



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

PINE RIVERS

102 SPARKES RD, BRAY PARK Q 4500

(07) 3205 1493 - BRAYPARK@BNE.CATHOLIC.NET.AU

HTTPS://HOLYSPIRITBRAYPARK.COM

OFFICE HOURS - MON-FRI 9AM - 4:30PM

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Chinua Okeke, C.S.Sp

okekee@bne.catholic.net.au

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr Edward Khaemba, C.S.Sp

khaembae@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH SECRETARIES

Alexandra Lindstrom (Finance)

Giuliano Silvestro (Admin)

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Sat 6:00pm (Sunday Vigil)

Sun 7:00am, 9:00am

Sun 11:00am Aramaic Mass

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon 7:00am; Tue 7:30pm;

Wed 7:00am; Thu 9:00am

Fri 7:00am & 7:30pm (1st Friday)

Sat 8:00 am

HEALING MASS

2nd Friday of the month at 7.00am

BAPTISMS

1st and 3rd Sundays of the Month.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8.30am and 5.15pm.

1st Friday of each month 8:15pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT,

BENEDICTION AND ADORATION

Every Wednesday after the 7am Mass
until Thursday 8:30am

1st Friday of the month – 8:15pm until
7:30am Saturday morning

ROSARY

After weekday mass

Second Saturday of the month at 7.30am

Last Friday of the month at 6:30am

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Chair – Matthew Dahms

Secretary – Patrick Collins

braypark@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Chair – John Thomas

Secretary – Sabrina Menezes

braypark@bne.catholic.net.au

LITURGICAL COMMITTEE

Chair – Dawn Penna

Secretary - Marian Brooks

20th/21st December 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A



Our Advent journey has been a pilgrimage of the heart. We began with a call to watchful hope for the coming of the Son of Man in the first week of Advent. In the second week, we heard the voice of John the Baptist, urging us to prepare a straight path for the Lord. Last Sunday, during the third week of Advent, we were invited to experience Gaudete—a joy that recognises the happiness already dawning in our midst.

On this final Sunday, our focus is on one word: fulfilment. We behold Mary, whose courageous “yes” allowed God’s eternal promise to take on flesh and bone. The prophecy is fulfilled not as a distant concept but in the intimate, vulnerable reality of her pregnancy.

This mystery poses a profound and personal question: Like Mary, are we, in a spiritual sense, pregnant with the Child Jesus?

We know we carry the Child Jesus through our surrender. We are pregnant with Christ when we are willing to set aside our own carefully laid plans to cooperate with God's greater purpose. Consider Joseph. A righteous man, he had a just and merciful plan: to divorce Mary quietly. However, when God’s astonishing plan was revealed to him, he surrendered his own understanding, his reputation, and took Mary as his wife. If Joseph had clung to his personal plan and walked away, the story of salvation would be different. This Advent, we might ask ourselves: What personal plan or deeply held desire for how my life should unfold am I being asked to release to make sacred space for God’s life to grow within me?

We also carry the Child Jesus through our sacrifices. We recognise this sacred presence when our own needs and comforts become secondary to the love of another. Even in her profound circumstances, Mary did not turn inward; she arose and went in haste to serve her cousin Elizabeth. Her love was immediate, outward, and embodied. This Christmas, let us represent this truth. May our giving—whether of gifts, time, or simple attention—be motivated not by obligation, but by a genuine, sacrificial desire to meet the needs of others.

We pray that during this Christmas, we may recognise and nurture the living presence of Emmanuel, Christ, within us and among us now. A presence that calls for our surrender and is made manifest through our sacrifices. AMEN.

Warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and a joyful holiday season.

Fr Edward Khaemba CSSp

THANKSGIVING VIA DIRECT DEBIT

Many parishioners are undertaking **Planned Giving** via Direct Debit. The advantages include...

- ✓ Reduces waste: huge paper saving
- ✓ Reduces administration time
- ✓ Ensures regular support (\$)
- ✓ Aids Parish planning.

First Collection is for the support of the Priests

Second Collection is for support of the Parish

The simple **form** is available from the back of the church or Parish Office. You can set up regular payments now.

Please consider!

We Remember

Recently Deceased: Marian Lintag Arrastia



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially:

Anna Toth, Chris Murphy, Alexander Hamilton, Esther Orreal, Elsie Wild, Syd Gatton, Charles Williamson, Moira Cross, Mona Hood, Patrick O'Donoghue, Steve Arthur Bishop. **May their souls rest in peace.**

We pray for all of our sick parishioners and those who we have been asked to pray for, especially:

