

# St Thomas the Apostle Parish Camp Hill



No. 29

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

15th August 2021

Marian devotion is an important aspect of Catholic spirituality. However, the image of her we see most may have failed to illustrate a lady who is one with us as human and also has doubts and questions. Such a perfect image of her was fostered by the iconography of her adorned with rosy cheeks and saccharine persona. And such an image can be short-sighted. This weekend we are celebrating our sister, Mary the mother of Jesus, by honouring her Assumption. In her, we recognise one who never understood everything at once; often asked questions; and at other times pondered and wondered on what was said of her son. She had doubts, anguish and temptations and gradually built her faith to overcome the dark and difficult times as the Gospels stories about her tells us. Therefore, we have a companion in her and her example gives us the required reply we need to the distressing questions of life in the midst of uncertainties.

In the next couple of weeks I'll meet with the PFC and Liturgy Group either by Zoom or in-person, as part of keeping up to speed with events. A few days ago, I met with the PPC members via Zoom; an amazing group of people and so supportive. We shared some words of gratitude and encouragement. I deeply appreciate their innovations and willingness to execute every item we set our minds on. We may not have accomplished all, however its fortunate to note that Parish life is a continuum and does not come to a halt with the transfer of a priest. I'm grateful to God that we've had the opportunity to share our faith together. I came to you first as a Christian so that every other appellation to my name was more or less a burden. We grew together in the five years I was with you, learning to trust each other, to respect roles and not neglect the most important aspect of our calling as Christian, that is, love.

One beautiful example of this is the sense of having a laity that is so efficient. We as a parish invested our time and energy in trying to encourage everyone's talent to shine out and become channels of witness and of faith and love that can only be the result of a laity spiritually dynamic. God through Christ inspired in our hearts the appreciation of service to all and we have many examples of this.

Have a blessed week ahead!

*Fr Christopher*

## Historical Context – Feast of the Assumption

Since the 5th Century there has been an active tradition and belief around the assumption of Mary. The tradition states that Mary was physically 'taken up' into heaven at the end of her life. It is believed that her soul and her body remained united. This ancient belief was defined as an infallible teaching of the Church by Pope Pius XII in 1950. It is one of only two infallible statements that have been defined as such and both related to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The feast is celebrated on August 15 and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

## Living the Gospel – Saying 'Yes'

In a world that is increasingly selfish and negative, there is a trend towards isolation from family, neighbours and community. In the face of social isolation, the call to a Christian life is a call to say 'Yes' to life itself and all it offers. To say 'Yes' to life is to say 'Yes' to life-giving relationships and decisions and 'No' to life denying relationships and decisions. To say 'Yes' to life is to say 'No' to those things that harm self and harm others. A 'Yes' to life is a 'Yes' to hope; to possibility; to love; to God; and to yourself.

## The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**1st reading:** Revelations 11:19; 12:1-6, 10 *I saw a woman clothed with the sun and with the moon at her feet.*

**2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26 *As members of Christ all people will be raised, Christ first, and after him all who belong to him.*

**Gospel:** Luke 1:39-56 *The Almighty has done great things for me; he has lifted up the lowly.*

## PLEASE NOTE:

Due to the current Covid restrictions which are in place until at least Sunday 22nd August, we will not be hosting morning tea after Sunday morning Mass. We will review this once we have an update on restrictions.

## Parish News & Notices

### 2021 First Holy Communion

After a false start, we are pleased to be able to finally welcome the children in our parish who are preparing for First Holy Communion. We wish them all the best on this wonderful journey.



Due to the delayed start, and to ensure our First Communions can still be celebrated on the weekends of **4th/5th and 11th/12th September**, there have been a few changes to the schedule, combining the first few weeks as well as the Activity Weekend:

**Combined Enrolment/Parent Information/Commitment Weekend** – 14/15 August

**Combined Activity Weekend** - 21/22 August

**Workshop**—28 August

Please don't hesitate to contact Sr Analissa at [cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au) if you have any questions.

### CONTACT DETAILS:

31 Perth Street, Camp Hill 4152  
PO BOX 685 Coorparoo QLD 4151

**T: 3398 1154**

**E: [stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au)**

**W: [camphillcatholicparish.org.au](http://camphillcatholicparish.org.au)**

**F: [https://www.facebook.com/  
StThomasCatholicParishCampHill/](https://www.facebook.com/StThomasCatholicParishCampHill/)**

### **Office hours**

8:30 am - 1:30pm: M/T/Th/F

### MASS TIMES:

#### **Sunday Eucharist**

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 8.30am

Sunday 5.30pm

#### **Weekday Eucharist**

Monday 7.00am

Tuesday 7.00am

Thursday 9.00am

Friday 9.00am

Public Holiday 9.00am

### **Reconciliation**

Contact the Parish Office

### **Adoration and Benediction**

1st Friday After 9am Mass

### **Anointing of the Sick during Mass**

Thursday 9th Sept 2021 @ 10.30am

### PARISH TEAM:

**Parish Priest** - Fr Christopher Obi  
[obic@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:obic@bne.catholic.net.au)

