

PARISH OFFICE

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Parish Priest

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

Pastoral Associate

Pauline Thomas
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Parish Manager & Local

Safeguarding Rep.

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

Administrative Assistants

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

Emergencies & after hours:

Ph: 3849 7158

St Vincent de Paul

Welfare: 1800 846 643

MASS TIMES

Monday	9.15am St Catherine's
Tuesday	9.15am St Bernard's
Wednesday	7.00am St Catherine's
Thursday	7.00am St Bernard's
Friday	9.00am St Bernard's 9.30am St Martin's
Saturday	5.00pm St Bernard's 6.15pm St Catherine's
Sunday	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.

WORD OF GOD SUNDAY

31 January / 1 February 2026

READINGS: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

In September 2019, Pope Francis established Word of God Sunday through the apostolic letter *Aperuit Illis* — “He opened to them” — inviting the whole Church to celebrate, study, and share the Scriptures more deeply. In Australia, the Catholic Church marks this celebration on February 1 in 2026, while many other countries observe it on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference chose the first Sunday of February each year to ensure the focus remains on the Word of God without overlapping with Australia Day weekend, and to prepare our hearts for the coming season of Lent. This celebration reminds us that Scripture is not simply a text to be read, but a living Word that shapes our faith, guides our mission, and draws us closer to Christ.

On this Word of God Sunday, I want to offer a heartfelt thank-you to all our parish readers. Your ministry is a true gift to our community. By proclaiming the Scriptures with clarity, reverence, and faith, you help God's living Word take root in our hearts. You are an essential part of our liturgy, and we are deeply grateful for your dedication. May the Lord continue to inspire your hearts, strengthen your voices, and bless your ministry in our church. May you always find joy in sharing God's Word, and may your service draw many closer to Christ.



Welcome Fr Prince Thomas MCBS: The Archdiocese continues to welcome priests from overseas to help with the current shortage, and every three years a selection program is run in India to prepare priests for ministry here. This year again, several priests are arriving, and two of them reached Brisbane on Thursday evening — both from my own religious order (Missionary Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament). One of them, Fr Prince Thomas, will be with us for two to three weeks.

When new priests arrive, they usually stay with a priest friend before being appointed to a parish. This helps them learn how things work here, complete the necessary administrative tasks, and become confident with practical matters such as driving.

Let us warmly welcome Fr Prince into our community and pray that God blesses him abundantly as he begins his new mission here in Australia.

Fr Rony Chacko

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Especially John Hickey (father of Chris Earl), Katharine Ingham (sister-in-law of Henry Ingham), Mario Cardenas (uncle of Maria Cabalse), Ann Bailey, Paulita Canonizado, Maria Brandso, Cosmo Charles, Genevieve Tay, Adrian Vermeulen, Aaron Fernandez, Diana Panochini who died recently. Also Desmond Coglan, Wai Yee Wong, Mark Anthony Wong, Candelario Castro, Tom Begg, Darrel Petersen, Gioan Baotixita, Guise Baotixita, Dominic Dinh Vuong Thach whom we remember.

UP COMING EVENTS IN THE PARISH

TUESDAY 3 FEBRUARY

CRAFT GROUP

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

SCRIPTURE GROUP

6.30pm, St Bernard's Community Centre.

WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY

FUNERAL LITURGY

10am, Diana Panochini, St Bernard's Church.

THURSDAY 5 FEBRUARY

BETHANY MEETING

10.00am, St Bernard's Community Centre.

LITURGY MEETING

St Bernard's Community Centre.

FRIDAY 6 FEBRUARY

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE TO MASS TIMES

9.00am, School Mass, St Bernard's
(Everyone welcome)

(8.00am Mass at St Bernard's Cancelled.)

9.30am, Liturgy of the Word, St Martin's.

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.

ST CATHERINE'S SENIORS COACH TRIP

Wednesday 25 February



Departs St Catherine's Bus Stop 8am.

St Catherine's Seniors Coach Trip will visit Albert River Wines near Tamborine.

Morning Tea will be at the Winery on arrival, followed by a 1 ½ hour Farm Tour.

There is a wine tasting opportunity for those interested, a separate cost of \$10 per person applies if you join this opportunity.

Later we will all be enjoying lunch at the Winery and our usual Raffles before leaving for home.

Cost for the outing will be about \$65 per person, depending on numbers coming.

Lunch selections and bookings are with Ros on Ph. 3349 9218.



BAPTISMS

We congratulate

Annie Leask, daughter of Nicholas & Melanie.

She will be baptised in the Parish this weekend.



Congratulations to

Pat and Jo Sherry

who celebrated their

40th Wedding Anniversary on 25th January 2026.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

February 2 is a deeply significant day in the Church's liturgical life as we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, traditionally known as Candlemas. Falling exactly forty days after Christmas, it marks the moment when Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the Temple in obedience to the Law of Moses. The liturgy is rich with symbolism: candles are blessed and carried in procession, reminding us that Christ is the Light of the Nations, just as Simeon proclaimed when he recognised the Messiah. This feast, known in the East as the Meeting of the Lord, highlights the sacred encounter between Jesus, Simeon, and Anna, and invites us to reflect on humility, obedience, and the fulfilment of God's promises. Bridging the joy of Christmas with the coming journey toward Easter, this feast reminds us that the light of Christ shines through every season of our faith.

