



St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Parish

26-38 Macarthy Road, Marsden, PO Box 545, Marsden Qld 4132
Tel: (07) 3803 0862 | Email: marsden@bne.catholic.net.au | www.kingstonmarsdenparish.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Tue, Thur & Fri : 9.00am - 2.30pm | Closed on Wednesday

We, the Marsden Catholic Church Parishioners, respectfully acknowledge and honour the Aboriginal peoples from the Yagara and Yugambeh language groups, who originally inhabit Logan, as the traditional custodians of the land of this Parish, together with the Torres Strait Islander people. We acknowledge their Elders, past, present and emerging. May we, too, be good stewards of this land.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest

Fr. Mikhael Loke SVD 38030862

Priest-in-Residence

Fr. Nick De Groot SVD 38030862

Parish Secretary

Ronet D'Mello

Pastoral Council Chairperson

Noel Swindells

Finance Committee Chairperson

Tom Kalaja

Parish Safeguarding Children Rep.

Ron Klerks

STOP line: 1300 304 550

PARISH MINISTRY LEADERS

Liturgy Ministries

Rodolfo (Boyet) Domingo

Children & Families Ministries and Children's Sacramental Program

Helen Swindells

Community Life Ministries

Lele Faeteete

Youth & Young Adults Ministry

Shanna Kelemete

Lawrence Auva'a

Adult Faith Formation Ministries

Alfred Gomez

Outreach Ministry

Winnie Kepu

Affiliated Catholic Schools

St. Francis College - Tel. No 3489 4800

Mr. John Marinucci (Principal)

St. Clare's Primary School - 5549 8000

Ms. Liesl Profke (Principal)

San Damiano College - 5670 7000

Mr. Peter Edwards (Principal)

Weekday Mass Times

Monday No Mass

Tuesday 9.00am

Wednesday 9.00am

Thursday 9.00am

Friday 9.00am

Saturday 8.00am

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am

Confession: Saturday 5.00pm

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME : 23 FEBRUARY 2025

Reflection

On this seventh Sunday, the Church reminds us of the essential virtues and elements of our Christian life. They include mercy and compassion, love of God and neighbour, self-control, appreciation of values, moral responsibility, awareness of sin, and the sacred sense. These are marks of our spiritual progress and Christian growth. Also, they form part of the church's social doctrine.

Today's first reading is dramatic. David had the death warrant of his enemies in his hands, yet he refused to pronounce it. Instead, he left it for God to pronounce in his way and at his appropriate time. He heeded God's word: "Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Do not take revenge. Vengeance is mine" (Rom 12: 17-19; Deut 32:35).

In today's Gospel, Jesus gave a very important sermon on these essential virtues and elements that must guide our lives and actions as Christians. It is a new commandment because it overrules the Old Testament law of reprisal attack or retributive justice. There is no doubt that humanly speaking, it is a very difficult one. However, it demands a lot of sacrifice and courage.

So, how do we reconcile our constant quest for justice with the virtues of mercy and compassion? Is there any common ground between them? This is especially, in our world, where we constantly speak of mercy and at the same time advocate for the strictest sense of justice. That is the maximum punishment (even the death penalty) for our offenders.

The second-weekday preface of the Eucharistic (II) prayer gives us a clue to this problem. It says, "Injustice, God condemned us. In mercy, he redeemed us." Yes, it is what it is. Indeed, contrary to what our society has programmed us to believe, justice and mercy are not mutually exclusive.

Hurts and wounds do not heal so fast. In some cases, their scars do not disappear entirely during one's lifetime. However, Christ knew this perfectly well. He not only preached this sermon, but he also lived it. So, he is not asking us to do what he did not do.

Paul reminds us in our second reading that we derived our body and way of life from the earthly man (Adam). In contrast, we derived the spirit that gives life and animates our body from the heavenly man (Christ).

Hence, the spirit guides those who have received Christ. They are born of the Spirit. Christ's new commandment may seem complicated, his spirit and grace will enable us to live these essential virtues and elements of our Christian life.

There are some lessons for us from today's readings. First, we must learn to leave vengeance for God. So, we must not take every opportunity for revenge against our offenders. Forgiveness heals all wounds and wipes all scars away.

Second, we must not always bow to pressures from circumstances or our colleagues to do evil. This is because two wrongs can never make one right. Reprisal attack or revenge may hurt one even more than it will hurt one's offender. In this case, we may win the war but not the peace, love, and friendship.

Finally, no matter our situation or circumstance, we must not lose the sense of the sacred. We must guard against sin. All lives belong to God, and only he has the right to take them away. Also, let us remember that we cannot help God in his judgment. He knows what to do, how to do it, and the best time to do it. So, we must let God be God "Lord is merciful and kind."

Peace be with you! Maranatha!

Reflection by Rev. Fr. Njoku Canice Chukwuemeka, C.S.Sp; a Catholic Priest and a Member of the Congregation of the Holy Ghost Fathers and Brothers (Spiritans).

DATE CLAIMERS

Roster sheets for the months of March and April are available at the entrance of the church. Please take a copy and contact our parish office if you need any changes in the next roster.

