



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

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 (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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION

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

braypark@bne.catholic.net.au

8th March 2026 – Third Sunday of Lent Year A

THEME: Christ our Living Water

In the first Reading from the Book of Exodus (Ex 17:3-7), the people of Israel complained against God and His servant Moses because they were thirsty at Horeb in the desert. They asked Moses why he brought them out from Egypt only to die of thirst in the desert. All their plights in Egypt seemed to have been forgotten just because of thirst. In Egypt, their male babies were killed, and they were slaves working under taskmasters. Due to their thirst, they even wondered if the Lord was still with them. The Lord ordered Moses to strike a designated rock with his staff so that water would gush out for the people to quench their thirst. Moses struck the rock and water gushed out, and the people and their livestock drank to their satisfaction.

The Gospel (Jn 4:5-42), started with the dialogue between Jesus and a Samaritan woman at Patriarch Jacob's well. The woman had come to draw water around mid-day, and Jesus had asked her to give him some water to drink. She was stunned that a Jew (due to Jesus' attire or accent), should even talk to a Samaritan let alone asking for a drink from a Samaritan woman. Feel her astonishment when she responded to Jesus' request, "What? You are a Jew, and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?" It meant that Jesus was willing to share utensil with a Samaritan which most Jews would not do.

Jews were at loggerheads with the Samaritans and considered them as second-class citizens. The history of their enmity goes back to the conquest of the Northern Israel which had Samaria as the capital by the Assyrians in 722 BC. The Assyrians scattered a large number of the people of Israel across the empire never to return to Israel again and moved people from other nationalities to the land of Israel; unlike the captivity of the Southern Israel in Babylon in 537 BC, where the Israelites were deported to Babylon as a block, and they came back en masse at the end of their captivity. Hence, for the Southern Israelites, the Northern Israel has become a mix race, no longer Jewish.

Though Jesus' initial dialogue with the Samaritan woman was about physical water, he gradually moved the discussion to include spiritual encounter with God when he said to her, "if you only knew what God is offering, and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water." Jesus went on to clarify that anyone who drank the water from Jacob's well will get thirsty again because it quenches only physical thirst, but the spiritual water that he is offering turns into a spring in people's lives that leads to eternal life.

Again, Jesus by commenting on the Samaritan woman's life struggles especially with her marriages led her to faith that he (Jesus), was the Messiah. With the Samaritan woman accepting Jesus as her personal Lord and Saviour, she ran into her village to invite considerable number of people to come and meet Jesus. These Samaritans who listened to Jesus because of the Samaritan woman's testimony, also came to faith that Jesus is really "the saviour of the world". Jesus reaching out to the Samaritans showed that salvation is for everyone, and that everyone who worships God "in spirit and truth" is acceptable to God. Everyone including the Jews need this salvation.

We too, participate in this salvation brought to us by Jesus, through our Baptism and we as the Samaritans profess him as our Messiah and "the saviour of the world."

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

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 7 th	6:00pm	Mary & Lawrence D'Ekenaike (RIP)
Sun 8 th	7.00am	Fred Ventura (RIP)
	9.00am	Thanksgiving for March
Tue 10 th	7.30pm	Berta de Rodriguez (RIP Anniversary)
Wed 11 th	7.00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory

Upcoming Events

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

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

Dorcas Leema, Carolyn Tanner, Vincent Stufano and family, Sr Lina Vaschina, Anna Maria Vaschina, Christina Grace Hambling, Josie Longo, Marco Polo Tanzi, Gerry Demenzes & 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: Jonathan Butler, Dave Callaghan, Victor Bruce, Ellarose Msue, Maurice Woulfe, Charles Scanlan, Gwen Sheedy, Doreen Mc Keever, Fr Derick Furness, Stan Dennam, Patrick Keogh, Patricia Worth. ***May their souls rest in peace.***

Funeral for Margaret Cameron

Margaret Cameron was one of our pioneering parishioners. Her funeral will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary, 31 Edmond St, Caloundra on Friday 13th March at 11am.

