



## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

### PINE RIVERS

102 SPARKES RD, BRAY PARK Q 4500

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[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

Sun 5:30pm (during Advent & Lent)

#### 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

#### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

##### EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION

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

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

### 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026 – First Sunday of Lent Year A

#### THEME: JESUS' COMMITMENT TO THE FATHER

My dear friends in Christ, I welcome you to this grace-filled season of Lent. Lent is a penitential period when we commemorate the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness to prepare himself for his ministry. He fasted and faced difficult challenges; however, he was enabled by the Holy Spirit to overcome these challenges by praying and remaining focused on the mission entrusted to him by His Father. As disciples of Jesus, we are invited during this period of Lent to have a pause and to beam a search light on the aspects of our lives that need spiritual ventilation. The ashes we received on Ash Wednesday underscored the urgency for us to amend our ways.

Do you live a dishonest life? Are you easily agitated or angered? Are you in perpetual loggerhead with your siblings or spouse or neighbours or friends? Is your prayer life rusty? Are you jealous or envious?

Lent is a time for a new beginning – a time to reset the button by putting God first again in your life through choosing virtues and avoiding vices. It is a period of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving should elicit a change of heart in us and enable us to renew our Baptismal covenant with God, which is to reject Satan (evil) and place our trust and hope in the one true God.

The first reading recounts the fall of Adam and Eve from the state of grace. This fall of our first parents is referred to in our Catholic tradition as the Original Sin - the loss of their "original holiness."

Today's Gospel passage (Mt 4:1-11) narrated some of the temptations Jesus had during his ministry. The book of Hebrews testified that Jesus is our high priest and that he "is not indifferent to our weaknesses, for he was tempted in every way just as we are, yet without sin." (Heb 4:15). Jesus' temptations focus on how we use power or authority (turning stone into bread); pride (jumping down from the parapet of the Temple); and vain glory (bowing down to worship the Devil to become a king and wealthy).

Jesus unlike Adam and Eve resisted the temptations from the Evil One. Hence, he committed himself to the mission entrusted to him by God the Father for the salvation of the world. During our baptism, we promised to reject Satan and sin, by professing to worship the only one true God. We know that like Adam and Eve, we do falter from our baptismal promises by caving in to the trapping of the Evil One. Lent calls us to repentance. Hence, on this first Sunday of Lent, I invite you to re-commit yourself to your Baptismal promises by committing to a Lenten plan. Examine your conscience and choose one or two vices in your live that you hope to work on (like anger management, procrastination, addictions, lack of zeal to pray etc) or a cause you wish to commit yourself to during this Lenten season (like advocacy for justice, family reconciliation, care for the marginalised etc). Write them on the paper provided on the pews during the quiet reflection following the homily. You will be invited by the priest after the renewal of baptismal promises to process and place your Lenten commitment in a basket in front of the sanctuary as he sprinkles you with holy water. Your intentions shall be included in our daily prayers during the six weeks of Lent.

We pray that the Lord of the covenant will grant you a grace of renewal during this Lenten period, so that you will rise anew with Jesus at Easter!

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!**

### 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 21 <sup>st</sup>	6:00pm	Jill Barrett (Birthday Anniv) Celine Jeremiah (RIP) Thanksgiving
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.00am	Gerry Doyle (RIP Anniv)
	9.00am	Celine Jeremiah (RIP)
Tue 24 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	7.00am	Death Anniversary of the Holy Soul of Restituto Cabungcal

### Upcoming Events

Mar 8 <sup>th</sup>	Commissioning of Parish Pastoral Council Members
Mar 19 <sup>th</sup>	St Joseph, Spouse of the BVM (Cuppa) New Eucharistic Minister Training 7.00pm
Mar 25 <sup>th</sup>	Annunciation of the Lord
Mar 29 <sup>th</sup>	Palm Sunday
Apr 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Holy Thursday
Apr 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Good Friday
Apr 4 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Vigil
Apr 5 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Sunday
Apr 30 <sup>th</sup>	Readers' Workshop @ 7.00pm
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Workshop @ 7.00pm
May 15 <sup>th</sup> –23 <sup>rd</sup>	Pentecost Novena
May 20 <sup>th</sup> –22 <sup>nd</sup>	Pentecost Seminar 7:00pm
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Pentecost Sunday
Aug 30 <sup>th</sup>	Multicultural Mass

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

Carolyn Tanner, Vincent Stufano and family, Sr Lina Vaschina, Anna Maria Vaschina, Christina Grace Hambling, Josie Longo, Marco Polo Tanzi, Gerry Demenzenes & Maria Stufano,, Joe Barrett, Genevieve

Marie, Lameka Eketi, Sa Tamalii, Brendan Drury, Stephen Thompson, 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, People in Nursing Homes.

