



**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](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**

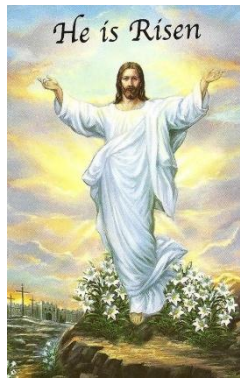
Chair – John Thomas  
Secretary – Sabrina Menezes  
[braypark@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:braypark@bne.catholic.net.au)

**LITURGICAL COMMITTEE**

Chair – Dawn Penna  
Secretary - Marian Brooks  
[braypark@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:braypark@bne.catholic.net.au)

**5th April 2026 — Easter Sunday Year A**

**EASTER MESSAGE**



Dear people of God,

**The Lord has risen indeed, Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is central to our Christian faith, for if Christ had not risen from the dead, then, our faith in him would have been in vain (1 Cor 15:14). The resurrection of Jesus Christ was the dominant message proclaimed in the early church. Jesus during his ministry had prophesied his resurrection when he stated that, "the Son of man was destined to suffer grievously, and to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again." (Mark 8:31)

By his resurrection, Jesus triumphed over evil and over any situation that holds us in bondage. We recall the joy the Jews had when they escaped from their place of slavery in Egypt and eluded the Egyptian army who chased after them. When they had miraculously crossed the Red Sea, they sang a song of Joy in praise of God:

*I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!*

*Horse and rider you have thrown into the sea!*

*The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation.*

*this is my God and I extol him,*

*my father's God and I give him praise (Ps 15:1-2)*

Our hearts too like the Jews in the desert are full of Joy because Jesus' resurrection assures us of our redemption. Since Jesus has set us free through his passion, death, and resurrection, we ought to examine our consciences as individuals and as a church to ensure that we are not holding anyone in bondage.

We acknowledge and apologise for all forms of abuses and injustices that may have been perpetuated in the church in the past, or the church may have turned a blind eye to. Here, I mention the evil of Trans-Atlantic slave trade and the heinous crime of child abuse that had been perpetuated by members of the church, which included Clergy, Religious and Laity. We acknowledge that such negative behaviours by some members of the church faithful especially those in leadership are inimical to the Goodnews of freedom from oppression proclaimed by Christ and which he won for us by his suffering, death and resurrection. We ask for forgiveness from all those who are feeling betrayed or hurt by the church.

The resurrection of Jesus marks a new beginning. God had prophesied through the mouth of Prophet Isaiah that He was going to do something new:

For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! (Is 43:19-20).

Hence, this is a time of a new beginning; a time to reconnect with the church if you have drifted from her. Easter is also a time of the Lord's jubilee when those held in bondage (like in jubilees of old) are set free (Lev 25:8-18). Just as Jesus has set us free from our sins, so are we invited to expunge all forms of oppressiveness from our lives.

Let us allow the light of the risen Christ to shine into our lives, dispelling the darkness of sin and addictions, healing our hurts and bringing back joy and hope into our lives. Jesus can transform your life for he said, "come to me all you who are burdened and heavy laden, I will give you rest" (Matt 11:28).

As you approach the throne of God's mercy that Jesus Christ has won for you through his resurrection may you receive grace upon grace! Amen.

**\*\*\* Happy Easter! \*\*\***

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp, Fr Edward Khaemba CSSp, Fr Patrick Swaray 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 4th	6:00pm	Mary & Lawrence D'Ekenaike (RIP)
Sun 5th	7.00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
	9.00am	Thanksgiving Mass
Mon 6th	7.00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory Bill Shaw (Birthday)
Tue 7 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm	Ralph & Evelyn Millard (RIP)
Wed 8th	7.00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Fri 10th	7.00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Upcoming Events

Apr 12th	Divine Mercy Sunday
Apr 30 <sup>th</sup>	Readers' Workshop @ 7.00pm
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Workshop @ 7.00pm
May 9 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Picnic - Bullocky's Rest 12 Noon
May 15 <sup>th</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup>	Pentecost Novena
May 18 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	Pentecost Seminar 7:00pm
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Pentecost Sunday
May 30 <sup>th</sup>	Public Rosary 8:45am
Aug 30 <sup>th</sup>	Multicultural Mass
Sep 13 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Assembly

