



**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
PINE RIVERS**

102 SPARKES RD, BRAY PARK Q 4500
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HTTPS://HOLYSPIRITBRAYPARK.COM
OFFICE HOURS - MON-FRI 9AM - 4:30PM

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Chinua Okeke, C.S.Sp
okekec@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

26th April 2026 – Fourth Sunday of Easter Year A

Homily for Fourth Sunday of Easter

Few images of Jesus speak to us as powerfully as the Good Shepherd, Jesus carrying a lamb across his shoulders, tenderly holding it close, the two front legs in one hand, the two rear legs in the other. There is something about this image that draws us in immediately. We instinctively recognize ourselves in that lamb. It speaks of tenderness, care, and compassion, the kind that doesn't stand at a distance but gets close, bends down, and lifts us up.

When life grows heavy with crosses and hardship, this image reassures us: we are not abandoned. It is beautifully captured in the Footprints poem, which concludes with the Lord saying: "The years when you have seen only one set of footprints, my child, is when I carried you." That is the kind of shepherd Jesus is, present not just in the easy seasons, but most especially in the difficult ones.

Today's readings invite us to place our full trust in that shepherd. Psalm 23, written many centuries before Christ, still draws us naturally to him. When everything is going well, its opening words ring with quiet confidence:

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.

But the Psalm doesn't stop there. It speaks honestly about the harder moments too — the dark valleys we all pass through — and tells us what our attitude should be even then:

Even though I walk in the dark valley, I fear no evil; for you are at my side. With your rod and your staff that give me courage.

It is worth noting that in the catacombs of Rome, where early Christians gathered during times of fierce persecution, the most common image found on the walls is this very one: the Good Shepherd carrying a sheep on his shoulders. In their darkest hour, facing imprisonment and death, those early Christians found their courage in this image. So can we.

To understand the depth of what Jesus is saying in today's Gospel, it helps to know how shepherding worked in Palestine. At night, sheep from many different flocks would be brought together into a single sheepfold, a circular stone enclosure with one narrow opening, guarded through the night. Come morning, each flock would follow only its own shepherd, recognising his unique call. There was a real and personal bond between shepherd and sheep.

This is the bond Jesus holds up as a picture of what he wants with each of us. If a human being and an animal can share such closeness and trust, how much more does Jesus desire that intimacy with us? That bond grows through prayer, through time spent daily in his presence, listening for his voice amid all the noise of life.

Jesus also tells us in today's Gospel that he is the gate — and that those who enter through him will be saved. That salvation was won on the cross. As St. Peter writes: "He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls."

We are those sheep. And he is always, faithfully, our shepherd.

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 25th	6:00pm	Nino & Anna (RIP)
Sun 26th	7.00am	Justin Go Junior (RIP Anniversary)
	9.00am	Trilby Cunningham (RIP Anniversary)
Mon 27th	7.00am	
Tue 28th	7:30pm	Jose Ventura
Wed 29th	7.00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory Matthew Chakkappan (RIP)
Thu 30th	9.00am	For the souls of Hermogina, German, Crisostomo and Tito

Upcoming Events

Apr 30 th	Readers' Workshop @ 7.00pm
May 1 st	May Devotion Begins
May 1 st 31 st	Domestic Violence Awareness month
May 7 th	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Workshop @ 7.00pm
May 9 th	Parish Picnic - Bullocky's Rest 12 Noon
May 10 th	Mothers Day
May 15 th –23 rd	Pentecost Novena
May 18 th –21 st	Pentecost Seminar 7:00pm
May 24 th	Pentecost Sunday
May 30 th	Public Rosary 8:45am
May 31 st	Trinity Sunday
June 6 th /7 th	First Holy Communion
June 7 th	Corpus Christi
June 12 th	Sacred Heart of Jesus
June 27 th	Working Bee
June 29 th	Solemnity of St Peter and Paul
July 11 th /12 th	Confirmation Commitment
July 28 th	Visit by Bishop Giovanni D'Ercole, FDP
Aug 30 th	Multicultural Mass
Sep 13 th	Parish Assembly

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

Eddie & Silvia Perazzoli, Bernadette Di Marchi, Rosemay Cherval, 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: Amelia Jones, Grahame English, Igaznio 'Gino' Musumeci, Paul Bolger, Siu Lai, Yolanda Pope, Irene Bellet, Coralie Welch, Frank Belan, Audrey Brown, Clarrie Kelly, Elizabeth Phillips, Beltana Pritchard, Marianne Halangoda, Leslie Wright. May their souls rest in peace.

ANZAC DAY – SATURDAY 25th APRIL

We remembered with gratitude all those who served and died in our wars. May they rest in the peace of the Risen Christ. Lest we forget.

