



## 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](mailto:okekee@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr Edward Khaemba, C.S.Sp

[khaembae@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto: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 (1<sup>st</sup> Friday)

Sat 8:00 am

#### HEALING MASS

2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month at 7.00am

#### BAPTISMS

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the Month.

#### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8.30am and 5.15pm.

1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month 8:15pm

#### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT,

#### BENEDICTION AND ADORATION

Every Wednesday after the 7am Mass

until Thursday 8:30am

1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:braypark@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Chair – John Thomas

Secretary – Sabrina Menezes

[braypark@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:braypark@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### LITURGICAL COMMITTEE

Chair – Dawn Penna

Secretary - Marian Brooks

### 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Today's Gospel (Mt 5:1-12), presents us with the beginning of the great teaching of Jesus called the Sermon on the Mount which covers chapter 5:1 -7:28 of Matthew's Gospel. Matthew the Evangelist presents Jesus as the fulfiller of Old Testament prophecies who came not to abrogate the Laws and the Prophets, but to fulfil them (mt 5:17). Hence, just as Moses went up the mountain to receive the ten commandments from God (Ex 31:18), so did Jesus in today's Gospel passage go up the mountain to proclaim the new covenant – the beatitudes.

The beatitudes are not Laws like the ten commandments which instructs one on what is or not acceptable behavioural patterns in one's relationship with God or neighbour. They are rather a call to take higher ground in our relationship with one another; to empty oneself like Christ – to humbly seek the Lord and to live with integrity of life.

Blessed are the poor in heart for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven. St Paul tells us that this world is passing away hence we must not be engrossed with material things (1Cor 7:31). Therefore, being poor in spirit is to acknowledge that but for the grace of God our wealth would not accrue to us. Being poor in spirit frees our hearts from being envious of the property or gifts of others. It gives us the oomph to work hard to alleviate our material condition through engaging in legitimate businesses.

Happy the gentle they shall have the earth for their heritage. This beatitude may appear as if Jesus is advocating for weakness. No, Jesus himself espoused this virtue when he rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey rather than a horse in his triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Here Jesus is urging us to shone pomposity.

Happy are those who mourn, they shall be comforted. These are those who decry evil and moral decadence in our society. Those who do not justify sin but work very hard to eradicate it. They console those who are bereaved or are going through catastrophic experiences.

Happy are those who hunger and thirst for what is right, they shall be satisfied. These are those who fight for a just society. They use human and other resources at their disposal to eradicate structural injustices like depriving woman of education or modern-day slavery.

Happy are the merciful – for they shall have mercy shown to them. Here Jesus is advocating that we be compassionate with each other and not be vengeful. Jesus always treats people with respect and compassion he despised no one. Even the outcasts in the society like the lepers were treated with dignity and respect by Jesus. Jesus' life has set an example for us to follow.

Happy are the pure in heart for they shall see God. At our baptism our hearts were immaculate – pure. When we soil our hearts through sin, we are invited to restore them to purity by availing of the sacrament of reconciliation. We are invited not to have animosity in our hearts. Let your yes be yes, and your no be no. Be honest in your dealings with your neighbours.

Happy are the peace makers, they shall be called children of God. Jesus is the king of peace. He invites you to be an agent of peace in your family and community. At times, you may become the punch-bag of your family or community. We realise that the absence of war does not automatically equate to peace. Peace is something we consciously work for. At times, it might include confrontation to realise peace.

Happy are those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. At times one may suffer for a crime one did not commit. Some people have been jailed or possibly executed for a crime they did not commit. Some people are persecuted like Jesus for doing good. King Saul sought for the life of David out of envy. David had put his life on the line when he killed Goliath, but the popularity of David after that battle made Saul to be envious of him. Jesus assures us that if we are persecuted for doing good like being his disciples that great reward awaits us in the hereafter.

Fr Chinua Okeke 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



*Those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially:* Agnes Chandulal, Jack Netto, Joan Bolton, Don Cohen, Maureen Greaves, Howard Leighton,

William Josey, John Adams, Tony Polovich, Basil Hicks; Edward Noyes. *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:*

Joe Barrett, 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 31 <sup>st</sup>	6:00pm	Albertona Alimpulos (RIP & Birthday Anniv) Celine Jeremiah (Recently Deceased)
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	7.00am	Personal intention for Solomon
	9.00am	Agnes Chandulal (RIP)
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.00am	Gladys Pentony (RIP Anniversary)
Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	Sampath & Bertram (Recently Deceased)
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Justice Gio (RIP Anniversary)
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Personal intention for Solomon

## Upcoming Events

Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Presentation of the Lord; Venerable Francis Liebermann
Feb 11 <sup>th</sup>	World day for the sick (Healing Mass)
Feb 18 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday (Mass 7am & 8:45am & 7:30pm)
Feb 19 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Lenten Programme

## TAKING HOLY COMMUNION TO HOMES AND AGED CARE

I thank all those who are volunteering to take Holy Communion to their vulnerable loved ones at home or to those in Aged Care facilities. Please proceed to the foot of the sanctuary to receive blessing/commissioning at the end of Holy Communion rite. Once you receive the pix containing Holy Communion, please proceed to bring the Holy Communion to the recipient/s immediately. If you intend to participate in "cuppa" after mass, the Blessed Sacrament should be left on the altar with lit candle until you are ready to bring the Holy Communion to the recipient/s. Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp.

