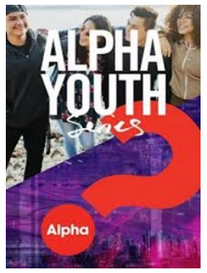
OUR LADY OF FATIMA YOUTH GROUP



Our Parish Youth Group is taking part Youth Alpha Series. It opens to young people from year 13 up to 25 years of age. **Not sure what Youth Alpha is all about?**
It's a series of interactive sessions designed to engage young people in conversations about life, faith and Jesus.
Each week deals with a topic of faith, like, **'Who is Jesus?', 'Why Should I Read the Bible', and 'Does God Heal Today?'. Come and join us!**
Contact details: Lawrence: 0434763218 Parish email: acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au

In our last youth Bible study session, we talked about how important the Bible is as God's voice for us today. We kicked things off with fun scripture games that helped everyone test their knowledge of popular Bible verses. The most inspiring part was hearing Peter share his story about how the Bible has helped him grow in his faith. He mentioned that, while it can be tough to understand and find time to read the Bible, the more we make an effort to engage with the word, the more our faith and relationship with Christ can grow. Peter's experience encourages us all to keep reading and helps our young people grow deeper in their faith with the Bible. Let's pray for our young people to encounter God through his words when we open scripture.

Parish Date Claimer:

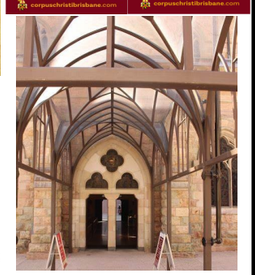
Corpus Christi Procession - 2pm Sunday 22 June 2025, Cathedral of St. Stephen, Brisbane City.

Feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena - 9:30 am 27 June 2025, OLOF

Jubilee door. Parish visit to Stephen Cathedral
Date: Saturday 12 July | Time: 10:30am and stay for 11:30am mass
Requirements to Gain the Jubilee Indulgence
To gain a plenary indulgence (remission of all temporal punishment due to sin), the faithful must:

1. Pass through a designated Holy Door at a cathedral or basilica (often the door is marked and blessed for the Jubilee).
2. Make a sacramental confession (within about 7 days before or after the visit).
3. Receive the Holy Eucharist.
4. Pray for the intentions of the Pope (usually an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be).

Be free from all attachment to sin, even venial sin (the hardest condition, but the Church teaches we can strive sincerely for this state).



Marian Valley Retreat. Theme: 'Our Lady of Fatima - Pillar of Unity'
Date: Saturday 23 August, 10am to 1:30 pm
Place: Mariam Valley Sanctuary | Time: 10am to 2pm
Bus trip: Various activities (more details to follow)

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

Greetings to all,

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Trinity which is the central mystery of our faith. That's why our readings today direct us into this amazing mystery. That our God is a communion of three divine persons in love — the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. One way to think about it, is that we make the Sign of the Cross every time we pray. We're expressing our faith in the Trinity which was revealed to us by Jesus on his Cross.

When we touch our head and we say, "In the name of the Father." This is a reminder of God the Father who is the first person of the Trinity and our creator who totally in love with us that He sent His only Son to save us.

Then we make a movement from the head to the stomach and we say, "and of the Son." This reminds us that God the Son proceeds from the Father and he is the one who taught us how to love. He even gave us the ultimate proof of His love on the cross.

Then we touch our shoulders, moving from left to right as we say, "and of the Holy Spirit." We do this because God the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son; and in his love, the Spirit fills us with the life of God. He is the one who gives us strength and who enables us to be God's arms, working on earth.

And when we join of hands together and say, "Amen." And we remind ourselves that the word "amen" means "so be it;" it is our expression of assent, we say that we believe in God in a communion of three divine Persons in love. As St. John described it in one of his letters. He said very simply, "God is Love." St Augustine tried to explain it, he said, "The Father is the lover. The Son is the loved one. And the Holy Spirit is the love they send forth."

Yet in that love that we are created, every one of us, are created in the image of the Most Holy Trinity, in the image of the God who is Love. We are created to share in the love of the Holy Trinity. We are created to live a divine life in this world. As children of God. As temples of the Holy Spirit.

So this great feast today calls us to really live with a greater awareness of this beautiful reality — that God, the Blessed Trinity presents within us. So let us pray for the grace of God to deepen our awareness of the Blessed Trinity's loving presence within our souls. May all the signs of the cross we ever make be a proclamation of our belief in a God who has been revealed to us as Trinity; as Father, Son and Spirit. May it signal our willingness to share that love with others.

Have a blessed Week,

Fr Dang

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

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/

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 Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

The St Vincent de Paul winter appeal is on the weekend of the 14/15 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:

BSB: 064786 Account no: 100026094 Name: SVDP Our Lady of Fatima
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"

Our Lady of Fatima Primary School

Newsletter Week 8 Term 2

Greetings from the staff and students of Our Lady of Fatima School!