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

Bryan Doyle, 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:*** Kellie-Ann Clift, Fr. George Lahiffe C.S.Sp, Pauline Anderson, Alison Cooney, Josephine O'Connell, Henrietta Coe, Annie Kennedy, Janice Morgan. ***May their souls rest in peace.***

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL



Reconciliation available from 12:30pm  
1:30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Rosary  
2:00pm Eucharistic Procession  
2:30pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy  
2:45pm Benediction  
3:00pm Three O' Clock Prayer followed by Mass

### DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

The Divine Mercy Novena starts from Good Friday (7<sup>th</sup> April) to Saturday in the Octave of Easter (15<sup>th</sup> April). The daily Novena prayers include the Divine Mercy Chapter.

### THIS MONDAY – COMMUNION SERVICE

Please be advised that this Monday there will be no Mass, as our priests will be away. In its place, we will celebrate a Communion Service, and all are warmly welcome to attend. We appreciate your understanding and look forward to gathering together in prayer.

### SPECIAL THANK YOU

A special thank you to all who gave so generously of their time and talents this Easter— our Working Bee volunteers, those who decorated the church, our Eucharistic ministers, readers, altar servers, musicians, and everyone who helped in any way, big or small. Your dedication and service to our parish community is truly appreciated. God bless you all!



The Catholic agency for international aid and development

### LEBANON EMERGENCY APPEAL

Lebanon is facing one of its most severe humanitarian crises in years, as a sudden surge in violence and mass evacuation orders force families to flee with nothing. Within 24 hours, Caritas Lebanon reported 667,831 newly displaced people seeking safety. Despite the volatile environment, Caritas Lebanon teams are operating across seven governorates, delivering food, essential items, healthcare, psychosocial support, water and hygiene assistance, and protection services. Let us stand in solidarity with our partners in Lebanon.

Learn more or make a donation today at [www.caritas.org.au/lebanon](http://www.caritas.org.au/lebanon)

## READINGS FOR EASTER SUNDAY

### FIRST READING *Acts 10:34, 37-43 (JB)*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.' Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23*

**R.** This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

### SECOND READING *1 Corinthians 5:6-8 (JB)*

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

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION SEQUENCE

*1 Corinthians 5:7-8 (JB)*

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;  
and Christ, the undefiled,  
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely  
ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the  
way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;

I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting;

shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into  
Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.

Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;

let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

### GOSPEL *Matthew 28:1-10 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Matthew

After the sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so frightened of him, that they were like dead men. But the angel spoke, and he said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples. "He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him." Now I have told you.' Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Newly trained Eucharistic Ministers are invited to attend the rehearsal on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> April, 7:30 – 8:00pm, in preparation for their Commissioning. The Commissioning of Eucharistic Ministers will take place during all Sunday Masses on 12<sup>th</sup> April.

**KNIGHTS SILVER CIRCLE:** The winner of the 2nd Draw drawn 28th March was Pat O'Rourke of Albany Creek. Congratulations Pat

**HOUSE BLESSING**

Parishioners wishing to have their home blessed during the Easter Season are welcome to contact the Parish Office on 3205 1493 to make an appointment.

**HOLY WATER**

We invite parishioners to bring bottles to take home Holy Water blessed on Easter Vigil Mass.

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**SCAN ME FOR A FREE MARKET UPDATE**

**HAPPY EASTER**

Father Chinua, Father Edward and Father Patrick wish all parishioners a Happy Easter



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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.*

<b>Roster for this Sunday — Easter Sunday 4th/5th April (1st Sunday of the Month)</b>			
	<b>6pm Saturday</b>	<b>7am Sunday</b>	<b>9am Sunday</b>
<b>Readers</b>	<i>Easter Vigil Rosters</i>	Rob Van Meygaarden Terry O'Donnell	Children's Mass
<b>Special Ministers</b>		Lito De La Vega, Laurie Conlon, Vicki Norris, Marie Hird	Bryan Irvine, Susan Lu, Joyce Cubillan, Alvin Cubillan, Pele Pese, Juliet Kumar
<b>Altar Servers</b>		Maria Kunau	Klara Pacl, Sandra Glaties, Alana Bijomon
<b>Data Projection</b>		Paul Ferris	—
<b>Music</b>		Emmanuel Choir	'Spirit Alive' Choir
<b>Hospitality</b>			Indian Community