A Heartfelt Thank You

Last weekend, we gathered to celebrate a truly special moment in the life of our parish community—the Parish Feast Day and the Diamond Jubilee of our Church. It was a beautiful and uplifting liturgical celebration, filled with colour, music, prayer and joyful fellowship. It was wonderful to see around 600 parishioners come together, many dressed in their traditional attire, reflecting the rich diversity of our parish family.

Such a large and vibrant celebration would not have been possible without the dedication and generosity of so many volunteers. On behalf of the parish, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all who contributed. From decorations to liturgical ministries, preparing and serving food, and especially those who worked tirelessly to set up and clean up the parish grounds—your efforts were truly appreciated.

A special thank you to our parish choirs, who spent many weeks preparing and practising. The music, along with the flags, Gospel procession, and the beautiful flower presentation by the Vietnamese children in honour of Our Blessed Mother, added a unique and moving dimension to the celebration.

I would also like to express sincere gratitude to Efren and the parish liturgy team for their many weeks of planning and coordination behind the scenes. Your commitment brought together the many elements needed for such a meaningful and memorable event.

To all our parishioners, thank you for the richness, diversity, and vibrant faith you bring to our Church. Your energy and enthusiasm continue to inspire and strengthen our community. We are truly blessed by all that you contribute. **Thank you,** Fr Dang

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Acacia Ridge | Algester
Calamvale | Parkinson
| Larapinta | Pallara

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Fr Dang Nguyen
Administrator
nguyend@bne.catholic.net.au
Virginia Sharpe
Parish Assistant (Volunteer)
Dc Hugo Silva
silvah@bne.catholic.net.au
Efren Altez
Liturgy/Newsletter (Volunteer)
Seivland Poh
Safeguarding Officer (Volunteer)
lsr.acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH OFFICE

Located in Presbytery
350 Mortimer Road
Acacia Ridge QLD 4110
Hours Monday (Closed)
Tuesday to Friday - 9:30am to 3:30pm
Telephone 07 3274 5513
Email
acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au
PO Box 12 Acacia Ridge QLD 4110
Website
www.fatimaacaciaridge.org.au

MASS TIMES

Tue: 5:30pm—Holy Mass
6:00pm Eucharist Adoration
Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat 9 am
Saturday 4.30pm (Vigil)
Sunday 9am & 5pm

CONFESSIONS

Tues: 6:00pm to 6:30pm
(or by appointment)

BAPTISMS

3rd Sunday of the month 10.15am

PIETY STALL

1st Sunday each month

SCHOOLS

Our Lady of Fatima School
www.ourladyoffatima.qld.edu.au
07 3275 1152
pacaciaridge@bne.catholic.edu.au
St Stephens School Algester
www.ststephens.qld.edu.au
07 3711 4911
palgester@bne.catholic.edu.au

Please check out our Parish Webpage and Facebook Page for regular updates.

LIKE US ON facebook

FATIMA NEWS

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
21 June 2026

Greetings to all,

Many people like to say that they are afraid of nothing and no one. Yet, deep down, we know this is not entirely true. Fear is part of human life. Even the strongest and bravest among us have moments of anxiety, worry, or uncertainty. Fear becomes dangerous, however, when it controls our choices, weakens our faith, or makes us forget that God is near.

Scripture repeatedly reminds us not to be afraid. This is not because life will always be easy, but because God is always faithful. God knows our weakness and understands how easily fear can enter the human heart. He does not condemn us for feeling afraid; instead, He calls us to trust Him more deeply.

In the First Reading, the prophet Jeremiah gives us a powerful example of courage rooted in faith. Jeremiah was called to speak God's truth to a stubborn people. His message was difficult, and many rejected him for it. Some who had once been his friends turned against him and waited for his downfall. He experienced threats, rejection, and suffering because he remained faithful to the word God had placed in his mouth.

Yet Jeremiah did not allow fear to silence him. He declared with confidence, "The Lord is with me, like a mighty champion." These words reveal the foundation of his courage. Jeremiah did not trust in his own strength. He trusted in the presence and protection of God. Because the Lord was with him, he knew his enemies would not have the final word.

In the Gospel, Jesus gives the same encouragement to the Twelve Apostles: "Fear no one." He sends them out to proclaim the truth, knowing that they will face opposition. The disciples are not promised comfort or applause. They are called to courage, faithfulness, and trust. Jesus reminds them that those who harm the body cannot destroy the soul. The greatest danger is not earthly suffering, but the loss of our relationship with God.

This message is very relevant for us today. We live in a world filled with uncertainty: sickness, financial pressure, family struggles, insecurity, and many other burdens. Fear often comes naturally. But faith teaches us that fear does not have the final say. God says through the prophet Isaiah, "Do not fear, for I am with you." The greatest blessing in life is not what we possess, but whom we have. If God is with us, we are never alone.

Jesus never promised that life would be free from trouble. In fact, He told His disciples that they would face difficulties in the world. But He also said, "take heart! I have overcome the world." Our confidence comes from this victory. Fear may knock at the door of our hearts, but it must not become our master.

Saint Paul reminds us that God has given us a spirit of power, love, and self-control. Therefore, as we begin a new week, let us place our worries, struggles, and uncertainties in God's hands. Let us speak the truth with courage, live our faith with confidence, and face each day with hope. Fear no one, because God is with us.

