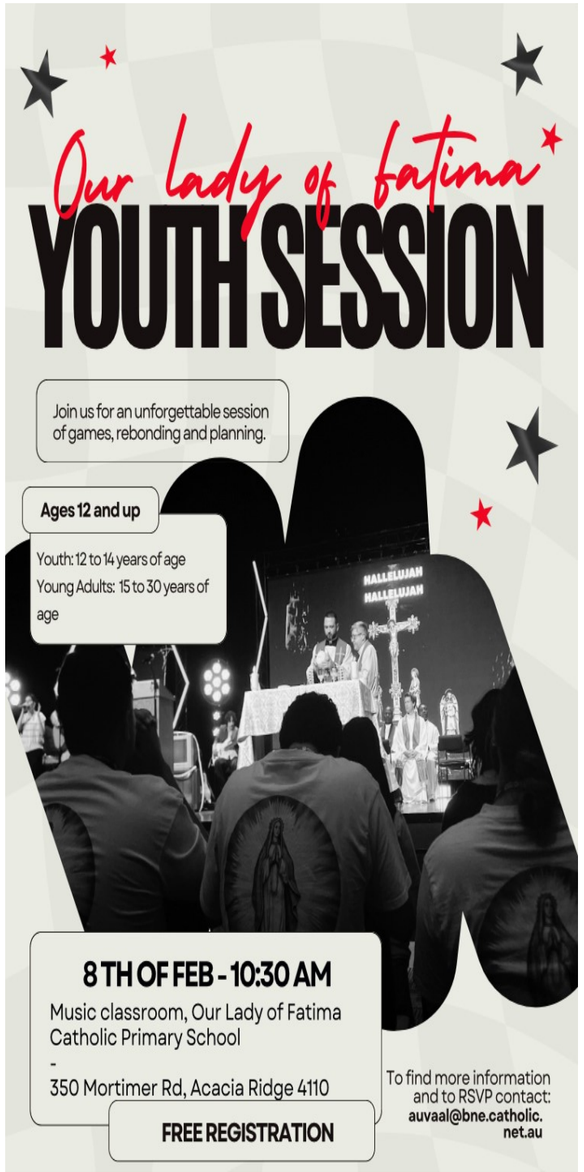
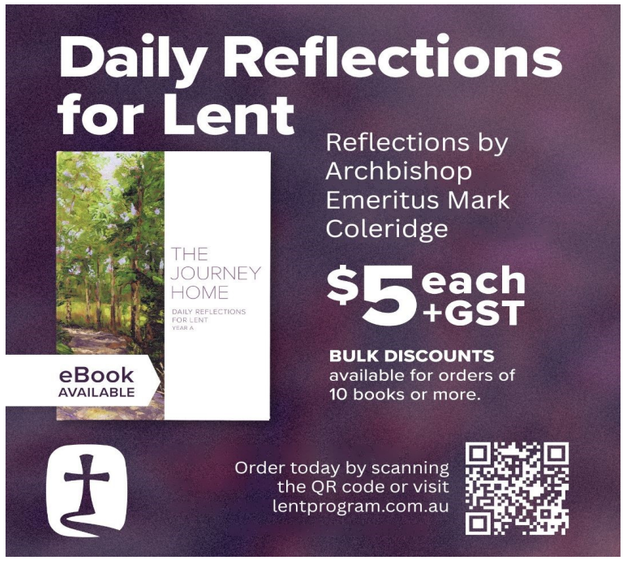




OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

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

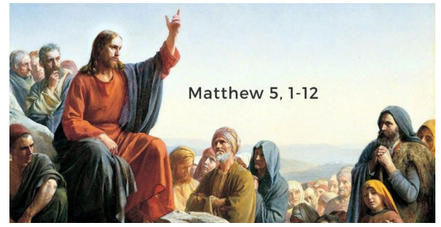
Our Lady of Fatima School
www.ourladyoffatima.qld.edu.au
07 3275 1152
pacaciaridge@bne.catholic.edu.au
St Stephens School Algester
www.ststephens.qld.edu.au
07 3711 4911
palgester@bne.catholic.edu.au

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

LIKE US ON facebook

FATIMA NEWS ORDINARY TIME

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time A
1 February 2026



Greetings to All,

The Gospel reading of this 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time brings us to a very famous sermon of Jesus, the sermon on the mount which contains in two chapters of Gospel of Mathew (5-7). The beginning of this sermon is often known to us as The Beatitudes, night sayings that begin with the words “Blessed are”.