### We Remember



**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time**

**especially:** Gabriel Chan, Marie Byrne, William Tilner, Albert Boga, Frances Butterworth, Julie Evans, Gerald Gisinger,

Edward Lynagh, Tony Kuluz, John Kelly, James Gerald Doyle, Brian Mc Curdy, Rachel Adams. **May their souls rest in peace.**

### LENTEN PROGRAMME FOR 2026

All are warmly welcome to participate in our journey toward Easter. May this Lent be a time of profound grace for you.



#### Lenten Study (Weekly Reflection on the Sunday Gospel)

Weekly Sessions from Tuesday February 17<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday March 31<sup>st</sup> – Tuesdays: 6:00pm–7:00pm (In person & online)  
The online participation is through Zoom. This link is also on the Parish Website. <https://holyspiritbraypark.com>

#### Stations of the Cross

Each Friday eveing at 7:30pm

#### Sunday Evening Mass during Lent

5:30pm (from this Sunday February 22<sup>nd</sup>)

#### Parish Lenten Retreat

March 11<sup>th</sup> – March 13<sup>th</sup>: 7:00pm – 8:00pm

#### Easter Reconciliation

March 25<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm

### LENTEN COMMITMENT

On this first Sunday of Lent, you are invited to re-commit yourself to your Baptismal promises by committing to a Lenten plan. Examine your conscience and choose one or two vices in your live that you hope to work on (like anger management, procrastination, addictions, lack of zeal to pray etc) or a cause you wish to commit yourself to during this Lenten season (like advocacy for justice, family reconciliation, care for the marginalised etc). Write them on the paper provided on the pews during the quiet reflection following the homily. You will be invited by the priest after the renewal of baptismal promises to process and place your Lenten commitment in a basket in front of the sanctuary as he sprinkles you with holy water. Your intentions shall be included in our daily prayers during the six weeks of Lent.

### PALM FRONDS

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

**\*\*\* WELCOME BACK FATHER EDWARD \*\*\***

We are delighted to welcome Father Edward. He has just returned from home leave spent caring for his ailing mother. We thank him for his loving care for his mother and embrace his return to our community. As he rejoins us in ministry, let us keep his mother in our hearts and prayers.

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST: VISIT THE SPIRITANS IN PNG**

Parishioners are invited to express their interest in a short mission visit to our Spiritan brothers in Aitape, Papua New Guinea. The trip is planned for June/July this year and will be approximately one week in duration. This is a wonderful opportunity to witness the life and work of the Spiritans in a vibrant cultural context. For further details or to register your interest, please contact Patrick Collins on 0419 712 581.

**PARISH TOUCH FOOTBALL TEAM – NEW SEASON**

Are you keen for some fun, fitness, and fellowship? We are calling for expressions of interest from parishioners to join a mixed touch football team for the upcoming season. All ages and skill levels are welcome—this is a great way to connect with fellow parishioners outside of Sunday Mass. To register your interest, please contact the Parish Office

**READINGS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**FIRST READING** *Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7 (JB)*

A reading from the book of Genesis  
The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths. The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** *Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17 (JB)*

**R.** Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**SECOND READING**

*Romans 5:12, 17-19 (JB)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans  
Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Matthew 4:4 (JB)*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!  
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**GOSPEL**

*Matthew 5:38-48 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

*Man does not live on bread alone  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'*

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: *He will put you in his angels' charge,  
and they will support you on their hands  
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'*

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

*You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'*

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

*You must worship the Lord your God,  
and serve him alone.'*

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**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](mailto:plucka01@bigpond.com))



**HOLY SPIRIT  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
ENROLLMENTS**

<https://www.holyspiritbraypark.qld.edu.au/enrolment/Pages/default.aspx>

**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

**ROSARY FOR LIFE:** As part of the 40 days for Life Lenten Campaign, the rosary for the unborn with short meditations by Fr Frank Pavone, will be said after the Tuesday Evening Mass during Lent. Also, after the rosary on the Fridays of Lent, the Divine Mercy Chapter will be recited. Please join us to lend your support.

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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 – First Sunday of Lent 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month)**

	6pm Saturday	7am Sunday	9am Sunday
<b>Readers</b>	Wendy Greasley Dylan Marsh	Sania Taukeve Remigia Muller	Beverley Halangoda Zoraida Requina
<b>Special Ministers</b>	Marian Brooks, Peter Greasley, Tony Martin	Vicki Norris, Agimary Joseph, Marie Hird	Bryan Irvine, Joyce Cubillan, Alvin Cubillan, One more please
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Shaun Perera Faith D'Souza		Sophia Moody, Janelle Bose Christian Dahms
<b>Data Projection</b>	Michael Heyne	Paul Ferris	
<b>Music</b>	Glen Edmonds	Emmanuel Choir	
<b>Hospitality</b>			Religious Education