



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
thomasj@bne.catholic.net.au

**Pastoral Ministry Co-ordinator
& Safeguarding Officer**
Mrs Donna Conway
pmc.booval@bne.catholic.net.au

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

Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 8.30am-4.30pm

Ph: 3282 1888 **Fax:** 3282 5702

Email: booval@bne.catholic.net.au

Web: <http://www.boovalcatholicparish.org.au>

Weekly Diary

Monday 19th February

9.00am Mass

Tuesday 20th February

No Mass

Wednesday 21st February

6.00pm Mass

Thursday 22nd February

9.00am Mass

Friday 23rd February

8.30am Stations of the Cross

9.00am Mass

Saturday 24th February

4.00pm-4.30pm - Reconciliation

5.00pm Vigil Mass - Booval

Sunday 25th February

Second Sunday of Lent

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.

First Sunday of Lent 18th February, 2018

What Is Lent

What is Lent? Ash Wednesday was a few days ago, starting the Lenten count-down toward Holy Week and Easter, but maybe some of us are not completely clear as to why these weeks of preparation are there in the first place.

One opinion is that Lent is a time to deprive yourself. You give up candy or smoking or desserts or heavy meals or ... choose your favourite. These are good and definitely part of Lenten practice (even if they are like New Year's resolutions, since we usually break those).

What if we described Lent as a "Retreat"?

A Retreat, in Catholic and other religions, is a space of days taken to pray and to be with God. Often one goes to a retreat house to have one. In St. Louis, for instance, there is a beautiful place called "White House"—the president has never been there, it is a different one—which has a stunning view of the Mississippi River. For many decades Jesuits have preached retreats there every weekend and sometimes during the week. Sizeable groups of men or of women stay for two or three days to meditate, listen to talks, and to refresh their spiritual lives. What about letting each Lenten day partake of certain retreat practices? For instance, what about setting aside a little time daily to let your insides settle down for a while, to create space within you to welcome God. Maybe set up a special place in your house or someplace else just to pray. How about a picture or crucifix or maybe just a candle? Or just 10 minutes of silence?

And why not take some time to read in advance the Gospel from the upcoming Sunday Mass? Sit down, read it slowly, and let the scene described take place within the your mind and heart. This week you could ask Jesus how it felt to have the Spirit drive him into the desert, as described in the Gospel.

The point? Let the Lord's loving deeds be your motivation for "giving up" anything during Lent. You might begin to see that you are making a gift of gratitude to God, rather than just "giving up" something you like. How does this prepare us for Holy Week and for Easter? By doing exactly what Jesus does when he makes himself a gift of suffering and death. He is returning a gift of love to the Father. Lent prepares us to witness this reality of our saviour.

It is the same gift we receive at every Mass when we go to Communion.

Maybe we could let ourselves be driven into the desert, and let the Holy Spirit guide us. That is the meaning of Lent. © John Foley, SJ



STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be celebrated on
Fridays at 8.30am
before the 9am mass during Lent.

DIARY DATES



Tuesday 20th Feb - 9.30am: Craft Group
Thursday 22nd Feb - 4.30pm: St Vincent de Paul meeting
Friday 23rd Feb - 6.15pm: CFC Group

Women of the Sacred Heart Parish, Sacred Heart School and St Peter Claver College are invited to come together for an evening of wine, nibbles, enjoyable conversation and an interesting guest speaker. Come along to meet and to get to know other women from the parish and school communities.



Tuesday 6th March, 7.00pm at the Parish Centre. Please RSVP by 23 February to Anne Ryan 0412 362 876 or the Parish Office 3282 1888.

CHOIR PRACTICE for Easter will commence this **Tuesday 20th February at 7.30pm.** Anyone is most welcome to come along and join us in preparing for Easter.

PARISH BADGES - We would like encourage everyone to wear their parish badge so if you don't have one and would like to order a badge please fill in the sheet in the foyer of the Church. If you would like only your Christian name or if you prefer both names on the badge please indicate this on the sheet. The cost of a badge is \$10.00.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday 2nd March at 10.00am.

Glebe Road Uniting Church, 98/104 Glebe Road, Booval. This year's theme - "All God's Creation is Very Good!" Prepared by WDP Committee Suriname. Everyone welcome.

A VOCATION VIEW - Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert. Where is the Spirit leading you?



"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God..." - Mark 1:14

Do you ever think about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to come into Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that Jesus was proclaiming. It must have taken great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, following a life of stewardship takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that God will always give us all that we need to fulfil His plan for us.

Time for a smile: - One Reason to buy a painting



At an art gallery, a woman and her ten year old son were having a tough time choosing between one of my paintings and another artist's work. They finally went with mine.

"I guess you decided you prefer an autumn scene to a floral." I said.

"No," said the boy. "Your painting's wider, so it'll cover three holes in our wall."



**First Sunday of Lent
 18th February 2018**

In Nepal, a Caritas Australia supported program has helped Janaki turn her life of poverty and disadvantage around. She is now running her own successful sewing business and has become a role model in her community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and empower vulnerable young people like Janaki in Nepal to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities.

A Just Future starts with your support! You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

FOLAN FAMILY GROUP - Sausage sizzle at Kholo Gardens
Sunday 25th February at 11.00am.

AL-ANON meets every Thursday at 7pm in the Parish Centre

UPDATE ON MARLEE MOLLOY: Marlee is now home from hospital in Switzerland. She still has a long way to go so please keep her in your prayers.

Many thanks - Pauline Molloy (Marlee's great-grandmother)

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