The first thing to get clear about these Beatitudes is to understand the meaning of the word “blessed.” To be blessed does not merely mean “to be happy” (though it certainly includes that). It has the intention of a declaration of what is truly the best kind of life to live. That person, it is saying, is living the best life, how fortunate are they, how lucky, how much God has “blessed” them if they are like that.

Once that understanding is clear, we can see also straightaway how counterintuitive are these “blessings.” To be blessed for being “poor in spirit” is unlikely enough; to be blessed for being persecuted seems borderline absurd. What is it that Jesus is saying?

Jesus is talking about what it means to become and be a Christian. First step is to be poor in Spirit—those are the ones who have the kingdom of heaven. They recognize their need. You cannot become or be a Christian if you think that you have all the spiritual requirements already. There must be a sense of poverty of spirit. A sense of lack. Then there is not just a sense of lack but there is real repentance, mourning even.

Then comes the blessing for the “meek”—not meaning “the weak,” but meaning “power under control.” A meek person is a strong person, and an even stronger person because he is disciplined; like a war horse trained for battle, he does not run off in panic at the first sound of battle. He is meek, controlled, well trained, power under control.

Then comes in a sense the final step of becoming a Christian—hungering and thirsting for righteousness. There is an ardent desire. A seeking. A longing. A faith, but not faith as in just a mental decision, but a real longing for God and for his righteousness. Then they shall be satisfied with God’s righteousness.

After that come the characteristics of someone who is a Christian, who has been “satisfied” in their hunger for righteousness. They are merciful, they are pure in heart, they are peacemakers, and indeed because the direction they are going is different from the world around, they experience the push back of those going in the other direction—whether in its most extreme violent form, or in other subtler ways, a “persecution”. It is an indicator that they are on the right path, the narrow way, and so rejoice and be glad for great is their reward in heaven.

The whole is framed by the “kingdom of heaven”, and what it means to enter that kingdom and then live as a citizen of that kingdom.

Two questions are the most obvious to ask ourselves. 1) Have we entered the kingdom? If not hunger and thirst for righteousness. 2) Are we living as citizens of the kingdom? If not, realize that real joy comes from following God with all our heart and mind, despite the opposition we might experience, for great then is our reward in heaven.

Have Blessed Week, Dang

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

Help Us Prepare the Sacred Ashes for the Start of Lent

As we approach the holy season of Lent, our parish is preparing for the meaningful tradition of Ash Wednesday. This special day marks the beginning of our journey of reflection, repentance, and renewal, and the ashes we receive remind us of our shared commitment to faith and humility.

To prepare the sacred ashes used during the Ash Wednesday service, we invite all parishioners to bring in their blessed palms from last year's Palm Sunday. These palms, once symbols of triumph and welcome, will be respectfully transformed into the ashes that initiate our Lenten journey. **Please bring your blessed palms to the church**. There will be marked baskets at the entrance for you to place your palms. Our volunteers will collect and prepare them in readiness for Ash Wednesday, which will be held on Wednesday, 18 February 2026.

This tradition beautifully connects the celebrations of Palm Sunday and Ash Wednesday, reminding us of the cycle of renewal in our faith. Your participation is appreciated and helps us continue this meaningful practice as a community.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the parish office or speak to one of our volunteers after Mass. Thank you for being part of this sacred tradition. Fr Dang

Invitation to an Anointing Mass

An invitation is extended to the people of the Archdiocese to attend the monthly Anointing Mass at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, 51 Cecil Road, Bardon, Friday, 6th February, 2026 at 7.30pm. Fr. William Aupito Luliano, PP St. Mary's Parish, South Brisbane will be the celebrant. The Sacrament of Anointing will be administered during the Mass and further prayer ministry will be available after Mass. For more information, contact Len Airey on 0421 977 849 or by email to lenpatairey@gmail.com Sponsored by CCR Bardon

Special Invitation to Men of Our Lady of Fatima Parish

The Men's Breakfast Group of Sunnybank (Established in 2012) invite men of all ages to come together in fellowship and enjoy a full barbeque breakfast on the first Saturday morning of each month in the Avocado Room at Paloma Reception Centre at Sunnybank.

