



BOOVAL CATHOLIC PARISH



† Sacred Heart Church, Cothill Rd, Booval † Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 10 Old Ipswich Rd, Riverview
Sacred Heart Primary School, 25 Cothill Rd, Booval St Peter Claver Secondary College, 10 Old Ipswich Rd, Riverview

Parish Priest

Fr Joji Thomas MCBS
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Pastoral Ministry Co-ordinator & Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Donna Conway
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Parish Secretary

Mrs Cathy Peacock

Chairperson - Pastoral Council

Mr Mike Wilkinson

Chairperson - Finance Board

Mr Ben Sotiriadis

Liturgy Co-Ordinator

Mrs Margaret Kane

School Principals

Sacred Heart School - Mr Brendan Creevey
St Peter Claver College - Mr Niall Coburn

Outside School Hours Care Co-Ordinator

Mrs Linda Caplin

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Weekly Diary

Monday 16th April

9.00am Mass

Tuesday 17th April

No Mass

Wednesday 18th April

6.00pm Mass

Thursday 19th April

9.00am Mass

Friday 20th April

9.00am Mass

9.30am Exposition

10.30am Mass - St Mary's Hostel

Saturday 21st April

4.00pm-4.30pm - Reconciliation

5.00pm Vigil Mass - Booval

Sunday 22nd April

Fourth Sunday of Easter

6.30am Rosary - Riverview

7.00am Mass - Riverview

9.00am Mass - Booval

5.00pm Mass - Booval

Marriages by appointment - at least six months notice is required.

Baptisms by appointment.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

15th April, 2018

Dear parishioners and visitors,

Without the Easter faith not only death but life itself is ultimately meaningless. There is no value for life that ends beside a grave. The Gospel passage stresses the reality of the resurrection. The risen Lord was not a phantom or hallucination, but he became a reality experienced by his disciples. Our daily lives should be the means of experiencing and sharing the risen Lord with others. Just as the disciples experienced the risen Lord in their community we should be able to feel the presence of Jesus in our own homes, our parish and our community.

Often the reality is that our faith remains in words and does not penetrate into our lives. There is a story that well depicts our attitude. The priest ("poojary") of a small Hindu congregation in a tribal area in India was being proselytized by some energetic Christian missionaries. He listened for a while and then said to them: "Gentlemen, look. I have a proposal that will settle this. I have here a glass of *nux vomica*, a poison which I use to kill rats. If you drink this poison and remain alive as your God Jesus Christ promised, I will join your religion – and not only myself, but my entire Hindu congregation. But if you won't drink the poison, well, then, I can only conclude that you are false ministers of the gospel you preach because you do not trust that your Lord would not let you perish." This created a problem for the missionaries. They conferred with each other and said, "What on earth are we going to do?" Finally, they arrived at a plan of action. They came back, approached the Hindu priest and said, "Here is our plan. You drink the poison, and we'll raise you from the dead by the power of Jesus!"

The theme of today's readings is the challenge to adjust our lives in the living presence of the risen Lord. This awareness should strengthen our hope in his promises. That was the experience that the Apostles had in the upper room where they were gathered. This experience transformed the Apostles. They were no longer weak and timid men; but they became men of courage who declared the reality of the resurrection of Jesus through their preaching and healing ministry.

Secondly, today's readings emphasize the fact that the way to know God is to keep his commandments. Hence, Jesus wanted his disciples to go out into the world with the offer of forgiveness. Accepting the command of Jesus they reached the ends of the then known world. Today, Jesus needs us as witnesses to continue his mission. Jesus needs Spirit-filled followers to be his eyes, ears and hands and to bear witness to his love, mercy and forgiveness. The church badly needs dedicated witnesses. The essence of bearing witness is to testify by our lives that the power of the risen Jesus has touched and transformed us. In other words, Jesus is to speak to other people through us. In Calcutta, a dying old woman with her head in the lap of Mother Teresa, looked at her, and, in a feeble voice, asked: "Are you the God Jesus who loves the poor and the sick"?

This is the message the church places before us today. Let us be the ambassadors of God's Mercy and forgiveness.