Mon. 24 Feb.: Bible timeline from 6.30pm.

Sun: 9th March: Community Life Ministry would like to invite all parishioners to morning tea to meet and greet all parishioners including the new parishioners after the 9.30am Mass. Please bring a plate to share.

Roster for the weekend of 01 March. / 02 March. 2025

Mass Coordinators

01 Mar 5.30pm - Wilda Fernandes
02 Mar 8.00am - Lele Faaeteete
02 Mar 9.30am - Joy Wallace

Readers

01 Mar 5.30pm - Malcolm D'Souza & Ron Klerks
02 Mar 8.00am - Lawrence Auva'a & Orlando Diente.
02 Mar 9.30am - Flor Gomez & Tovio Tagaloa

Communion Ministers

01 Mar 5.30pm - Paul S., Deb H., Sue M..
02 Mar 8.00am - Eseta A., Korina L., Sera T.,
02 Mar 9.30am - Tii Tii Toalepai & Mary K.
Alfred Gomez & Shanna Kelemete

Altar Servers

01 Mar 5.30pm - John Paul & Andrew
02 Mar 8.00am - John, May & Zaia
02 Mar 9.30am - Abigail., Annabel., & Alexander

Choirs

01 Mar 5.30pm - Saturday Night Choir
02 Mar 8.00am - Buxton/Josephine
02 Mar 9.30am - Ekalesia Choir

Counters : Swindells Family

Cleaners : Ekalesia Group

Flowers : Suli, Lipine and Malia.

Collection: Week-ending: 16 Feb. 2025

Envelopes Received	: 33
Amount from Contributions	: \$ 2,336.85
Yarrabilba Mass Centre	: \$ 128.70

TOTAL	: \$ 2,465.55

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time: 23 February 2025

First Reading: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

The Lord has put you in my power, But I will not raise my hand against you.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 102: 1 - 4, 8, 10, 12-13

The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 45-49

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:

Love one another as I have loved you

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

YARRABILBA MASS CENTRE

WEEK END COMMUNITY MASS WILL BE HELD AT

4PM ON SUNDAY

23 FEB. & 2 MAR. 2025

ST. CLARE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL,
2 COMBS STREET, YARRABILBA

ALL ARE WELCOME



SAFEGUARDING TRAINING 2025

As per the Archdiocesan guidelines all volunteers are required to mandatorily complete the safeguarding training at least once in 2 years. We are arranging to complete this training for all volunteers at the parish on Sunday 23rd February 2025 after 9.30am Mass.

All volunteers including the members of Pastoral Council, Finance Committee, Liturgy Committee, Care and Concern, Children and Families Ministry, Community Life Ministry, Young and Adults Ministry, Adult Faith Formation and Outreach Ministry, Choir leaders and adult choir members are requested to attend this training which will be held in the parish hall at 10.45am. We will be playing safeguarding training videos.

All volunteers are required to fill in two forms to confirm their attendance and completion of the training.

A sign up sheet is provided at the entrance of the church. Please sign up for this training.

Light refreshments will be served after the training. Please bring a plate to share.

- Fr. Mikhael and Fr. Nick



Samantha Miriam Briody, F.Bowden, L.Seeto, J.Collins, Tuala, M.Dunlop, D.Curtis, M.Pierce, R.Henwood, V.Reid, V.Gspejon, V.Dancey, S.Daniel, A.Purkis, L.Guadez, K&S Talatonu, D.Hall, B.Hodgson, M.Finnerty, G&M Glorioso, J.Lachlan, A. Van Uitregt, V.Toalepai, K.Brown, M.Trehane, J.Maloney, J & A Dent, Gladdis Gorosito, Asiata J.Lealaitafea, A.Carter, E.B Sebuano, Pona Vai, N.Dun more, T.Gibson, F.Petelo, Helen Guadez, M.Vaigafa, Verity Madsen, Tatiana Tagirova, Ruperto M, John Daley, Alzira D'souza, Agnes Hamilton, Wena Prowse, V&M L Petelo, Zhaylee Curtis, Sesilia Muevae, Rob Canning, Catherine Hetherington, Pete Pietkiewiez, V&A Asiata-Kelemete, Mynott Family, Reef W. Carroll, Daisy A. Thomas, Eric Alfred John Engberg, Coleen Goodwin, Austine Jonse, Zakelyn Curtis, John Williams, Elizabeth Fernandez, Mary Armand, Mary Rosser, Ann Gason, Judith Anderson, Brooke, John McCready, Ian, Sandra Henry, Carol Lloyd, Esjay Rudd, Judith Sherry, Daphne Canal, Mareta Niumagumagu, Maria Nive M. Tiatia, Paxson Swerling, Cliff Naughton, Myrna Aloquin and all who are ill.

PARISH MINISTRY: Chaplaincy [Pastoral Care]

Henri Nouwen aptly stated, *"The spiritual life does not remove us from the world, but leads us deeper into it."* This sentiment resonates profoundly within the context of pastoral care ministries, particularly chaplaincy.