LENTEN WEEKLY STUDY ON THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

In person & online. The online participation is through Zoom on Tuesdays at 6pm. This link is also on the Parish Website. <https://holyspiritbraypark.com>

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday evening at 7:30pm

Sunday Evening Mass during Lent

5:30pm (each Sunday during Lent)

Easter Reconciliation

March 25th 7:00pm

Chrism Mass in St Stephen's Cathedral March 26th 7:00pm

Parishioners are invited to participate at this Mass.

Parish Lenten Retreat – This Wednesday March 11th to Friday March 13th: 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Theme: Grace & Forgiveness

TOPICS

- Day 1 · Mercy & Reconciliation
Activities include a talk & Eucharistic Celebration
- Day 2 · Prayer in a Distracted World
Activities include a talk, Benediction & Rosary
- Day 3 · Carrying Our Cross Today
Activities include a talk & Stations of the Cross
- * Reconciliation each day from 6:20pm to 6:50pm

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Please join us in welcoming the new members of our Parish Pastoral Council! This Sunday, the Parish Pastoral Council members will be officially commissioned during the 9:00 AM Mass. We pray for and support those who will serve in this important ministry.

PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE: Stay connected with our parish community online! Follow us [here on Facebook](#) for updates, reflections, and events. Or search for "Holy Spirit Bray Park Catholic Community"

KNIGHTS SILVER CIRCLE: Selling over 7/8th and 14/15th March w/ends. \$20 per ticket. This will give you 12 chances over 10 weeks for Cash Prizes. \$40 per week and Final Draw (10th wk) of \$200;\$100;\$50. Proceeds mostly to local Charities (incl. St V de P). Only 100 tickets sold!

READINGS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING Exodus 17:3-7 (Year A) (JB)

A reading from the book of Exodus

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 94:1-2, 6-9 (Year A) (JB)

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

SECOND READING Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 (Year A) (JB)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf John 4:42, 15 (Year A) (JB)

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42 (Year A) (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for

a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you:

Give me a drink,

you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water

will get thirsty again;

but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give

will never be thirsty again:

the water that I shall give

will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming

when you will worship the Father

neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

You worship what you do not know;

we worship what we do know;

for salvation comes from the Jews.

But the hour will come – in fact it is here already –

when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper

the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

YOUNG ADULTS - HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

Come join us!

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." - Proverbs 27:17

Our Young Adults group offers a welcoming community for growth, fellowship, and service. We invite you to be part of this vibrant ministry!

What We Offer:

- Weekly Men's and Women's Bible Studies
- Monthly gatherings for fellowship
- Monthly social activities
- Opportunities to serve in parish and community ministries

Get Connected: Contact Ashan at 0424 641 418 or follow us on Instagram @holyspiritya
Whether you're new to the parish or looking to deepen your faith and friendships, we'd love to have you join us!

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 Chaplet 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 – Third Sunday of Lent 7th/8th March 2026 (2nd Sunday of the Month)

	6pm Saturday	7am Sunday	9am Sunday
Readers	Tony Martin	Ashley Smith, Marie Hird	Ester Malgapo, Rebecca Davis
Special Ministers	Carleen Augustus (S), Tony Martin, Alan Brooks, Yanery Ventura	Lito De La Vega (S), Vicki Norris, Ashley Smith, Agimary Joseph, Laurie Conlon	Bryan Irvine (S), Susan Lu, Joyce Cubillan, Alvin Cubillan, Pele Pese, Juliet Kumar
Altar Servers	Charlotte Lindstrom, Josie Lindstrom, Juliette Lindstrom	Lokani Fosita Julius Fosita	–
Data Projection	Michael Heyne	Paul Ferris	–
Music	–	Emmanuel Choir	Le Ala Samoan Choir
Hospitality			Patricia, Kim and friends