Lameka Eketi, Sa Tamalii, Brendan Drury, Stephen Thompson, Jacob Young, Marg Wallace, Ellie Zemann, Clive Smith, Editha Hall, Betsy Van Meygaarden, Peter Brown, David Lowe, Clifford Naughton, Darren Searle, Glen Brown, Henry Mencia, Victoria Murrell, Maarten Vollebregt, Henny Van Meygaarden, Elda, Albert Jahnke, Mark Hopgood, Angela Gannon, Josephine Abellera, Kevin Pavey, Carolyn Tanner, Dorcas Leema, Eddie (Luisa's brother), Bernadette (Luisa's daughter), Fiona Russell, Maggie, Frank Zoing, Michael Sedl, Trish, Jeffrey Heyne, Larry Eliepa, Arthur Naylor, Bryan Doyle, Marian David, Vincent Stufano and family, Sr Lina Vaschina, Anna Maria Vaschina, Christina Grace Hambling, Josie Longo, Marco Polo Tanzi, Gerry Demenzes & Maria Stufano, Lewis Mika. People in Nursing Homes.

If you would like a priest to visit yourself or if you know of someone, for anointing and/or Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office on 3205 1493.

SYRIAC CATHOLIC MISSION

Thu 5-8pm (Women' Group), Fri 6-8pm (Teenagers), Sat 9.00-11.00am (Catechism & First Communion)

Subdeacon - Zaid Sallouha 0499404013

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



Christmas Eve – Wednesday, 24th December **Family Mass**

Carols – 5:30pm

Mass 6:00pm

Christmas Night - Wednesday, 24th December **Christmas Mass**

Carols – 11:30pm

Mass 12:00 midnight

Christmas Day - Thursday, 25th December

Mass – 7:00am

Mass – 9:00am

Aramaic Mass – 11.00am

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Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God **Wednesday, 31st December 2025**

For World Peace and End of the Year

Mass 7:30pm, followed by All Night Adoration until 8:30am the following morning

Thursday 1st January 2026

Mass: 9:00am

CHRISTMAS MASS VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for any Readers, Special Ministers, Altar Servers, and Data Projector Operators who are available for the Christmas Masses. Please write your name and contact details against your preferred time on the sheets in the Sacristy.

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic Community of Holy Spirit Parish, Pine Rivers, guided by the Holy Spirit and nourished by the Word and the Eucharist, commit ourselves to:

1. Fulfilling our Baptismal responsibility through evangelization and service;
2. Becoming a loving and welcoming community;
3. Recognizing and affirming the dignity of all as "Children of God";
4. Deepening our spirituality; that God's Kingdom may reign now and evermore.

This week in our Parish

Wed 24 th	5.30pm	Christmas Carols
	6.00pm	Christmas Vigil Mass
	11.30pm	Christmas Carols
	12:00am	Midnight Mass
Thu 25 th	6:30am	Christmas Carols
	7.00am	Christmas Mass
	8.30am	Christmas Carols
	9.00am	Christmas Mass

Upcoming Events

Sun 21 st December	Fourth Sunday of Advent Advent Reflections
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Mass Intentions

Sat 20 th	6:00pm	Peter & Wendy Greasley (50 th Wedding Anniversary)
Sun 21 st	7.00am	Gerry Doyle (RIP)
	9.00am	Bob Smith (RIP Anniversary) Theresa Menezes (RIP)
Mon 22 nd	7.00am	The Holy Soul of Fransisco Cabungcal and the souls of the deceased members of the Cabungcal family Pauline Byfield (RIP)
Tue 23 rd	7.30pm	Yvonne Fernandez (RIP)
Wed 24 th	6.00pm	Joyce Thomas (RIP Anniversary)
	12.00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Thu 25 th	7.00am	Stefania & Bill (Special Intention)
	9.00am	Marian Lintag Arrastia (RIP)
Fri 26 th	7.00am	Personal Intention of Solomon
Sat 27 th	8.00am	Michael Penna (RIP Anniversary)

ADORATION NOTICE

Please note that Adoration will cease from after Adoration on the 17/18th December. NOTE: That means AFTER NEXT WEEK'S Adoration. It will resume on the 14/15th January 2026.

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The parish office will be closed for the Christmas break from Thursday, December 25th to Friday, January 12th. From Monday, January 15th to Tuesday, January 30th, the office will have reduced hours, open only on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 30th.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you to all who have so generously donated to our Appeal.

ALL money donated is used in our local area. Thanks also to the parishioners who helped pack our Christmas Hampers which were delivered during the week.

Thank you all for your support.



COLUMBIAN CALENDAR FOR 2026 NOW AVAILABLE

The Columbian Calendars for 2026 are now available from the Piety Store for \$11.00.

SVDP CHRISTMAS CARDS



St Vincent De Paul Christmas Cards are available at the Piety Store: A packet of 5 cards for \$2.50.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PLAY & CHOIR – INVITATION TO JOIN THE FAMILY CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS

As we prepare for Christmas, we would love to invite the children of our parish to take part in this year's Nativity Play and to join the Spirit Alive Choir for the Family Christmas Vigil Mass at 6:00pm on Wednesday, 24th December.