Since 1997, February 2 has also been observed as the World Day for Consecrated Life, honouring those who, like candles, offer their lives in service to God and the Church. Let us pray for all those consecrated their life for God and His people.

N.B There will be a blessing of candles during the 9.15 am Mass at St Catherine's. Please BYO candle.

Parish Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Group

If you are interested in learning more about our Parish's work towards reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, please join us at 11am on Sunday, 1 February 2026 in the St Bernard's Community Centre. We will be discussing plans for the year ahead including a film afternoon, book club and other events. All are welcome. If you cannot attend but would like to find out more, please contact Louise Bell at

lobell1770@gmail.com or 0421 150 162.

BOOK CLUB

You are warmly invited to join us as we discuss 'The Screwtape Letters' by C.S. Lewis. We will meet on Wednesdays from 18 February to 18 March in the St Bernard's Community Centre. There will be a morning group from 10-11am and an evening group from 6.30-7.30pm. Please RSVP to Louise at

lobell1770@gmail.com or 0421 150 162.

If you need help with obtaining a copy of the book, please let Louise know.

ENTRANCE: *YOUR WORDS ARE SPIRIT AND LIFE*

*Your words are spirit and life, O Lord:
Richer than gold, stronger than death.
Your words are spirit and life, O Lord;
Life everlasting.*

God's law is perfect, refreshing the soul,
reviving the weary spirit.
God's rule can be trusted: bringing us wisdom,
bringing God's wisdom to birth. **R.**
God's precepts keep us; their purpose is right.
they gladden the hearts of people.
God's command is so clear it brings us new vision;
bringing God's light to our eyes. **R.**

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God heavenly king, O God, almighty father. **R.**
Lord Jesus Christ, Only begotten son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us. **R.**
For you alone are the holy one,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the
Holy Spirit, In the glory of God, the Father. **R.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PSALM 145

Happy the poor in spirit the kingdom of heav'n is theirs!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Accl. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad; your reward will be great in heaven. Your reward will be great in heaven; rejoice and be glad. **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

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim Death, O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION: *BREAD OF LIFE*

Bread of life and cup of hope,
we come as gift to you.
Change our hearts; fill us with peace.
Transform our lives anew.
Open our eyes so that we might see
your presence in one another.
Your life, poured out in love today,
unites us all in you.
Loving Lord, Creator God,
open our eyes to see
the good that lives in each of us,
that called the world to be.
And when we fail to see the good,
when friendships falter and crumble,
give us the courage to forgive
that we may live in peace.
Living Word, O Son of God,
your love shows us the way
that we may live in harmony,
and from you never stray.
Wipe all oppression from our midst;
give us a love for all people.
Your song of justice sing in us,
to live for peace today.

SONG OF PRAISE: *OPEN MY EYES*

Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see your face.
Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see.
Open my ears, Lord. Help me to hear your voice.
Open my ears, Lord. Help me to hear.
Open my heart, Lord. Help me to love like you.
Open my heart, Lord. Help me to love.

RECESSIONAL: *PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST*

*Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour,
Word of the Father, calling us to life;
Son of God who leads us to freedom:
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

You are the Word who calls us out of darkness;
you are the Word who leads us into light;
you are the Word who brings us through the desert;
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ! **R.**

You are the Word who calls us to be servants;
you are the Word whose only law is love;
you are the Word-made-flesh who lives among us;
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ! **R.**

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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

PARISH COLUMBARIUMS

Are you considering a sacred and permanent resting place for a loved one?

A columbarium within a Catholic parish is a sacred and dignified place of rest, offering a consecrated home for the cremated remains of the faithful. It also keeps our loved ones close to the heart of the parish they belonged to, allowing family and friends to pray, remember, and feel connected through the Communion of Saints. A columbarium offers a peaceful and permanent resting place on holy ground, honouring the dignity of each person and keeping them close to the parish they loved.

Our Parish is blessed to have two beautiful columbaria: attached to St Bernard's and St Catherine's Churches. We wish to let our parishioners know that all niches at St Bernard's are now fully booked. However, niches are still available for purchase at St Catherine's. If you, or someone you know, is considering a sacred and peaceful resting place for a loved one, please contact the parish office for more information.

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 4th March 4pm

St Bernard's SCHOOL UPPER MOUNT GRAVATT

Enrol now!

Where greatness and kindness connect!

St Bernard's SCHOOL UPPER MOUNT GRAVATT

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

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

Enrol NOW!



"SPIRIT OF HOPE" PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday 4 February, 10.45 - 12.15pm
(following 10am Mass)



St Stephen's Chapel in the grounds of the Cathedral.

Please join us for our first meeting of the year to **Pray, Praise and Worship our King Jesus!** Please invite family and friends, all welcome!!

Enquiries Maureen 0403002199 or Helena 0405321901

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7 / 8 FEBRUARY 2026

READINGS

Isaiah 58:7-10

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:13-16

Your light will shine like the dawn.

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

You are the light of the world.