

St Peter's Catholic Parish

Rochedale • Springwood

Serving the Rochedale and surrounding communities since 1974

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Jacob Chacko

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ST VINCENT DE PAUL

HELP CENTRE

Phone 5561 4712

MISSION STATEMENT

"Saint Peter's Parish is a community who lives in faith of Jesus Christ and, moved by the Spirit, continues to grow in our love for God and all people."

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

29th January 2017

Pastor's Note:

Matthew 5:1-12. Seek the Lord...and Listen to What God is Telling Us

Seek the Lord! This Sunday the message we can hear loudly and clearly is this: Seek the Lord. It is expressed in all three of the readings and we must take some time to listen to what God is telling us. The first reading is from the Prophet Zephaniah (we rarely hear about him!) and tells us how to seek the Lord: do no wrong and tell no lies! What an ideal world that would be if all of us could live that way! On the other hand, even if we fail to live that, we can keep striving to live that way. The challenge is that our present world no longer knows what good is and what wrong is. The world does not know truth from lies. We are beset on every side with values that are so different from the values given to us in the Scriptures that people become confused. Watch the advertisements run by the media and we simply are brainwashed by them; we believe them without questioning. Whatever the present culture wants to call good is accepted as good and whatever it wants to call bad is accepted as bad. We forget that we follow the Lord and his teachings which are the gift, the Word of God, to form us and to guide us into all truth. Zephaniah, writing probably around 640-609 BCE, promised that God would preserve a remnant. To this humble remnant or *anawim* belongs the promise of a secure future. "They shall pasture and lie down, and none shall make them afraid"(3:13). This oracle announced the future realization of an ideal, which is meant to share hope in God of the future.

Matthew's Gospel sees the ideal present in the person of Jesus in a unique way - it is already there but also bring into being the reality they declare. They are a declaration of who disciples of Jesus are already, and who they must continue to be. The beatitudes generate trust in God in difficult times, not simply enable us to endure hard times. None of us can avoid the traumatic experiences that life so frequently presents. In Africa and many other places, millions of our fellow humans suffer disease, poverty, and the effects of natural and human-caused disasters. The challenge of Christian faith is to accept and live a sustaining relationship with God in the most trying circumstances. The beatitudes define the way that Jesus himself lived to the point of death as a rejected religious revolutionary and unjustly condemned criminal. The spiritual power to live the life of the blessed comes not through our most noble human efforts, but through the grace - the beatitudes - the Spirit gives us. *Let us walk in his ways and be there like him to take up the challenges for a Kingdom he tried to build on earth.*

Fr Jacob Chacko, MCBS

Readings Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12 Happy are the poor in spirit.

Readings for next weekend: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 58:7-10

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Matthew 5:13-16

IN OUR PARISH THIS COMING WEEK:

MON 30th January	8.00am Mass 7.30pm Music Ministry meeting at Liz's house
TUE 31st January	St John Bosco 8.00am Mass with children
WED 1st February	6.30am Mass
THU 2nd February	The Presentation of the Lord
FRI 3rd February	9.00am Rosary in the Parish Office meeting room 9.30am Whole School Mass—All Welcome
SAT 4th February	9.30am Social Justice meeting 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
SUN 5th February	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass

First Friday Mass: Mass this Friday 3rd February will be a school Mass to celebrate the start of the new school year. All Parishioners are most welcome to attend.
Rosary group will meet in the Parish Office meeting room at 9am as usual this Friday.
Healing Mass and Adoration will be held the following Friday **10th February** commencing with Rosary at 8.30am, then Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 9am and Healing Mass at 9.30am. Reconciliation is available during Adoration.
Children's Liturgy of the Word will start next Sunday 5th February at the 9am Mass.

Farewell to Fr Jacob: We will be holding a special farewell celebration for Fr Jacob on Sunday 19th February at the 9am Mass. There will be a Cuppa and Chat after each Mass on the weekend of 18th and 19th February. Fr Jacob's last Masses with us will be the following weekend, 25th & 26th February.

Fr Baiyi Gong, our new parish priest, will be joining us in time for Masses on Ash Wednesday (1st March). Fr Baiyi (*pronounced By-ye*) is also known as Fr Peter. Fr Baiyi has written an article about his life story to introduce himself to us. Pick up a copy of the leaflet from the back of the church.

Name Badges: We will be placing an order for Parish name badges soon. Please write your name on the relevant form near the doors if you would like to order one. Please write clearly and indicate whether you would like a magnetic or pin attachment. Wearing of name badges will help our new parish priest, Fr Baiyi to get to know us. Magnetic badges cost \$8, Pin \$6. Please pay when ordering if possible.

