

PARISH OFFICE

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

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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	8.00am 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.*

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

14 / 15 February 2026

READINGS: Sirach 15:15-20 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:17-37

The Greek philosopher Plato once described the human heart as a chariot pulled by two horses: Passion and Reason. Passion is strong, energetic, and full of desire, but it is wild and hard to control. Reason is calm, disciplined, and careful, but it can become too cautious and afraid to move forward. If the chariot is pulled only by Passion, it will rush ahead and soon crash. If it is pulled only by Reason, it may never go anywhere meaningful. But when Passion and Reason work together, the journey of life becomes purposeful and joyful.

Today's readings speak directly to this wisdom. God's law is not meant to crush our freedom or suppress our passion. Instead, it guides and shapes our desires so that they lead to life, love, and holiness. The laws God gives are like wheels in the hands of a skilled charioteer — helping us to direct our energy toward what truly matters.

In today's Gospel, Jesus appears as the new law-giver. He does not reject the law of Moses, but he deepens it. He moves the focus from outward actions to the inner life — from what we do to what we desire, intend, and choose in our hearts. Jesus teaches that true obedience is not forced or fearful; it is a free and loving response to God.

Jesus invites us to choose wisely — to let reason guide our passions, and to let God's law shape our freedom. When our hearts are formed by God's wisdom, our strength does not lead to chaos, and our discipline does not lead to fear. Instead, we grow into people of spiritual depth, commitment, and joy. God's law, lived in love, leads us not away from freedom, but into the fullness of life.

LENT 2026: We stand at the doorway of another Lent. Ash Wednesday leads us into this sacred season of prayer, fasting, and charity. When ashes are placed on our foreheads, we are reminded of our human weakness and our need for God's mercy. The words, "*Repent and believe in the Gospel,*" invite us to turn back to God with sincere and humble hearts.

This simple sign teaches us three important truths. First, it reminds us who we are. God created us from the earth and gave us life. We are human, fragile, and mortal, and one day we will return to the earth. Life is short, and we are deeply connected to one another and to all of God's creation. Second, the ashes warn us that sin harms our relationship with God and with others. Repentance means more than feeling sorry; it means choosing what is good and living our faith.

Third, the ashes are a loving invitation. God knows our weakness and still welcomes us back with mercy and forgiveness.

Lent is not only about giving things up. It is about growing closer to God, renewing our hearts, and walking more faithfully with Christ. **Fr Rony**

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Especially Gregory Burns (father of Leanne Laboo), Michael Newman (brother of Noreen Byrne), Fr Peter Casey, Brian Dudson, Paddy Hassett, Mario Cardenas who died recently. Also Theresa Dinh Thi Thieng, Cam Nguyen, Roderick Byrne, Fr John Newman, Tom Newman, Eddie Newman, Vince Newman, Tom Begg, Darrel Petersen, Dominic Dinh Vuong Thach whom we remember.

UP COMING EVENTS IN THE PARISH

TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY

CRAFT GROUP

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

FUNERAL

11.00am, Gregory Burns, St Catherine's Church.

WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

PLEASE SEE BELOW.

FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY

MASS TIMES

8.00am, Liturgy of the Word, St Bernard's Church.

9.30am, Mass, St Martin's Church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

7.00pm, St Bernard's Church.

SHROVE TUESDAY & ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Shrove Tuesday 17 February - Ecumenical Service

6.30pm - St Bernard's Church

Ash Wednesday 18 February

7.00am Mass - St Catherine's Church

10.00am Mass - St Bernard's Church

6.30pm Mass - St Martin's Church



BAPTISMS

We congratulate

Patrick Sim, son of Matthew & Grace.

He will be baptised in the Parish this weekend.

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 1/2 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.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026

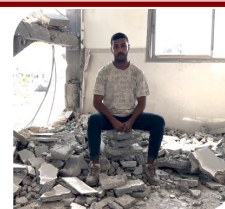
Our Parish Sacramental Program for the year 2026 is now open. Families who wish for themselves or their children to receive any of the Sacraments (Baptism, Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, or Confirmation) are warmly invited to register.

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

On Fridays during Lent we pray the Stations of the Cross. In this Parish we offer two opportunities each week, 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. In this year of St Francis, we have chosen to use The Stations of the Cross according to the Method of St Francis of Assisi for our first week (Friday 20th Feb). Keep an eye on the newsletter each week for a preview of the prayer for the coming Friday.



The theme of **Project Compassion 2026**, *Unite Against Poverty*, is both a call to action and a reminder that lasting change happens when we work together. Serving those in need is how this call comes alive.

"I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me"

(Matthew 25:35-36)

Jesus reminds us that when we care for those who are vulnerable, we are serving Him. Lent invites us to respond through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Through Project Compassion, we live out this call together. Alone, we can make a difference, but united, we can transform lives. Join us in 2026 as we *Unite Against Poverty* and walk alongside our global family.

Envelopes and boxes are available in each church.

LAST CALL FOR BOOK CLUB

All are welcome to join us this Lent as we discuss 'The Screwtape Letters' by C.S. Lewis on Wednesdays 18 February to 18 March, 10-11am and 6.30pm-7.30pm in the St Bernard's Community Centre. Please RSVP to Louise at

lobell1770@gmail.com or 0421 150 162.

ENTRANCE: COME TO THE WATER

*Come to the water, you who are thirsty!
Though you have nothing, I bid you come and be
filled with the goodness I have to offer!
Come! Listen! Live!*

Why spend your money on what cannot fill
the emptiness deep in your heart?

Listen to my word and you will enjoy
goodness and peace in your heart! **R.**

Just as the heavens are high above earth,
my ways and thoughts beyond you!

Call me your Father and know I am near!

I will be Father to you! **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 118

Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Accl. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of
the kingdom. **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: 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.**

SONG OF PRAISE: EYE HAS NOT SEEN

Eye has not seen, ear has not heard,
what God has ready for those who love him;
spirit of love, come give us the mind of Jesus,
teach us the wisdom of God. **Rpt.**

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 one whom prophets hoped and longed
for;

you are the one who speaks to us today;
you are the one who leads us to our future:

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ! **R.**

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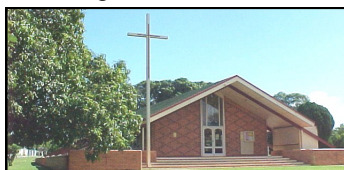
St Bernard's
4 Klumpp Rd,
Upper Mt Gravatt



St Catherine's
388 Newnham Rd, Wishart



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



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Like us: <http://www.facebook.com/umgwparish>

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

<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

Enrol NOW!

THE CATHOLIC LEADER

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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT Year A

21 / 22 FEBRUARY 2026

READINGS

Genesis: 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Romans: 5:12-19

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.