

St John the Baptist 131 South Pine Road, ENOGGERA

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception

18 Halle Street, EVERTON PARK

St Carthage's 115 Beaconsfield Tce GORDON PARK

St Columba's 170 Kedron Brook Road, WILSTON

<u>PASTOR</u> Fr Ihemelandu Uzuegbu Parish Priest

PARISH OFFICE

Monday—Thursday 9am—1pm 23 Lovedale Street PO Box 278 WILSTON QLD 4051 Ph 3352 1730 EMAIL: kbcc@bne.catholic.net.au www.kbcatholic.org.au

OFFICE STAFF

Pastoral Co-Ordinator: Marie-Louise Singson Secretary: Lyn Peauril Finance: Cherylann Baxter Admin: Majella Adams

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE Anne Marie Troutman Isr.kbcc@bne.catholic.net.au

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A Stare Full Of Forgiveness and Love

KEDRON BROOK CATHOLIC COMMUNITY embracing the parishes of **Good Samaritan & St John the Baptist** Joined in joyfully praising and worshipping God



17th September 2023—24th Sunday Ordinary Time—Year A

The Challenges of Forgiveness

One day a woman came to me to have a chat about some issues bothering her and her faith. She told me that she strongly believed that her daughter is manipulative and is exploiting her financially. She borrows things with no intention of returning them or of paying back money borrowed. She continued, "she does it because she is convinced that she will get away with it due to my compassion and how easily I let her get away with things." She asked; "Am I not weak and being taken advantage of? I think I should stop letting her get away with stuff and her financial and emotional exploitations." After listening to the visibly unhappy woman, the words of Jesus in Mt. 18: 15-20, which was the reading of last Sunday (where Jesus said if your brother or sister does something wrong, you go and talk it out with him or her) came to my mind. I told her that she needs to bring up her concerns with her daughter first and ask her to change and stop the behaviour. She said, "Father, that will make me look weak". I could see that she felt deeply hurt and was looking for a second opinion to confirm her convictions before cutting her daughter off. Forgiveness is very challenging and humanly difficult in most cases, if not impossible, especially when the hurt is very deep. As it is not easy, it is something that should not be discussed carelessly. However, everything is possible with God, because to forgive a divine while to err is human.

Are there things that must not be forgiven at all as Christians? No! Should murder, rape, abuse, cheating, exploitation and fraud be forgiven? Must people be made to pay for these sins? Not to forgive them does that make one unchristian? What will happen if we let these awful, wicked and bad behaviours not be punished? The truth is that if wickedness is not checked, It might lead to a breakdown in society. That is what the law is there to prevent. However this does not mean that we should not practise forgiveness as Jesus charges us in the gospel reading today. Someone might object and ask does not to forgive seventy times seven mean to encourage injustice and to give a green light to abuse? No. Christian forgiveness does not exclude that, in certain cases, you might also have to denounce a person and take them to court, especially when what is at stake are the interests and also the good of others. Christian forgiveness does not prevent people and the victims of terror, abuse, murder, etc. from seeking truth and pursuing justice with tenacity in regard to their loved ones.

However what does God want of us? He wants us to forgive. St Paul in Colossians 3:13, tells us "as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive." In his commentary on this Sunday's readings, Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa, on the question of how much forgiveness is too much noted that:

The Old Testament law, "an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth," has been surmounted. The criterion no longer is: "Do to someone what he has done to you"; but, "What God has done to you, you do to the other." Jesus has not limited himself, however, to order us to forgive, but did so first himself. While he was being nailed to the cross he prayed saying: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do!" (Luke 23:34). This is what distinguishes the Christian faith from any other religion." "Buddha also left his own a maxim: "It is not with resentment that resentment is placated; it is with non-resentment that resentment is mitigated." But Christ does not limit himself to point out the path of perfection; he gives the strength to follow it. He does not just command us to do, but acts with us. Grace consists in this. Christian forgiveness goes beyond non-violence and non-resentment. [http://www.zenit.org/article-13947?l=english] To the question: "Why Forgive?" Father Cantalamessa responded; "However, there are not

only great acts of forgiveness but also daily acts of forgiveness, in the life of a couple, at work, between relatives, friends, colleagues and acquaintances. What can one do when one discovers that he has been betrayed by his own spouse? Forgive or separate? It is an extremely delicate question; no law can be imposed from outside. The individual must discover within him (or her) what to do."

Continued on back page.