Blessings

Fr. Joji

DIARY DATES



Sunday 15th April - 5pm Mass: Blaze Booval
Tuesday 17th April - 9.30am: Craft Group
Thursday 19th April - 4.30pm: St Vincent de Paul meeting
Sat/Sun 21st/22nd April - WELCOME SUNDAY

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS

First Eucharist preparation is well underway with the children receiving Eucharist for the first time on the solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ on **3rd June at the 9am Mass**. This mass will be held in the Amare Centre to allow for extra family members who will attend. All parishioners are very welcome at this celebration – in fact encouraged to attend to support our young members. There will be a small procession of the Blessed Sacrament after communion.

Confirmation preparation for children who are baptised and of grade 3 age or older will begin with a parent information evening on 4th September with the celebration of the sacrament occurring on Friday 16th November.

First Rite of Reconciliation preparation and participation in the sacrament for children who are fully initiated (have been baptised, confirmed and received First Eucharist) and of grade 5 age or older will occur on **24th November**.

Information about these dates will be in the newsletter closer to the dates. If you have any questions about this process please call Donna at the parish centre 3288 1888.

WALTZING MATILDAS - Next trip **TUESDAY 1ST MAY** going to Scenic Rim Robotic Dairy (Tamrookum) near Beaudesert. Leaving 8am from Sacred Heart Parish Centre. Cost \$45. Please wear closed in footwear and bring water bottle and mug and a small esky if you wish to purchase products from dairy. We will have large esky available if required. Need confirmation of numbers as soon as possible please. New members welcome. Anybody wishing to just join us for the day is most welcome as we are planning to take a big bus. Confirmation and cancellations to Anne Hall mob. 0408 773 734.

Fete News - Sunday 22 July, 10am - 3pm

There are only 14 weeks until the Fete!! We are in need of plants, 2nd hand items, arts and crafts, and books for our stalls. Please continue to nurture your plant donations till closer to the day, and call Kath on 0421 000 057 or through the school office, to arrange collection/delivery. All donations can be dropped at the school office for storage.

All Day Rides Passes for \$25 are now available through the office.

Anyone who would like to assist us with a product or cash donation is welcome to become a Fete Sponsor for 2018. If you own a business, or if you approach your employer for a Sponsorship, it would be great to hear from you. If you are a loyal and regular customer of a business, ask the owner – you never know until you ask! Our levels of Sponsorships: Platinum: \$2000 Gold \$1000 Silver \$500 Friend of Fete: \$100 Please call Kath on the above number if you would like to see a copy of our Sponsorship Proposal, detailing what we can offer you.



Women's Weekend Retreat: Compassionate Living

In order to live a compassionate life, we need to develop and deepen compassion within ourselves, and commit to being a compassionate presence for ourselves and for others. Come, take time apart in silence, supported within a community of women, be kind to yourself, and deepen your journey to the heart of compassion.

Friday 25 May – Sunday 27 May. Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston.

Facilitated by Sue Thomas on behalf of Dragonfly Ministries.

For more information contact

grace@dragonflyministries.net.au or on 0409 524 283

DATE CLAIMER Women's Breakfast Saturday 12th May

CWL - Hoy & Euchre will be held in the Parish Centre on **Wednesday 18th April at 10.00am**. All welcome.

REPORT FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL - Booval-Riverview Conference for the three months ended 31st March 2018. Our members attended 167 home visits comprising some 262 adults and 186 children with food vouchers amounting to \$9,384 and in kind assistance of \$6,628 totalling some \$16,012.

"Kind Deeds Change Lives"

"Life is Good - Live to Give"

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROGRAM FOR SENIORS commenced last Friday at 10.00am in the Parish Centre. Morning tea and lunch was provided by a local community club. For further information about the program please contact Kamal or Solape from Centacare on 3362 8700.

The **Physical Activity Program** is looking for donations of small exercise equipment such as dumbbells, mats, etc. If you have any small items you would like to donate please phone Kamal or Solape on the above phone number.



"Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' But they were startled and frightened ..." - Luke 24:36-37

Throughout the day we have many opportunities to "see the face of Jesus" in others and to "be the face of Jesus" to others. Do we take that opportunity to provide "peace" to those we encounter or are we afraid of what others will think of us and do nothing? Pray for the strength to live a "God-centered" life and not a "self-centered" life.

A VOCATION VIEW - What could convince someone to turn to God? That God became man and is the sacrifice that takes our sins away. Let us pray - Lord Jesus, make Your word plain to us and set our hearts on fire with love when You speak. Enable us to respond to the call to be witnesses of Your love.

Time for a smile:-

Two men meet on opposite sides of a river. One shouts to the other "I need you to help me get to the other side!" The other guy replies "You are on the other side!"