## SUNDAY CUPPA AFTER 7AM and 9AM MASS - VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

So many of us enjoy a 'cuppa' and a chat after both the 7am and 9am Mass each Sunday. It has become part of our Sunday routine and we are very grateful to our loyal groups of volunteers who make it happen.

We still have quite a few free dates on our 2026 roster for the 9am Mass and would love to have some new volunteers – either individuals or groups.

Each group is rostered on once every two months.

There is always someone on hand to help out, if you, or your group, need assistance.

If you would like to be involved, please contact me, or the Parish Office. Any donations of biscuits/cakes etc. are

always very welcome. Most of the food served is provided by our generous volunteers. Thank you, Catherine ( plucka01@bigpond.com )

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### PRESENTATION OF THE LORD MASS

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Mass will start at the canteen area at the front of the Church with the blessing of candles.

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### ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF VENERABLE FRANCIS LIBERMANN C.S.Sp



February 2 is also the anniversary of the death of Venerable Francis Libermann (1802–1852). A Jewish convert and the "Second Founder" of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit (Spiritans). Libermann overcame epilepsy to revitalize the congregation's mission to people of African descent. His spirituality of "practical union with God" remains the heartbeat of Spiritan missionaries worldwide

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### COMMUNITY CONNECT

Our next Community Connect meeting will be this Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 10am.

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### Baptism



This Sunday we warmly welcome:

*Malakai Patrick Dooley*

*Jordyn Harrington*

*Jamie Louise Weimers*

into God's family and the Holy Spirit community.

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### PALM FRONDS

If you have any palm fronds blessed from IPalm Sunday last year, we were wondering if you could kindly bring them to the church or Parish Office.

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### READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### FIRST READING

*Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 (JB)*

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps 145:7-10 (JB)*

**R.** Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!  
It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**

It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

#### SECOND READING

*1 Corinthians 1:26–31 (JB)*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  
Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen - those who are nothing at all to show those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Matthew 5:12 (JB)*

Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad;  
Your reward will be great in heaven. Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL

*Matthew 5:1-12 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
*Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:*

*'How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:*

*they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful:*

*they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers:*

*they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'* The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2026

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Parents Information meetings will be held on:

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

**CONFIRMATION:** Parents Information Meeting will be held on.

- 11 June 6:30pm
- 14 June 10:00am

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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 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 31<sup>st</sup>/1<sup>st</sup> February 2026 (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month)**

	6pm Saturday	7am Sunday	9am Sunday
<b>Readers</b>	Alan Brooks Marian Brooks	Rob Van Meygaarden Terry O'Donnell	Children's Mass
<b>Special Ministers</b>	Marian Brooks Carleen Augustus Pat Casey	Laurie Conlon Vicki Norris Lito De La Vega	Susan Lu, Juliet Kumar, Japar Kumar, Bryan Irvine
<b>Altar Servers</b>		Maria Kunau	Klara Pacl, Sandra Glaties, Alana Bijomon
<b>Data Projection</b>	Michael Heyne	Paul Ferris	
<b>Music</b>	Glen Edmonds	Emmanuel Choir	"Spirit Alive" Choir
<b>Hospitality</b>			Indian Community

**Roster for next Sunday – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> February 2026 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month)**

	6pm Saturday	7am Sunday	9am Sunday
<b>Readers</b>	Tony Martin	Ashley Smith Marie Hird	Ester Malgapo Rebecca Davis
<b>Special Ministers</b>	Tony Martin Alan Brooks Yanery Ventura	Ashley Smith Vicki Norris Agimary Joseph	Bryan Irvine, Joyce Cubillan, Alvin Cubillan, Pele Pese
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Charlotte Lindstrom Josie Lindstrom Juliette Lindstrom	Lokani Fosita Julius Fosita	Justice Emmanuel Wisdom
<b>Data Projection</b>	Michael Heyne	Paul Ferris	
<b>Music</b>	Jennifer Marsh	Emmanuel Choir	"Le Ala" Samoan Choir "Le Ala"
<b>Hospitality</b>			Samoan Group