	17th September 2023 —	Year A — T	wenty-fourth S	unday in Ordinary time			
First ReadingSirach 27:30 - 28:7 Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.Responsorial Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel AcclamationPs 102:1-4. 9-12 The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion. Romans 14:7-9 Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!GospelMatthew 18:21-35 I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.							
	24th September 2023 —	-Year A — T	wenty-fifth Su	nday in Ordinary time			
First Reading Responsorial Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel Acclamation Gospel	Isaiah 55:6-9 My thoughts are not your thoughts. Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 The Lord is near to all who call him Philippians 1:20-24. 27 For me to live is Christ Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia! Matthew 20:1-16 Why are you jealous because I am generous?						
MASS INFO	DRMATION	Collections 9th & 10th September 2023					
MONDAY Immaculate Conception 9:00am Mass	n	Enoggera	Direct Debit \$252	Credit Card \$194	Envelopes \$154	Cash \$400	
TUESDAY Immaculate Conception 8:30am Rosary followed by 9:00am Mass		Everton Park	Inc. with Enoggera	Inc. with Enoggera	\$412	\$188	
		Gordon Park	Inc. with Wilston	Inc. with Wilston	\$206	\$51	
WEDNESDAY St John the Baptist 8:40am Rosary	t John the Baptist :40am Rosary		\$1015	\$275	\$452	\$614	
9:00am Mass followed by adoration THURSDAY St Columba's 8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8:40am Rosary		GOOD SAMARITAN PARISH SOCIAL COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO THE SENIORS ANOINTING MASS AND GET TOGETHER THURSDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER AT <u>11:00AM</u>					
9:00am Mass FRIDAY St Columba's 6:30am Mass		in Parish	by morning to Office t arranged if t			2	
WEEKEND MASS TIMES				an transformer of	and Freedom		
Adoration until Mon 8:30a	:00pm Vigil Mass9:00 am Mass (Sun):30am Mass (Sun)5:30pm Mass (Sun)mmaculate ConceptionSt Carthage's		SAVE THE DATE The Annual Multicultural Mass in the Archdiocese of Brisbane will be celebrated in September. The Event is aimed at celebrating as a community of faith the various Cultural Communities and the diversity				
RECONCILIATION		within the Catholic Church and our Archdiocese. Date: Sunday 24th September 2023					
Saturday 4:30pmSt Columba'sSunday 5:00pmSt John the Baptistor by appointmentSt John the Baptist		Time: Mass at 2:30pm followed by refreshments and performances Location: St Stephen's Cathedral, 249 Elizabeth St, Brisbane City					

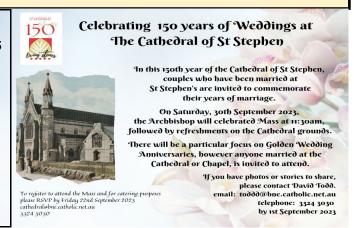
Parish Notices

- The Baptism Preparation Session for next month will be held on Saturday 7th October 10:00am at the St John the Baptist Parish Hall, 131 South Pine Road Enoggera.
- ♦ Volunteers needed: We wish to appeal to parishioners who can help in running St John the Baptist Children's Liturgy during 9:00am mass in the Enoggera Hall. Please contact the parish office if it is what God is calling you to do for our community and children.
- ♦ Volunteers required to assist adoration at Everton Park Church 9:30 & 10:00am. Please contact Fiona on 0402 408 786. "Could you not keep watch with me for one hour" Jesus Christ,
- Knights of the Southern Cross next meeting Thursday 14th September in the Hall adjoining Our Lady's Church Everton Park at 7:30pm. Nev Wells sends a welcome to all current members and visitors.
- Good Samaritan Men's Prayer Group We meet for one hour once a month Monday. Date to be confirmed. If you are interested in future meetings, phone or text Michael 0401 308 665 or Andrew 0417 990 727.
- Vinnies Fathers Day Raffles Winners:- Yhollie (SJB) & Anne Bradbury (OLI) thanks to all for your support.

ST JAMES COLLEGE, BRISBANE is a progressive multicultural Catholic coeducational college for students in Years 5 – 12 in the Edmund Rice tradition. **ENROLLING FOR YEAR 5 IN 2023 NOW**. Attend the upcoming **ENROLMENT INFORMATION SESSION Monday, 9 October at 6pm.** Students from all backgrounds and abilities welcome so they can flourish in their learning and realise their potential. Bursaries and scholarships available. ENQUIRIES to Maria Young,

Enrolments Officer, 3230 8600 or <u>MY-</u> oung@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au. www.jta.link/SJ0





The proposed Indigenous Voice to Parliament

Background to the Uluru Statement from the Heart and proposed Indigenous Voice to Parliament Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have lived in this land for many thousands of years, their cultural and spiritual connection to country expressed through their history, music, language, songs, art and dancing. Their custodianship is not recognised in the Australian Constitution, and a constitutionally enshrined Indigenous Voice to Parliament is proposed as a way to achieve this. This proposal was requested by those who gathered at Uluru and presented the Uluru Statement from the Heart in 2021. The Uluru Statement has been endorsed by all levels of Catholic leadership, including the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and His Grace Archbishop Mark Coleridge.