PENTECOST SEMINAR 2026



Join us for four evenings of prayer, worship and reflection as we prepare for Pentecost. Monday 18 – Thursday 21 May 7:00pm – 8:30pm at the Holy Spirit Church, 102 Sparkes Road, Bray Park. Each evening features

praise & worship, a talk, Eucharistic Celebration or Benediction, and faith sharing. Programme:

Day 1 – I Believe in the Holy Spirit — Fr January Mkude CSSp

Day 2 – The Holy Spirit in the Understanding of St Francis of Assisi — Br Matthew Beckmann OFM

Day 3 – Mary Overshadowed by the Holy Spirit — Fr Edward Khaemba CSSp

Day 4 – Spiritans Inspired by the Holy Spirit — Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

All are welcome. For enquiries call 3205 1493.

THANK YOU FROM JOE BARRETT

Joe would like to sincerely thank all those who prayed for his recovery. He is pleased to report that the prayers worked and is grateful for the support of this wonderful parish.

KNIGHTS SILVER CIRCLE: The winner of the 5th Draw on 18/4/26 was Rob Van Meygaarden of Bray Park with Ticket No. 15. Congratulations, Rob!

READERS' WORKSHOP – THURSDAY, 30 APRIL, 7.00PM

Those who are currently serving as a Reader at Mass are invited to attend this workshop. A great opportunity to grow in confidence and deepen your understanding of this important ministry.

*** YOUNG ADULTS ***

Did you know our parish has a Young Adults group? Come along to meet new friends, enjoy social events, and share the faith together. All young adults welcome!

YOUNG ADULTS – APRIL SOCIAL

Our parish young adults are all welcome to join in for an afternoon of skating at Iceworld Boondall

When: Sunday 26th April. 1-3pm

Where: Iceworld, Boondal

HOLY SPIRIT YOUNG ADULTS WHATSAPP GROUP

Please see the back of the bulletin for the QR code for our Parish Young Adults WhatsApp group.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST WORKSHOP – THURSDAY, 7 MAY, 7.00PM

Those who are serving as Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, whether experienced or not, are encouraged to attend this workshop.

MULTICULTURAL SUNDAY 2026 PLANNING MEETING

Help us plan our Multicultural Sunday celebration after the 9am Mass this Sunday, 26th April. Join us for our first planning meeting in the Parish Meeting Room. All are welcome!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR – ALL WELCOME!

All children are warmly invited to join our Children's Choir for the 9am Children's Mass on Sunday, 3rd May. Come along to our practice sessions in the Church on:

- Saturday 25th April at 2:30pm
- Saturday 2nd May at 2:30pm

No experience is needed – just bring your enthusiasm and love of singing! It's a lovely way for children to take part in the Mass and be part of our parish community. We would love to see you there!

PILGRIMAGE IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF GOOD HEALTH (VAILANKANNI)

All parishioners are warmly invited to join the Indian-Australian Catholic community for a special pilgrimage in honour of Our Lady of Good Health, Vailankanni, on Saturday, 2nd May, at the Marian Valley Shrine, Canungra. Program:

10:00am – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, Rosary & Confession

11:00am – Holy Mass and Angelus

12:00pm – Procession to the Chapel of Our Lady of Vailankanni

Come and be part of this beautiful time of prayer, devotion, and community. All are welcome!

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

For the month of May, the Archdiocese of Brisbane invites parishes to recognise Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month, promoting respect, dignity and safety in all relationships. If you or someone you know is impacted, support is available — visit dfvproject.org.au

READINGS FOR 4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

FIRST READING *Acts 2:14, 36-41 (JB)*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 22:1-6 (JB)*

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

SECOND READING *1 Peter 2:20-25 (JB)*

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *John 10:14 (JB)*

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *John 10:1-10 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by

one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.' Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again: 'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.' The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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SCAN ME FOR A FREE MARKET UPDATE

PARISH PICNIC

Saturday 9th May, 12–2pm at Bullocky's Rest, Joyner, overlooking Lake Samsonvale. Bring your lunch, grab a blanket and some fold-up chairs, and come share great company and a relaxing afternoon in the sunshine with your parish family.



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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.

Roster for this Sunday – Fourth Sunday of Easter 25th/26th April (4th Sunday of the Month)			
	6pm Saturday	7am Sunday	9am Sunday
Readers	Wendy Greasley, Dylan Marsh	Sania Taukeve, Remigia Muller	Beverley Halangoda, Zoraida Requina
Special Ministers	Yanery Ventura (S), Marian Brooks, Peter Greasley, Tony Martin	Lito De La Vega (S), Vicki Norris, Laurie Conlon, Regina Fong	Bryan Irvine (S), Veronica Topindik, Alvin Cubillan, Juliet Kumar, Jumar Kumar, Pele Pese, Susan Lu
Altar Servers	Shaun Perera, Faith D'Souza		Janelle Bose Christian Dahms
Data Projection	Michael Heyne	Paul Ferris	—
Music		Emmanuel Choir	Young Adults
Hospitality			Religious Education