### **Children's Ministry Coordinator**

Sr Analissa Balderama  
[cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au)

### **Parish Secretary**

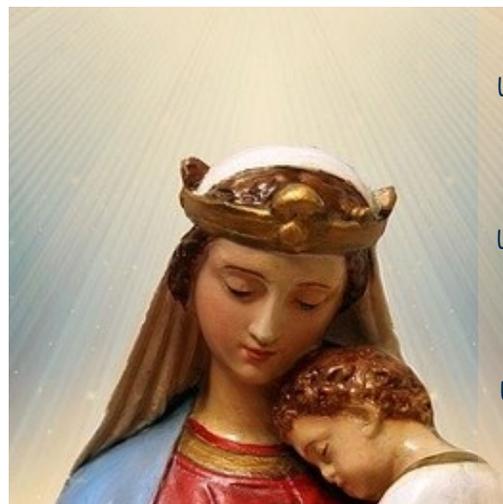
Ms Lisa Moroney  
[stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au)

**SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2021-22**  
**CRY OF THE EARTH, CRY OF THE POOR**

Registrations are closing soon for the Social Justice Statement Brisbane Launch on Wednesday 25 August at St James Catholic Church Coorparoo.

Bishop Ken Howell will launch the statement and Dr Maeve Heaney, will help to unpack the theological foundations of Laudato Si' which are the focus of this year's Social Justice Statement.

To register visit: <https://app.tickets.org.au/eb/sjstatement>



**FROM MARY**  
we learn to surrender to God's  
will in all things

**FROM MARY**  
we learn to trust even when all  
hope seems gone

**FROM MARY**  
we learn to love Christ Her Son  
and the Son of God

~ Pope John Paul II ~

### **We remember in our prayers**



**The sick:** Joan Scott, Humberto Villalta, Nes Mustafa, Jolanda Villalta, Dan Bishop, Shirley Murphy, Olive Kiely, Sue Douglas, Tom Grant, Lauren Balcombe, Lola Radford, Sonia Mendez, Fr Ron Mollison, Marjorie Cusack, Joe Sherlock, Sue Lamb, Jacob Mu, Megan Bowden, Camel Horn, Fr Ian Wren, Lynn Toon, Shirley Owen

**The Recently Deceased:** Isabella Marjorie Drew, Thomas Tighe

### **Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

Joan Dennis, Arpad (Jack) Glockner, Mary Ellis, Hilda Burke, Elizabeth Ives, Corliss Newman, Terence Sullivan, Dorothy Traynor, Maureen Morrissey, Eulalie Patterson, John Seppanen, Graham Underwood, John Proudfoot, Eileen Dendle, Athol Wild, Lee Hunt, Amy Campbell, Ted Hanns, Bill O'Brien, Helen Bemrose, Fay Gee, Lurlene Kent, Annie Buckley, John Ashwell, Dermott Casey, Margaret Moffat, Peter Riley, Alice Pacey, Lynette Buesel, Diana Calvisi, Lance Fry, Shirley Tessmann, Daphne Waller and Aidan Hunt, Malcolm D'Cruz

## Parish News & Notices

The Annual Catholic Campaign supports vital ministries around South East Queensland - including the Priests Foundation, Centacare, Holy Spirit Seminary & Mary MacKillop Catholic School Access Fund, It relies on generosity from parishioners across our Archdiocese. This year's campaign will take place next weekend - 21/22 August.



[catholiccampaign.com.au](http://catholiccampaign.com.au)

## Be blessed and bless others with your gift

Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. Your gift today will be a blessing to struggling local families; to seminarians and retired priests; and children in our community in dire need of the love and care of a Catholic community.



2021 ANNUAL  
CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

Our Church • Our Mission • Our Community

## Jamberoo Abbey Online Retreat a retreat about Hope

Van Gogh - Tower in the fields

Meet me in the Middle

### ABOUT

This retreat is based on Charles Peguy's Little Girl Hope from the book: "The Portal of the Mystery of Hope". Hope is both a virtue and a mystery. It is desirable yet elusive. Many dismiss it, misunderstand it, shrug it off and turn their backs on it, extolling faith and charity instead. Whilst faith and charity are absolutely critical in these times of uncertainty and fear in society, there is now a need for hope as never before since World War II.

### DATE

Retreat begins Sunday, September 5, 2021.  
All videos and texts will be available on our website for as long as you need access.

### DETAILS

There are 6 conferences with two being uploaded each week. There are also questions for reflection. Take your time as there is no need to complete the two conferences within the one week.