What can you do? Please prayerfully consider your own position

<u>Archbishop Mark certainly acknowledges that every Catholic should and will come to their own conclusions about their re-</u> sponse to social issues such as this one. His statements on matters such as this are made in order to encourage the Catholic community to reflect on the Church's views on specific issues, not to mandate their response. The Archbishop fully respects that you will form your own conscience and make your own decision regarding this referendum.

All Catholics are urged to engage in the debate productively, respecting each other and accepting that people may, in good faith, have differing concerns and perspectives.

Another important step you can take is to read the information available for both sides of the debate so that you can make your own informed decision on how you might vote in the referendum. You can find resources for both the Yes campaign and the No campaign here: <u>https://www.aec.gov.au/referendums/pamphlet.htm</u>

The conversations about reconciliation are sometimes difficult and there are many considerations in this complex situation. Please also remember our Indigenous brothers and sisters in prayer during this time.

SPECIAL FEAST DAYS OF THE WEEK:

Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, priest, Paul Chong Ha-sang, and companions, martyrs. Colour: Red 21 Thursday St Matthew, apostle, evangelist. Colour: Red 23rd Saturday St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest. Colour: White



Our parish has implemented the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults policy. For any matters relating to Safeguarding issues, please contact our Safeguarding representatives at Isr.kbcc@bne.catholic.net.au

or by contacting STOP line AOB@stopline.com.au or 1300 304 550 (for anonymous reports)







ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW of SOMEONE WHO...

Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic Has been Baptised in another faith and would like to learn about the Catholic faith Has a child over the age of eight who has not been baptised Was baptised Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer you an opportunity to meet in a tiny group to learn more about our faith. The sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. There are separate sessions for children or youth.

The Rite of Christian Invitation of Adults (RCIA) is the process established for the universal Church for individuals to become Catholic and receive the Sacraments of initiation - Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. This spiritual journey is centred on fostering a deep relationship with Jesus and the Church that He founded. The journey is a gradual process of realising God's call and becoming aware of God's presence in your life. This would be through a series of conversations and it is okay to ask and enquire for more information and clarification at any stage of this journey of initiation into the Christian Catholic faith community. This journey takes place through distinct phases over a period of time suitable for the participant, through weekly learning sessions, meeting the parish community, attending Mass and gaining an understanding of the faith life of the Catholic faithful.

The culmination of all these preparations is celebrated with the whole community at Mass on the Easter Vigil where you will be receiving the Sacraments of Initiation. The RCIA programme brings you to becoming part of a community of faith; hence you will be accompanied along the way by the RCIA team who will share with you their own Faith. There is no cost for this programme.

For more information contact the Parish Office at 3352 1730 or Email us at kbcc.catholic.net.au.

Marie-Louise Singson Pastoral Co-Ordinator

Continued from front page:

Forgiveness comes from love for the other and from grace. That is to say that through prayer, one is strengthened to forgive the one who erred, but was sincerely repentant. Let us reflect today the gospel message that challenges the tendency we have to quantify or limit forgiveness. Peter's question about how many times to forgive and Jesus' response to him is a call to unlimited mercy. With this Jesus teaches us that God's forgiveness is not restricted by numbers or conditions; it's a boundless grace that transforms us. Let us approach others every day with the same unlimited compassion and forgiveness that reflect God's unlimited love for us.

Have a Blessed week.

Fr Ihemelandu Uzuegbu

We pray for those who are unwell

Donn Anderson, Yvonne Boyle, Christine Bunn, Chris Burton, Kelly Burton, Wilma Burton, June Crimmen, Emma Datoc, Sheila de Zilva, Biddy Dwyer, Lyn Groessler, Beryl Grunwald, Varun Gupta, Gabrielle Harris, Sherry Henricksen, Mary Hewitt, Kathleen Hicks, Colleen Jackson, Gordon Jackson, Pietro Jacuzzo, Fran Johnson, Bevan Johnson, Lesley Keleher, Troy Kemp, Raechel Mansfield, Ann Mansfield, Dawn Marano, Joy McGowan, Michael McGowan, K McCarthy, Cristina Neroni, Moira O'Sullivan, Joshua Price, Janet Quirk, Guiseppe Santoro, Irene Savage, Thomas Savage, Bridget Simpson, Eric Spaid, Fay Tynan, Jeanette Wharton, Lynne Wilson Taylor, Kerryn Whiteside, Sr Carmel, Sr Dorothy & Zaiden, Sr Margaret Mary Birgan (OLN)

We remember those whose anniversaries of death occur about this time

We extend our sympathy and support to all families who have recently lost a loved one

Sharon Barnes, John Murphy