeks we will meet Monoranjon from Bangladesh, Manaini from Fiji and Ahmad from Gaza.

Each of this year's stories highlights unique challenges, yet they are united by the determination to rise above adversity and to build brighter, more hopeful futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

**Please donate today.**

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

**Or online at:** [www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate)

**Or by calling:** 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we

*Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

**ENTRANCE: TRANSFORM US**

Transform us as you, transfigured,  
stood apart on Tabor's height.  
Lead us up our sacred mountains,  
search us with revealing light.

Lift us from where we have fallen,  
full of questions, filled with fright.

Transform us as you, transfigured,  
once spoke with these holy ones.  
We, surrounded by the witness  
of those saints whose work is done,  
live in the world as your Body,  
chosen daughters, chosen sons.

Transform us as you, transfigured,  
would not stay within a shrine.  
Keep us from our great temptation  
time and truth we quickly bind.  
Lead us down those daily pathways  
where our love is not confined.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PSALM 32**

*Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Accl. Praise and honour to you, Lord  
Jesus Christ! Praise and honour to  
you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. From the shining cloud the voice is heard: this is my beloved son. **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

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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: MAY WE COME TO KNOW THE LORD**

*In the bread may we be broken.*

*In the cup may we be outpoured*

*May we come to the know the healer,  
may we come to know the Lord.*

Though many are we, we are one in the Lord.  
We are all welcome to his table of new life. **R.**

We come to the table to remember the Lord,  
who gave his life that we might live forevermore. **R.**

In breaking the bread, in sharing the cup,  
may we be filled as we come to know the Lord. **R.**

**RECESSIONAL: OPEN THE HEAVENS**

*Open the heavens, Lord, come to your people,  
hide not your face, O God.*

*Open the heaven's, Lord, come to your people,  
open the heavens and come.*

Look on the sheep of your pasture, Lord.

Water your vineyard again.

Scattered and broken, return to our aid.

Open the heavens and come. **R.**



## 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](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)

## AUTUMN EMBER DAY

In Australia, Autumn Ember Day is a special Catholic day of prayer and fasting held on the first Friday of March. It marks the beginning of the Autumn season and invites us to pause, give thanks, and care for God's creation. Because it falls during Lent, it also connects with our call to simplicity, prayer, and helping those in need.

The Church in Australia keeps two Ember Days each year—one in March (Autumn) and one in September (Spring). These were introduced by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in 2008, following the older tradition of seasonal days of fasting.

On Autumn Ember Day, we are encouraged to: thank God for the harvest and the fruits of the earth, pray for the environment and for those who work with the land, practice penance, such as fasting, abstinence, or acts of self-denial, show solidarity with people who struggle to access food, water, or resources.

It is a gentle reminder that caring for creation is part of our faith, and that our choices - big or small - can help protect the world God has entrusted to us. Autumn Ember Day invites us to slow down, be grateful, and renew our commitment to living responsibly and lovingly in God's beautiful world.

Be the first to see our New Early Year's Building!

Join us for a Principal Tour at St Bernard's

Friday 13th February 9am      Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 4pm



Enrol now!

Where greatness and kindness connect!




<https://www.stbernards.qld.edu.au>

Join a Principal Tour at St Catherine's!

Register Now for a February Principal Tour!

Thursday 12 February, 9:30am  
Thursday 26 February, 9:30am

Come see our:

- Prep classrooms in action
- explore our fantastic facilities

Learn about our:

- Extra-curricular activities
- Instrumental program
- Technology Program!





Enrol online now for Prep 2027!

If your child is born 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022 they are eligible for Prep in 2027  
*\*Children must be 5 years old by 30 June in the year they start Prep.*

Your child's learning journey begins here...  
Join our St Catherine's family and thrive in a supportive and welcoming community.

[www.stcatherinescps.qld.edu.au/enrolment](http://www.stcatherinescps.qld.edu.au/enrolment)



Enrol NOW!




## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Year A 7 / 8 MARCH 2026

### READINGS

**Exodus 17:3-7**  
**Romans 5:1-2, 5-8**

*Give us water to drink.*

*The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us.*

### GOSPEL

**John 4:5-42**

*The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.*