



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](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

18th January 2026 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

THEME: JESUS CHRIST THE LAMB OF GOD

Today, we are celebrating the second Sunday in ordinary time year A; although it is the first-time green vestment is being used on a Sunday since this liturgical year began on first Sunday of Advent (30.11.25). One may wonder when did we celebrate the first Sunday in Ordinary Time year A? As a church participant, you may recall celebrating first Sundays in Advent, Lent or Easter, but you may not remember ever celebrating a first Sunday in Ordinary Time whether in year A, B or C. The last Sunday in Christmastide which is often the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, doubles as the first Sunday in Ordinary Time. Thus, prayers and readings are taken from first week in Ordinary Time during the weekdays following the feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

On this Sunday, there is a leap from the Gospel of Matthew which is the default Gospel for Sundays in Ordinary Time year A, to the Gospel of John. John the Baptist who came as a precursor to Jesus bore witness to him. John experienced baptism while he was still in the womb of his mother Elizabeth, during Mary's visitation to her. We read that when Mary's greeting reached the ears of Elizabeth, the baby in her womb (John the Baptist), leapt for Joy (Lk 1:39-45). Jesus during his ministry made us to understand that this was the moment John was baptised (Mt 21:22-26).

John the Baptist bore witness to Jesus as "the Lamb of God who takes away the Sin of the world", and the one who baptises with "the Holy Spirit"; unlike himself whose baptism was one of repentance in preparation for the Messiah and did not confer the Holy Spirit on the penitents. John the Baptist vouched that he saw the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus, and that Jesus is the Chosen One of God! Here, John's testimony corroborates the prophecy of Isaiah in the first reading that Jesus is the Chosen Servant of God.

To understand the title of Jesus as the Lamb of God, one needs to ponder on the exodus experience, where the blood of lambs that were smeared on the door posts brought reprieve to the house residents, ensuring that all the members of the household lived to tell the story of the Lord's goodness. Unlike the families who did not smear the blood of the lamb on their door posts and experienced casualties when the angel of death passed through their neighbourhood. Similarly, lambs were offered as holocaust at the Temple as a peace or sin offering. These blood of the lambs were figurative; they pointed to Christ.

Jesus as the Lamb of God offered himself at the altar of the cross to take away our sins. Through his suffering, death and resurrection we have been redeemed. At every Eucharistic celebration, during the Communion Rite, before the reception of the Eucharist, we re-affirm our faith in Christ as the Lamb of God, who has just been sacrificed anew on the Eucharistic altar. The priest elevates the consecrated host and declares: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb"!

We then acknowledge our unworthiness before God because only God is worthy. We can stand before God and receive the bread of life because of the merit of Christ. We become members of the church and are referred to as holy and saints (second reading), because of the merit of Christ. May Christ the Lamb of God who came that you and I may have life and have it to the fullest always bestow his grace upon us. Amen

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

THANKSGIVING VIA DIRECT DEBIT

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- ✓ Reduces waste: huge paper saving
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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: Celine Jeremiah (Funeral 10am 20th January at Holy Spirit Church, Bray Park)



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially: Jim Feeney, Peter D'Rosario, Pat Standish, Joe Glazebrook, Marcia Bucket, George McAteer,

William Cowley, Vincent Johnson, Leo Rowley, Janine Suttle, Mary Clair, Maurice Kennedy. **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:

Genevieve Marie, 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

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.

Mass Intentions

Sat 17 th	6:00pm	Salvatore and Nunciatina Olivieri (RIP)
Sun 18 th	7.00am	Norman & Dorothy Rees (RIP)
	9.00am	Dominador Limeta (RIP)
Mon 19 th	7.00am	Rest of the souls of Antonio Montegrando & Maria Franchina
Tue 20 th	7.30pm	Genevieve Murray (Successful Surgery)
Wed 21 st	7.00pm	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Thu 22 nd	9.00am	Personal Intention for Solomon
Fri 23 rd	7.00am	Margaret Bleasdale (RIP Anniversary)
Sat 24 th	8.00am	Lourde Rubio (RIP)

Upcoming Events

Jan 22 nd	National Day of Mourning for Bondi Victims
Jan 26 th	Australia Day
Jan 27 th	Holy Spirit Primary School resumes
Jan 31 st	Parish Pastoral Council Reflection/ Planning day
Feb 2 nd	Presentation of the Lord; Venerable Francis Liebermann
Feb 18 th	Ash Wednesday
Feb 19 th	Start of Lenten Programme

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

The Parish Office has reopened with reduced hours until January 30th. (Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays). Regular office hours will resume from Monday February 2nd.

CHILDREN'S MASS – SUNDAY 1ST FEBRUARY (9AM)

Families are warmly invited to our **Children's Mass** at **9am on Sunday 1st February**. Children are encouraged to take part in the celebration in a variety of ways, including joining the choir.

Children who are interested in singing are invited to attend choir practice on **Saturday 24th January** and **Saturday 31st January** at **2:30pm in the Church**.

We look forward to welcoming our children and families as we celebrate together.

LENTEN PROGRAM – THE JOURNEY HOME

This Lent, join our parish community in reflection and prayer. Beginning mid-February, we will offer small group discussions both in-person and online.

If you are interested in joining or leading a group, please write your name on the sheet at the front of the Church, or contact the Parish Office.

READINGS FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified';

I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken,

he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him,

to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel;

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 39:2, 4, 7-10 (JB)*

R. Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord

and he stooped down to me;

he heard my cry.

He put a new song into my mouth,

praise of our God. **R.**

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear.

You do not ask for holocaust and victim.

Instead, here am I. **R.**

In the scroll of the book it stands written

that I should do your will.

My God, I delight in your law

in the depth of my heart. **R.**

Your justice I have proclaimed

in the great assembly.

My lips I have not sealed;

you know it, O Lord. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:1-3 (JB)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together

with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1:14, 12 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia! The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 1:29-34 (JB)

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.' 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

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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 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 17th/18th January 2026 (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			Assistance Required Please

Roster for next Sunday – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time 24th/25th January 2026 (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			Knights of the Southern Cross