Music Ministry meeting Monday 30th January at 7.30pm at Liz's house. Please bring along your copy of *Break Open the Word*.

Date Claimer: Our Lady of Lourdes Procession
 This year Our Lady of Lourdes' Feast Day, 11th February, will fall on a Saturday. The Saturday night Mass at 6pm will still be the Vigil Mass for Sunday with the liturgy for the 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time but will be followed by a rosary procession to Our Lady's Grotto to mark the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes. This Rosary Procession and prayer service is a beautiful way to honour Our Lady.

Advertising in our Newsletter: If you would like to advertise your business on the back of our newsletter in 2017 please contact austnews either by phone on 1800 245 077 or email: advertising.austnews.net.au

Rosters for collection: New Church Cleaners rosters (plus Volunteer Data Forms for those who have not already completed these) are ready for you to collect. Church Cleaning Groups please note you will be advised if we get some volunteers to fill the gaps! There are still some rosters for collection for **Readers and Communion Ministers**.

Bereavement Group Rosters for 2017 are ready for collection from the table near the main doors. Thank you and welcome to the team to our 2 new volunteers!!

Social Justice News: The first social justice meeting is on 4th February, at 9.30 am, at the parish office. Everyone is welcome to join us.

On another note the news has reached us that to acknowledge the achievements of Dr. Catherine Hamlin, a new Sydney Harbour ferry will carry her name. In such a way she will be immortalized on the Harbour and thousands more will have the opportunity to learn about this remarkable women. So if you are taking a cruise on the Harbour look out for the "Catherine Hamlin" ferry. *Erika*

Altar Servers please indicate on the form near the doors if you wish to continue to serve at Masses this year. New Altar Servers welcome.

Children's Liturgy Leaders: Please notify Jodie about any dates you are unavailable for Term 1 as the new roster will be drawn up this week

Volunteers needed for Church Cleaning and washing the Church Linen: Please contact Julie in the Parish office if you could help out in these roles. Whilst these volunteer roles may not be glamorous they are vital to our functioning as a church community. Without the volunteers cleaning our church linen, carpets, toilets, windows etc our church would be a very different place! Washing the church linen is usually done once per month. Church cleaning groups are on an 8 week rotation. Please consider volunteering.

Planned Giving: another vital component of our functioning parish is the Planned Giving Program. This is our main source of revenue and we can't pay the bills without it. Please consider if you can joint the Planned Giving Program either through the envelope system or credit card or direct debit. Please see Julie

God's Word 2017—Daily Reflections is a Liturgical diary which has the readings for every day from the New Jerusalem Bible, inspiring reflections on the readings of the day and even space to note down important events and reflections of the day. only \$10! Last days for sale! Any books unsold by the end of January will be returned.

CRI in State Schools: Do you have a heart for local missions – reaching those in literally our own backyard?! Why not consider going back to school this year?

Christian Religious Instruction teams in your area need volunteers to help continue this amazing ministry. As a CRI teacher or helper, you can read the Bible with students and share the gospel message clearly. All that is needed is 30 minutes a week to teach, some time to prepare, blue card and a letter from your church minister. Teaching curriculum and training are provided. Please contact us if you would like some more information. Sonia Kenny soniajkenney@gmail.com 38413583 or Kerri-Ann Caswell evkezcac@bigpond.com 3219 7435



Would you like to cycle through Cambodia? If you still have room on your list of new year resolutions, why not consider an overseas trip with a difference? At the end of this year, Catholic Mission is offering you the chance to visit some of the vital work it supports in Cambodia, while experiencing the countryside... on a push-bike.

From Wednesday 15 November – Sunday 26 November 2017, you could be part of a group of up to 20 people who will cycle through the cities and countryside of Cambodia, as well as participate in activities such as cooking classes and visit historical venues like Angkor Wat and a floating village, including a Catholic Church. **To take part, you have to register and cover your own travel costs, as well as fundraise \$3,500 for Catholic Mission.** For more information, visit <https://inspiredadventures.com.au/events/catholicmission-cambodia-2017/> or call the Brisbane office of Catholic Mission on (07) 3336 9239.



Are you a parent, looking to raise your children in the Catholic faith? Do you work among non-Christians? Are you involved in a ministry in this parish? If you answered 'yes', to any of these questions, then Catholic Mission would love to see you join us at a conference in Sydney from May 15-17. *Mission: One Heart, Many Voices* will offer practical tips and insights, as well as inspiration on "going forth boldly". To find out more, visit www.mohmv.com.au or call the Brisbane office of Catholic Mission on (07) 3336 9239.