Our School Principal, Mrs Cheesman and I have visited some of our local Kindy centres and met families at the Acacia Ridge Early Years Day last week. If you know of anyone who would like to join our school, please let them know to call the office and we will arrange a Principal Tour for them. If you wish to enroll your children in the OLOF school, please head to this website and complete the Online Enrolment Form:

https://www.ourladyoffatima.qld.edu.au/Enrolments/Pages/Enrolment-Information.aspx

Celebration of Pentecost

On Monday 9th June, the students gathered in the Hall for a short prayer celebration for Pentecost. This was a great opportunity to hear about the events of Pentecost and the effects on future Christians throughout the world. The students sang beautiful songs about the Holy Spirit, including "Celebrating in the Spirit" written by John Burland and "Receive the Power" written by Guy Sebastian and Gary Pinto. Here is the video that the students watched during the prayer celebration, explaining what happened at Pentecost:

In Religion, the Prep students have been learning about ways in which believers pray together during special celebrations and rituals that mark important times in the Church Year. Here are some samples of student work relating to Pentecost. (Students art work below)

School Officer Day – Wednesday 11th June

On Wednesday 11th June, we celebrated School Officer day at OLOF school. The students made and presented cards to the School Officers working in their classrooms and the staff celebrated the School Officers with a morning tea. It was a wonderful way to acknowledge and celebrate special members of our school community.

We look forward to sharing Mass with the Parish on Thursday 26th June with our Prep and Year 6 classes, ahead of our Winter School Holidays.

Commissioning of OLOF Liturgical Ministers will take place on Saturday Vigil Mass (21 June), 9am and 5pm Sunday Masses (22 June 2025) during the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ Mass celebration.

Readers at Mass take on a vital ministry. This ministry is regarded of such importance that those who proclaim the Scriptures at Mass and other liturgical services are designated in a special commissioning service:
"The reader has his own proper function in the eucharistic celebration and should exercise this even though ministers of a higher rank may be present. The reader's ministry, which is conferred through a liturgical rite, must be held in respect." (Lectionary for Mass: Introduction 51)

The Order for the Blessing of Readers is found in the official 'Book of Blessings'. The celebrant's words of introduction explain clearly why this ministry is considered of such importance:

"The word of God, proclaimed in the sacred Scripture, enlightens our minds and hearts. When the Scriptures are read in the liturgical assembly, God speaks to us and calls us to respond in faith and love. The ministry of the reader, then, is important to the life of the Church, for the reader proclaims God's living word."

The Prayer of Blessing asks that, as readers proclaim the words of life, God will strengthen their faith that they may read with conviction and boldness and put into practice what they read.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are also designated to their role through a special liturgical rite. "Persons authorised to distribute holy communion in special cir-cumstances should be commissioned by the local Ordinary or his delegate according to the following rite. The rite should take place in the presence of the people during Mass or outside Mass." *(Order for the Commissioning of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Book of Blessings, 1871)*

The words of the celebrant when he presents to the people those chosen to serve as communion ministers emphasise that theirs is a ministry of unity and that there needs to be consistency between their service of the liturgical assembly at Mass on Sunday and their lives during the week:

"In this ministry, you must be examples of Christian living in faith and conduct; you must strive to grow in holiness through this sacrament of unity and love. Remember that, though many, we are one body because we share the one bread and one cup. As ministers of holy communion be, therefore, especially observant of the Lord's command to love your neighbour."

The Book of Blessings also includes an Order of Commissioning of altar servers, sacristans, musicians, and ushers. It is important that those who serve in these liturgical ministries in the parish are properly prepared and publicly commissioned for their service of the worshipping assembly. The celebrant's words of introduction to the rite say this:

"In the body of Christ there exists a wonderful variety of ministries, which are especially evident when we gather around the altar to worship God. By virtue of our baptism in Christ some are called to serve as ministers of the liturgical assembly: altar servers assist the priest and deacon, sacristans prepare and maintain that which is necessary for divine worship, musicians help to raise our spirits in joyful praise, and ushers provide welcome and dignified order to the celebration. Today we ask God to bless abundantly these new (altar servers, sacristans, musicians, ushers) as they begin their liturgical ministry in our parish."

Christian ministry is about service, not power or prestige. It carries on the saving work of Christ in the world and finds its source in the risen Christ. All those who minister in the Church act in Christ's name. - *Elizabeth Harrington*

Understanding Purgatory: A Biblical and Theological Apology

Christ's Death and Salvation: Catholic and Protestant Perspectives
Many fellow Christians in the Protestant tradition argue that Christ's death fully accomplished salvation, making any need for post-mortem purification unnecessary. They often point to passages like: **John 19:30**: "It is finished."
Catholics agree that Jesus' sacrifice is both sufficient and complete. However, Catholic theology makes a distinction between the *eternal punishment* of sin (which is forgiven through Christ's death) and the *temporal effects* of sin, which may still require purification.
Consider this: even after we are forgiven, we often face consequences for our sins in this life. A clear example is King David, who was forgiven by God after his sin with Bathsheba (2 Samuel 12). While God forgave him, David still suffered consequences. The child born from his union with Bathsheba died, and David faced turmoil in his family and kingdom as a result of his actions. This shows that forgiveness doesn't automatically erase the temporal effects of sin. Similarly, even when guilt is forgiven, there may still be a need for purification or restitution—such as overcoming attachment to sin or making reparations for harm done—before entering the perfect holiness of Heaven.
As Pope Benedict XVI wrote in *Spe Salvi* (2007):
"Before the gaze of Jesus, all falsehood melts away. This encounter with him, as it burns us, transforms and frees us, allowing us to become truly ourselves." Thus, Purgatory is not a rejection of Christ's sacrifice but a participation in its purifying love.

Early Church Fathers and Tradition
The belief in post-mortem purification was not a later development in the Middle Ages, but was present from the earliest Christian times:
St. Augustine (5th century) writes: "Some suffer temporal punishments only after death."
St. Gregory the Great (6th century) states: "As for certain lesser faults, we must believe that, before the Final Judgment, there is a purifying fire." Thus, the Church has always recognized that nothing unclean will enter Heaven (cf. Revelation 21:27).
Reflection by Dc Hugo (to be continued)