For many, especially those in later life stages, a sense of restlessness can emerge, a yearning to contribute meaningfully. Chaplaincy offers a powerful avenue to channel this desire, leveraging one's God-given talents in service to others.

Drawing inspiration from Augustine's insight that our hearts are restless until they rest in God, chaplaincy provides a tangible way to address this innate longing. It is a ministry rooted in presence, offering solace and spiritual sustenance to individuals navigating vulnerability and uncertainty.

Chaplains extend a compassionate hand, offering a listening ear and a supportive presence. They minister to the sick, the grieving, and the marginalised, embodying the spirit of Christ-like pastoral care. In hospitals, nursing homes, or community settings, chaplains provide a vital link to faith and hope, fostering resilience and promoting well-being.

The invitation to explore chaplaincy is an invitation to delve deeper into the heart of pastoral care. It is an opportunity to utilise one's gifts, to connect with individuals in profound ways, and to become an instrument of God's love and compassion in a world in need of healing.

We express our thanks and appreciation to the faithful ministry of our Catholic Chaplains, ministering in the Logan Hospital.



RACHEL



PHIL



BRIAN



VERITY

If anyone wishes to learn more about this special ministry, please contact any of our Priests or Brian Cunningham, Coordinator of the Chaplaincy Service at 0411 737 483.

COMMISSIONING OF LITURGY TEAM MEMBERS

All liturgy team members (Mass Coordinators, Readers, Communion Ministers and Altar Servers) will be commissioned during the week-end Masses of 22nd and 23rd February 2025.

All new and existing liturgy team members are requested to attend any one of the week-end Masses of 22nd and 23rd February 2025.

Adult Formation Ministry

All Parishioners are cordially invited to attend the **LECTIO DIVINA** sessions that will be facilitated by Fr Nick, in the Parish Meeting Room on : Friday 28 February 2025 7:30pm – 8:30pm

LECTIO DIVINA is a contemplative prayer practice which involves the reading of a gospel section, then reflecting on it in silence followed by sharing, which is voluntary. The general experience is how the word of God can open- up in our hearts, for one another and with one another.

- Fr Mikhael, Fr Nick and Alfred Gomez

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The schedule for Sacrament Preparation in 2025 is now available. Enrolment forms for the 1st Rite of Reconciliation for children aged 10 and above and Confirmation and 1st Holy Eucharist for children aged 8 and above are available at the entrance of the church. Any enquiries may be made to the Parish Office or Helen, Nimfa and Deb from the Sacramental Team .

LITURGY MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers for greeters/ushers for the weekend Masses and additional readers for the Saturday 5:30PM Mass. If you are interested please collect Parish Ministry form from the entrance of the church and return it back to the parish office.

- Fr. Mikhael and Fr. Nick

Children's Ministry

EVERY SUNDAY MORNING
9:30AM | PARISH HALL
COME AND JOIN US!

PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 5 UP TO 13, ARE ENCOURAGED TO SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO ATTEND THESE WEEKLY FAITH-FORMING, FUN-FILLED AND LEARNING SESSIONS. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PARENTS OR GUARDIANS CAN CONTACT OUR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CO-ORDINATOR

TIRESA VAIGAFA

0434 570 123



Stations of the Cross REHEARSALS

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 7 AND 12, WE INVITE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR STATIONS OF THE CROSS. REHEARSALS WILL BE HELD ON:

FRI 7/3
FRI 14/3
FRI 21/3
FRI 4/4

5-7PM

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT SHANNA OR THE PARISH OFFICE



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO!

Having received God's mercy in the general absolution at the end of the Penitential Rite, we praise God in the joyful hymn --- *Gloria*. The first line of the hymn were the first words the angels used when they announced the birth of the Saviour to the shepherds.

With Gloria, we see the transition from having a contrite heart that admits our sinfulness before God and asks Him for mercy and strength, to having a joyful and grateful heart that utters words of praises to the Triune God.

- It begins with praises to God the Father --- "we praise You, we bless You, we adore You, we glorify You, we give You thanks for your great glory!", then some description of the Father --- "heavenly King, Almighty God and Father".
- It is followed by petitions to the Son --- "have mercy on us, receive our prayer", but also surrounded with description of the Son --- "only Son, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, One who takes away the sins of the world, seated at the right hand of the Father", and "the Holy One, the Lord, and the Most High".
- The Holy Spirit is One "with the Son in the glory of God the Father."

This ancient prayer started as part of the morning prayer either privately or in common by the Christians of the early Church. It was then integrated into the official prayer of the Church called *Lauds* or morning praises. For a long time, this prayer is recited by both the clerics and the lay. It was later reserved only for clerics. But because it was such a beautiful and uplifting hymn, it found its place in the Mass, initially during Christmas, then eventually introduced in all Sunday Masses, Solemnities, and Feasts except during the seasons of Advent and Lent. **Because it is a most ancient and venerable hymn by which the Church, gathered in the Holy Spirit, glorifies and entreats God the Father and the Lamb, its text may not be replaced by any other (GIRM 53).**

May God in the highest be glorified now and forever!



in excelsis deo!

- Fr. Mikhael, Fr. Nick, and the Liturgy Team