The Nativity Play and Choir are a wonderful opportunity for our children to celebrate the birth of Jesus, grow in confidence, and experience the joy of sharing their gifts with the parish community. We welcome all children – no previous experience is needed, just enthusiasm and a willingness to participate.

Nativity Play Practice Time

- Monday 22nd: 7:00pm – 8:30pm (Church)

Children are welcome to take part in the Nativity Play, the Choir, or both. If your child would like to join the choir, please bring them to the practices listed above so they can learn the music and take part confidently on the night.

READINGS FOR THE 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Acknowledgement: Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL). All rights reserved.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 7:10-14 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

*'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men*

*without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.*

*It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Emmanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us".'*

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 23:1-6 (JB)

R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **R.**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **R.**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

SECOND READING

Romans 1:1-7 (JB)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 1:23 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-24 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to

fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home. The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2026

Information meetings regarding **HOLY COMMUNION** will be held on:

- Thursday 12 March @ 6:30pm in the church
- Sunday 15 March @ 10:00am after Mass

Attendance at one meeting is necessary before enrolment.

Enrolment for First Holy Communion & First Rite of Reconciliation:

- Saturday 21 March @ 5pm
- Sunday 22 March @ 10am
- Monday 23 March @ Parish Office (by appointment only)

First Holy Communion (Year 4 or older)

Ceremonies: 6/7 June (during Mass)

First Rite of Reconciliation (Year 5 or older)

Ceremony: Monday 1 June @ 6:30pm in the Church

Confirmation (Year 3)

Enrolment for Confirmation:

- Saturday 20 June @ 5pm
- Sunday 21 June @ 10am
- Monday 22 June @ Parish Office (by appointment only)

Ceremony: Sunday 23 August

Baptism: If any school age children wish to be Baptised please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible.

SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT

The Holy Spirit Catholic Community has **zero tolerance** for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.

Safeguarding Contact Email:

lsr.braypark@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH MINISTRIES AND GROUPS

Whether you're looking for fellowship, faith formation, or a way to serve, you are warmly invited to be a part of our many groups within the parish.

Knights of the Southern Cross

Parish Young Adults

Children's Catechism

Legion of Mary

Couples for Christ Australia

St Vincent de Paul Society

Men's Prayer Group

Marian Movement of Priests

Community Connect

For more information, please contact the Parish Office by phone on 3205 1493 or email at braypark@bne.catholic.net.au

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

We celebrate Mass monthly with the residents of local nursing homes.

Mass Schedule (Monthly):

Pinewoods: December 16, 10:30am

Anam Cara: December 18 1:30pm

Strathpine Aged Care: December 19 10:30am

We welcome volunteers and visitors! Please contact the parish office to learn more.

BECOMING CATHOLIC –

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning about the Catholic faith?

Becoming Catholic involves a journey of faith, accompanied by the support of a parish community. This process is called Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or RCIA. During the RCIA process you meet with others to share, reflect, pray and learn more about the Catholic faith.

If you or someone you know would like to know more about becoming Catholic, please contact the parish office by phone on 3205 1493 or email braypark@bne.catholic.net.au

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Tae Kwon Do classes held at Holy Spirit School every Wednesday afternoon. All ages welcome. Established since 1988. Please call Damian or Daisy on 0438 860 967 for more information.

The privacy of all individuals with whom HOLY SPIRIT PARISH interacts is very important to us and we are committed to protecting all personal information we collect and hold. Our Privacy Policy is available by request.

Roster for this Sunday – 4th Sunday of Advent 20th/21st December 2025 (3rd Sunday of the Month)

	6pm Saturday	7am Sunday	9am Sunday
Readers	Doreen Mones Menuki Perera	Paul Ferris Sherine Tobias	Joyce Cubillan Crisalyn Tenio
Special Ministers	Doreen Mones Pat Casey Carleen Augustus	Marie Hird Lito De La Vega Jun Lacson	Susan Lu, Juliet Kumar, Japar Kumar, One more please
Altar Servers	Paulo K Manuel K		Francis Fernando Peter Fernando Theresa
Data Projection	Michael Heyne	Paul Ferris	
Music		Emmanuel Choir	Couples for Christ Australia
Hospitality			Filipino Group

Roster for next Sunday – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph 27th/28th December 2025 (4th Sunday of the Month)

	6pm Saturday	7am Sunday	9am Sunday
Readers	Wendy Greasley Dylan Marsh	Sania Taukeve Remigia Muller	Beverly Halangoda Sandra Glaties
Special Ministers	Marian Brooks Peter Greasley Tony Martin	Vicki Norris Agimary Joseph Marie Hird	Bryan Irvine, Joyce Cubillan, Alvin Cubillan, One more please
Altar Servers	Shaun Perera Faith D'Souza		Sophia Moody Janelle Bose Christian Dahms
Data Projection	Michael Heyne	Paul Ferris	
Music	Jennifer Marsh	Emmanuel Choir	Couples for Christ Australia
Hospitality			Assistance Required Please