### COST

The cost of the retreat is \$250  
Pensioners can apply for a reduced price- see website for details

### CONTACT

Register online at:  
[jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats](http://jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats)



## Fan the Flame

Towards Plenary  
Assembly One  
October 2021

'His mercy reaches from age to age'

Luke 1:39-56

God is asking us to refrain from putting barriers and obstacles in the way of God's mercy reaching the least, the lost and those who feel excluded, especially those who do not yet know the love of God. God is asking us to be a Church that walks together and does not leave anyone behind.

(Humble, Healing and Merciful – Discernment Paper p. 6)

[www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthefflame/](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthefflame/)

PASSING ON  
THE FLAME



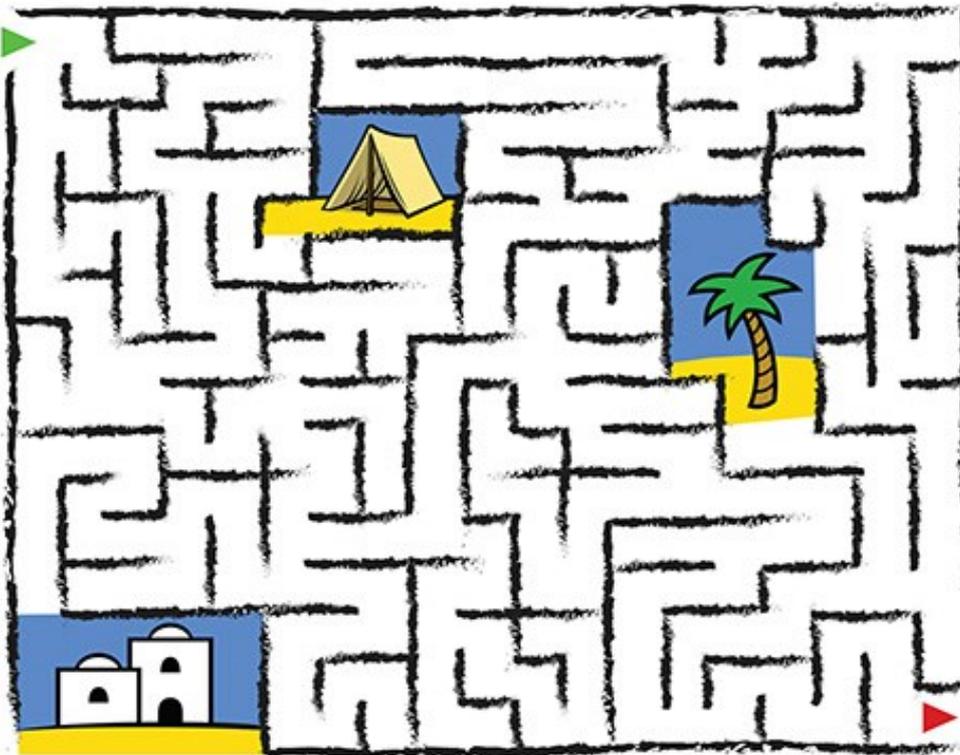
Women of the Archdiocese of Brisbane are invited to an evening of conversation as Catholic women share their experience of church, their call to discipleship, challenges and their hopes for the Church of the future.

**Date:** Thurs 19th August, 5:45pm – 8pm  
**Place:** Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre (249 Elizabeth St Brisbane City)  
**Cost:** \$20 (\$15 concession)

For information or to register go to:  
[app.tickets.org.au/eb/spiritedwomen](http://app.tickets.org.au/eb/spiritedwomen)



Help Mary find her way as she travels to see her cousin, Elizabeth.



**MARCH FOR LIFE  
CANCELLED DUE TO  
COVID RESTRICTIONS**

Disappointingly, the March for Life Brisbane on Sat 28 August has been cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

Despite not being able to gather together there is still a lot that you can do:

- > **Meet with your MP - this is the most effective thing to do.** Contact details for Queensland state MPs can be found [HERE](#). If you are not sure what state electorate you are in, you can find it by entering your address [HERE](#). Speaking points and details on the Bill can be found [HERE](#)
- > **Email your MP directly** [HERE](#)
- > **Tell your entire community about the Bill**, encouraging them to meet with their state MP and email them too.

<https://www.cherishlife.org.au/>



**Heart of Life**

Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation

**'Ephphatha? Be Thou Open?'**, Sat 28 August  
10am-4pm via ZOOM.

*This reflection event using a journal/creative materials offers you time & space to explore new ways of attuning and responding to your experiences. You are invited to participate in a self-paced personal journey of sensitively and privately opening your heart to your inner feelings. You will be supported in using various forms of expression to unfold meaning.*

*You will be encouraged to capture experiences and reflections in a creative journal of your making. Participants will use their own simple art/creative materials & journal. Suggestions will be provided.*

*Led by Margaret Trainor, qualified in spiritual direction and art therapy. Cost \$60.*

*Book at [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne),  
email [secretary@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:secretary@heartoflife.melbourne),  
or ph (03) 9890 1101.*



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Centacare is the social services arm of the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

