



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 Terry Finan

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 24th December - Christmas Eve

9.00am **NO Mass**

Christmas Eve mass times
please see front page of the newsletter

Tuesday 25th December - Christmas Day

8.00am Mass

Wednesday 26th December

6.00pm **NO Mass**

Thursday 27th December

9.00am **NO Mass**

Friday 28th December

9.00am **NO Mass**

Saturday 29th December

4.00pm-4.30pm - Reconciliation

5.00pm Vigil Mass - Booval

Sunday 30th December

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

23rd December, 2018

New life on the horizon

There is a big age-difference between the two pregnant women in our Gospel today, yet both full of joy for themselves and for each other. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth because of the dangers attendant on so late a pregnancy. That she went with haste, halfway across the country, to make the visit is a clear sign of Mary's generosity and goodness. Through the light of the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth recognised Mary's privilege as the mother of the longed-for Messiah. She greets Mary in the words we are so familiar with in our *Hail Mary*. And Mary responds in the equally familiar words of the *Magnificat*. These two great women understand the miracle of conception and birth. But in each case there was divine intervention in a truly exceptional way. The Gospel says that both were informed of this fact by the words of an angel; they each had a message from God telling them so.

The fact that both Elizabeth and Mary had this divine intervention is a reminder that our own lives too are a gift of God. It is from this understanding that the Church takes its position on all life issues. At some moments we may recognise the hand of God in our lives. Maybe at the point when we finally decided on our partner in marriage, or even felt a vocation to special service in the church. Maybe it was at the birth of a child, a change in job circumstances, or the death of a parent. Maybe it was a moment in prayer, the grace of a sacrament, advice in the confessional, wise words from a friend or relative at a critical moment.

God is always working within us and for our good. This thought can help us through times of trouble. Troubles are part of that drawn-out gestation which is our life on earth. We were meant to be pilgrims in this world and to grow to rebirth into eternal life. Sometimes we clearly recognise God's presence, as John recognised a special presence in Jesus, and feel an impulse of joy. As we journey through life, God remains with us. We were loved into being, and the One who sustains us each day will in the end give us fullness of life. As well as the birth of Jesus, at Christmas we celebrate our own birth also — birth into a life in this world that flows towards final resurrection.

Christmas Mass Times

CHRISTMAS EVE - Monday 24th December

Booval:

5.00pm - Mass will be in the AMARE CENTRE (School Hall)
[4.40pm Carols & Children's Nativity]

9.00pm - [Vigil Mass - Carols 15 mins before Mass]

Riverview:

7.00pm - [6.40pm Carols & Children's Nativity Play]

CHRISTMAS DAY - Tuesday 25th December

Booval:

8.00am - [Christmas Mass - Carols 15 mins before Mass]



CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS AND NATIVITY PLAY - Each year our parish holds a Children's Christmas Mass on Christmas Eve and we usually precede this with a small nativity play performed by our primary school children. This Mass is held in the Amare Centre with the nativity starting at 4.30pm. If your children are interested in being part of the nativity and/or choir for the Children's Christmas Mass we would love to have you attend our practices. Speaking and non-speaking parts available. Any secondary school students who would like to help out would be very welcome.

Nativity & singing practice (Amare Centre)

Sunday 23 December 10am-11.30am

Monday December 24 arrive about 4pm for Christmas Eve Nativity & Mass

Please contact me at the Parish Centre 3282 1888 if you are interested or if you have any questions, Donna.

REST IN PEACE – Sjaan Van Ansem (late of Forest Hill)

Family and friends of Sjaan, her loving parents Shane and Sandy, and her brothers Brendan and Alex are invited to attend a Requiem Mass **on Friday 28th December** at St Mary's Catholic Church, Maitland Street Gatton commencing **at 1pm** with burial to follow at Gatton Cemetery.

Sjaan lived life to the fullest in her 21 years, may she now rest in the arms of Jesus.

THANK YOU to the people who supported the craft stall last Sunday for the Aussie farmers

"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." LUKE 1:44



When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading each Sunday, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. Do you prepare for Mass each week or do you just show up and expect to be entertained? We are called to be active participants, not passive by-standers.

FOURTH WEEK IN ADVENT

Jonah (Whale) - Jon 1:1 - 3:3. We remember Jonah who was swallowed by a fish when he didn't do what God wanted. Lord, help us to do what you want even if we are scared.

Joseph (Hammer) - Mat 1:18-21, 24. We remember Joseph, who was a carpenter from Nazareth. He cared for Mary and Jesus. He was a descendant of King David. Lord, help us to be kind and caring like Joseph.

Mary (Lady with long hair) - Luke 1:26-38. We remember Mary who was the mother of Jesus. We call Mary our Mother too. Lord, we thank you for Mary who cared so much for Jesus.

John the Baptist (Shell) - Luke 3:1-20. We remember John the Baptist who prepared the way for Jesus. Loving God, make our hearts ready for Jesus.

Baby Jesus (Manger) - Luke 2:1-20. We remember Jesus, God's son who we call Emmanuel, God is with us. Lord, thank you for the gift of your son. Help us to remember the true meaning of Christmas.



GOD'S WORD 2019 with Daily Reflections - Copies of this book are now available in the foyer of the Church for the discounted price of \$10.00 each. Please place payment in the envelopes provided **not** in the Poor Box.

ANNUAL SPECIAL MASS

FOR THE FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

Rosary 6.30pm and Mass 7.00pm Friday 28 December 2018. St Francis Xavier Church - 6 Church St, Goodna. Celebrant Father Tuong. Arranged by the Knights of the Southern Cross. Especially pertinent due to the horrendous abortion laws in Qld.

Fourth Sunday of Advent - C

A VOCATION VIEW: Like Mary and all the blessed who believed that the promises you made her would be fulfilled, let my soul cry out; "O God, I have come to do your will".

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

His people will live in peace

L B G G R E E T I N G A O G
P L O L B E T H L E H E M B
B D M O V E D A H K J L P L
O W W F P O I Q Y V Q T G E
R M Q A B A N D O N L D W S
N T E X V F Q B A B Y R X S
B N L O I G I H M A R Y E E
H M A V J P I K T N R K H D
O R V S H E P H E R D E Y G
T J Z W S S M A L L E S T C
R L B F X Q D U E I Z U F X
G N H H W S Y B H G D G A L
B E L I E V E D N A R C O Z
Z A N C I E N T P M S O X M

Mt 5:1-3
Ps 80:1acdef. 2c. 14-15ab. R.v.3
Lk 1:39-45

Try to find these words:

- abandon
- ancient
- baby
- believed
- Bethlehem
- blessed
- born
- greeting
- Mary
- moved
- shepherd
- smallest