The next breakfast will be held on Saturday 7th February, 7am in the Avocado Room. All men in Sunnybank and Acacia Ridge Parishes are invited to enjoy our hearty breakfast for the usual cost of $10 per person. Our guest speaker this month will be Quy Early from Q Realty. If you are new and would like to attend, please give Bob a call to register 0467 341 604. If you would like to attend, please leave a message for Les Micale on 3273 7883 or reply to this email directly at fom.sunnybank@gmail.com ***before Thursday* 5 February** for catering purposes. God Bless

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/

Join us for a Morning Tea on Thursday, 12 February, 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.

A vocation view: Presentation of the Lord – C/1

Like Simeon, we should listen to God's call and allow the Holy Spirit to guide us as we serve with faith and purpose.

Scan the QR code to find out more, or call 1300 133 544 www.vocationbrisbane.com

Follow us on socials @vocationbrisbane

The Homily:

The homily (from the Latin *homilia*, meaning 'conversation') has its roots in the Jewish synagogue service where, after the readings from the Law and the Prophets, an explanation of their meaning was given by one of those present.

A homily was been part of the Church's liturgy since the beginning but during the Middle Ages it changed from a breaking -open of the scriptures to an instruction on Catholic doctrine or morals, i.e., a sermon. It became almost an interruption to the Mass since the celebrant removed his chasuble and moved to the pulpit in the nave to preach.

The Second Vatican Council restored the homily as an integral part of the liturgy, stating that 'the homily is to be highly esteemed as part of the liturgy itself'.

The introduction to the Lectionary says that the homily must be 'truly the fruit of meditation, carefully prepared, neither too long nor too short, and suited to all those present, even children and the uneducated'.

Like the readings at Mass, the homily is a two-way process. The preacher prepares and delivers the homily but members of the assembly play their part by listening attentively to the words of the preacher, keeping an open mind to the insights which are being presented and applying them to their own personal circumstances.

Saint of the Week: St Paul Miki and His Companions

St Paul Miki and his companions hold a unique place in the history of Christianity, particularly in Japan. Their steadfast faith and ultimate sacrifice have inspired generations of believers around the world.

St Paul Miki was born in 1562 near Osaka, Japan, into a prominent samurai family. Educated by Jesuit missionaries, Miki embraced Christianity and joined the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits). Renowned for his eloquent preaching and deep commitment to his faith, he became one of the most influential Christian figures in Japan during a time of growing suspicion and hostility towards the new religion.

By the late 16th century, Christianity had begun to gain a significant following in Japan, largely due to the efforts of Jesuit missionaries. However, the rapid spread of the faith concerned local rulers, who feared it might undermine traditional Japanese culture and loyalty to the shogunate. In 1596, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, the ruling regent, initiated a severe crackdown on Christians, ordering the arrest of missionaries and converts.

Among those arrested were St Paul Miki and twenty-five others—Franciscan friars, Jesuit brothers, and laypeople, both Japanese and foreign. After a harrowing journey on foot from Kyoto to Nagasaki, during which they suffered public humiliation and torture, the group was crucified on 5 February 1597. Even as they faced death, St Paul Miki preached forgiveness and faith to the gathered crowds, famously declaring his forgiveness for his executioners and affirming his Christian beliefs.

The group known as the "Twenty-Six Martyrs of Japan" included both clergy and laypersons, men and boys, Japanese and foreign-born Christians. Their unity in faith, despite differences in background, stands as a powerful testament to the universality of Christianity. Notable companions included St Pedro Bautista, a Spanish Franciscan missionary, and St John Soan de Goto, a Japanese Jesuit novice.

The courage of St Paul Miki and his companions did not extinguish Christianity in Japan. Instead, their martyrdom inspired many to hold fast to their beliefs during centuries of underground worship and persecution. In 1862, Pope Pius IX canonised the twenty-six martyrs as saints, and their feast is celebrated each year on 6 February.

Today, the site of their execution in Nagasaki is marked by the Twenty-Six Martyrs Monument, a place of pilgrimage and reflection. The story of St Paul Miki and his companions continues to resonate, reminding Christians worldwide of the cost of discipleship and the power of forgiveness and faith in the face of adversity.

UPCOMING EVENTS WITHIN OUR PARISH FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Saturday, 14 February, 9:30 am to 11:30 am - Formation Day for Communion Ministers and Lectors
Wednesday, 18 February, 9:00 am and 6:00 pm - Ash Wednesday Mass
Saturday, 21 February, 9:30 to 10:00 am - Devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help
Friday, 27 February, 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm (every Friday during Lent) - Station of the Cross
Friday, 27 February, 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm (every Friday during Lent) - Lenten Program