Have a Blessed Week!

Fr Dang

To receive the Parish eNewsletter, please email to acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au

Thinking About Faith? You're Invited

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Parish

Acacia Ridge

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Every 2nd and 4th Monday each month @7pm, Parish Office

Are you wondering about the Catholic faith? Sensing a quiet invitation? **RCIA** is a welcoming journey offering space to listen, ask questions, and grow in Faith.

"Come and see."

(John 1:39)

Enquire Today!

(07) 3274 5513 Parish or email acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au

Program Facilitators: Deacon Hugo Silva & Margarita Silva

Have you signed up? Why Flocknote?

Parishioners and visitors are invited to scan the QR code to sign up and register with the parish. If you have any questions, please reach out to our parish office : acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au

Safeguarding News

The Safeguarding Commitment for the Archdiocese of Brisbane and Our Lady of Fatima Parish is: Zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and strives to safeguard all who interact with its ministries & services. Special priority is given to the safety & wellbeing of children & adults at risk. In an emergency, please call the Police 000 or information can be provided to STOPline anonymously. Phone: 1300 304 550 Email: AOB@stopline.com.au Online: www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com https:// brisbane-catholic.org.au/safeguarding/safeguard/

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

The St Vincent de Paul winter appeal will be held on the weekend of 20 / 21 June.

Your support is essential if we are to provide food for the poor families of our parish

If you would like to donate on line our bank details are as follows

Name: SVDP Our Lady of Fatima
BSB: 064786 Account: 100026094

You can be sure that 100% of your donation will go to the poor in the parish. We have no administrative costs.

St Vincent de Paul said that "serving the poor is serving Jesus"

FRIENDS IN GRACE

Join us for a Morning Tea on Thursday, 25 June, 9:30am at Parish Office/Presbytery. Bring a plate of food to share and a friend.

Catechism Class

Dear parents, An ongoing catechism class every Sunday during school Term for 30 minutes after the 9 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima parish in Acacia Ridge. For more information, please contact Sr. Hanna MC. Ph: (07) 3252 4441 if interested.

St John Fisher and St Thomas More: Martyrs

St John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, and St Thomas More, Lord Chancellor of England, are remembered as two of the most courageous witnesses of the English Reformation. Though they came from different vocations—one a bishop and scholar, the other a lawyer, statesman, husband and father—they were united by a shared conviction: no earthly ruler could command the conscience where faithfulness to God was at stake.

In the 1530s, King Henry VIII sought to secure control over the Church in England after his dispute with Rome over the annulment of his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. Parliament's Act of Supremacy declared the king to be the Supreme Head of the Church of England. For many, accepting the oath attached to this new order was a political necessity. For John Fisher and Thomas More, however, it involved a claim they could not accept in conscience.

St John Fisher: John Fisher was born in Beverley, Yorkshire, in 1469 and became one of the leading churchmen and scholars of his time. Educated at Cambridge, he rose to prominence as a theologian, preacher and university administrator. In 1504 he was appointed Bishop of Rochester, a relatively small and poor diocese, yet he remained devoted to it rather than seeking a more prestigious position.

Fisher was known for his pastoral seriousness and his defence of Catholic teaching. When Henry VIII demanded recognition of his authority over the Church, Fisher refused to compromise. His resistance was not loud rebellion but quiet fidelity. Imprisoned in the Tower of London, weakened by hardship, he remained steadfast. He was executed on Tower Hill on 22 June 1535.

St Thomas More: Thomas More was born in London in 1478 and became one of the most admired legal and political minds of Renaissance England. A gifted humanist scholar, he was also a committed Christian, a devoted family man and a public servant. His learning, wit and integrity brought him to high office, and in 1529 he became Lord Chancellor of England.

More did not seek conflict with the king. He resigned from public office when he could no longer support the direction of royal policy, and he tried to remain silent rather than provoke confrontation. Yet silence was not enough. Because he would not swear an oath that denied the authority of the pope and placed the king above the Church, he was imprisoned, tried for treason and executed on 6 July 1535. His famous final witness is often remembered in the words: "I die the King's good servant, but God's first."

The martyrdom of John Fisher and Thomas More was not a rejection of civic responsibility. Both men had served England faithfully. Fisher served as a bishop and teacher; More served as a lawyer, diplomat and chancellor. Their deaths show that true service to the state cannot require the surrender of the soul. When political power demanded absolute obedience, they bore witness to the freedom of conscience before God.

The Church honours St John Fisher and St Thomas More together because their lives reveal complementary forms of holiness: the courage of a bishop guarding the faith and the courage of a layman living integrity in public office. Their feast day, celebrated on 22 June in the Catholic Church, invites Christians to examine the place of conscience, truth and faithfulness in their own lives. Centuries after their deaths, their example remains powerful: to serve others well, one must first serve God.

Parish Youth Group Bible Studies

Our parish youth group is holding Bible study sessions every fortnight after the 9 am Sunday Mass. These gatherings are a wonderful opportunity for young people to grow in faith, reflect on the Word of God, and connect with one another in a welcoming and supportive environment.

All young people of the parish age from 15 or older who would like to be part of the program are warmly welcome to join. For more information, please contact our Youth Coordinator, Lawrence Auva'a, at auvaal@bne.catholic.net.au.