Holy Land Pilgrimage: Fr George Joseph MCBS, is leading a 14-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 21st May - 3rd June 2017. This pilgrimage is being organised by Magi Pilgrimages and features Petra, Bethlehem, Sea of Galilee, Dead Sea, Jericho, Mt Carmel, Mt Tabor, Mt Nebo & Jerusalem.

This all-inclusive pilgrimage is priced at an early bird offer of \$4,990. Reserve your seats with an initial deposit of \$500 prior to 31st January 2017. For the detailed itinerary or to reserve your seats contact Mr. Rajesh George on 0422 215 855. Magi Pilgrimages Ph: 03 8562 2246, 1300 721 561. info@magiholidays.com.au

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those who have died: Raymond Naughton, Josehito Umali, John O'Brien, Mary Menso

Book of Life & Mass Requests: , Sheila O'Neil, John Bakalec, Dorothy Kenway, Catherine Forman, Mary Mulherin, Sr Margaret O'Brien, Hope Wiltshire, Jim O'Donnell, Wolfgang Kurth, Robert Mallon, Monica Wing, Harold Potent, Mary St George, Ivy Mosely, Win Peters, Len Carmody, Kevin Garland, Patrick Hanlan, Daniel Ryan, Donna Tideman, Brian Menz, Carmel Cox

Please pray for those who are sick, especially Ann Mendoza, Peter Holzknecht, Elmore Kotzur, Flex Dance, Michael Ah Koy, Monica Ah Koy, Kevin Kelly, Annette Sparks, Hamish Stuhmeke, Joe Wegener, Roger Byrne, Ingeborg McIntosh, Don Bechly, Brian Button, Ramona Cruz, Bonnie Dematillar, Terri Mills, Johnny Summers

Prayer requests should be recorded on the form on the back table of the church nearest to the lectern.

Please ensure you have the permission of the person who is sick to make their name public.

Roster 4th & 5th February 2017

Communion		Readers		Altar Servers	Musicians
Sat 6:00pm	Deacon Mike Jones Les O'Gorman Carl de Mello	C 1 2	Anthony Della Brooke Della Geoff Hondroudakis	Volunteers please	
Sun 9:00am	Del Reynolds Alan Scanlon June Wilson	C 1 2	Kevin McMahan Romana Langdon Marilyn Mills	Volunteers please	
Sun 6.00pm	Helen Graczyk Cesarina Gigante	C 1 2	Aurelie Regnard Bob Burns Raylee Burns	Volunteers please	

Church Cleaning: 3 Brian & Janice Mason, Jeffrey Aranha, Diane McKeone

Children's Liturgy: ? This week: **Linen:** Celine Phillips **Counting:** Bob's team

Cuppa: Sun 5th Feb after 6pm Mass: kate Guy, Helen Graczyk



Are you new to our Parish? If you've recently joined the Parish, **WELCOME!!** Please make yourself known to us. We'd like to formally greet you, so please complete a 'New Parishioners Card' at the back of the Church and place it on the collection plate or hand it to Fr Jacob or to one of the Parish Councillors.

Parish Ministry Group Co-ordinators

In our parish we have many ways you can be involved. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to speak to one of our Co-ordinators whose numbers is not listed.

- Baptism Preparation:** Julie Hondroudakis
- Bereavement Group:** Contact the Parish Office
- Care & Concern:** Transport: 0412267337
Co-ordinator Lynn White 0403 051103
- Children's Liturgy:** Jodie Baigent
- Family Groups:** Alan & Kristy Scanlon
Facebook: St Peters Rochedale Family Groups
- Memorial Wall & Gardens:** Les O'Gorman 3341 3862
- Mothers' Prayers:** Trish Bakker
- Music Liturgy Group:** Liz Fort

Parish Pastoral Council:

- Chairperson: Malcolm Carroll
- Play Group:** Kristy Scanlon
- RE Teachers in State Schools:** Rita Bishop
- Rosary Group:** Fridays 9:00am
(1st Fridays 8.30am)
- Social Justice Group:** Erika Meerwald
Facebook: St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group
- St Vincent de Paul Rochedale Conference:**
John Blake

Our Parish Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Representative is Malcolm Carroll. If you have any questions or concerns contact Malcolm on 0438 949 099 or mcarroll580@gmail.com

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