

**Brisbane Catholic Archdiocese 2023 Annual Mass Attendance Count
Held on the weekends of 7 May, 14 May, 21 May, 28 May**

It's that time of the year again when we need to update (do a count) of our congregation numbers. The Parish counters have started on the weekend of 7th May. This will allow the Church as a whole to see where it is going for the future. As you well know people have been talking about congregations and priests and where this will all end up over the years.

Weekly Diary : 22nd May 2023—28th May 2023

Tuesday 23rd	: 9.30am.	Mass followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wednesday 24th	: 9.30am.	Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group-Parish Meeting Room
Thursday 25th	: 9.30am.	Mass followed by Rosary
Saturday 27th	: 4.30pm.	Confession
	5.00pm.	: Solemnity Pentecost Sunday Year A/I
Sunday 28th	: 7.00am. + 9.00am.	: Solemnity Pentecost Sunday Year A/I

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND DECEASED

PRAYER: O Lord Jesus Christ, rest your weary ones, bless your dying ones, soothe your suffering ones, pity your afflicted ones, shield your joyous ones, and all for your love's sake. Amen. (St Augustine)

Prayers have been requested for the following :

RECENTLY DECEASED: Ann Daly, Tina Dey

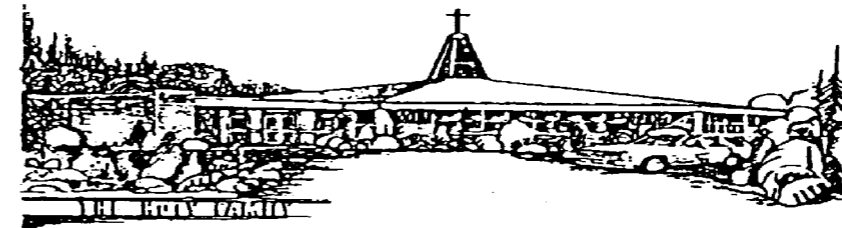
ANNIVERSARIES: Eric Crowe, Marguerite Giles, Anthony (Tony) Basha, Glenn Winstanley, Angelo de Luca, Anthony Stephens, Tony Stephens, Hannah Norman, Fred Betros, Terrence Patrick Burke, Wilfred Pope

SICK LIST: Gay Frazer, June Molloy, Angela Byron, Renee Wood, Gerard Brennan, Jan Dodds, Colin Goldup, Gabriel Cabral, Keith Murphy, Victoria Scotchford, Michael Murphy, Ryder Forbes, Alan Robinson, Geoffrey Eaborn, Margaret Cotton, Frank Balinas, Lavinia Azucena, Marta Szysz, Riley Dodds, Kayden Chong, Ruth Stretton, Peter O'Rourke, Fr. David Wilson S.M., Sasha Whelan, Ann Daly, Marie Roberts, Orazio Smeralda, Darren Pascoe, Peter Smith (Ashmore), Joe McAloon, Madeline Hodgetts, Marie Turnbull, Christine Kyriakides, George Kyriakides, Morris Lynch, George Docherty, Christina Ang, Sofia Bean, Sonia D'Angiolo, Riany Chandler, Jean Di Benedetto, Marie Dupois, Abigail O'Donell, Terry Owsnett, Ronald Sincock, Dolares Kelly, Mary McDonnell, Courtney Blount, Simon Stretton, Philomena McAloon, Margaret Kwong, Marilyn Rodgers, Frank Hewitt, Anthony Donellan, Dolores Kilian, Mary Ann Boeheme, Maureen Currie, Nancy Kelly, Tamara Toms, Bernie Pack, Elizabeth Norris, Ken Hannam, Gail Callaghan

Acknowledgement of Country - This is Kombumerri Country - The Traditional Custodians of this region.

We respectfully acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First People of this country. We pay our respects to the Kombumerri people, who are the traditional custodians of these sacred lands that we live and work upon. We acknowledge Elders, past and present and emerging, as they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes of our Indigenous people.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH, RUNAWAY BAY



The Ascension of the Lord Year A/I

Sunday 21st May 2023

PARISH PRIEST
Fr. Marty Larsen (on leave)
ADMINISTRATOR
Monsignor Peter Meneely

PARISH STAFF
Audrey Ho
Parish Secretary
Jan Levinge
Marriage Coordinator
Maria Blanca
Sacramental Coordinator

Email :
rbay@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish Office: 16 Simbai St
PO Box 125 Runaway Bay Q4216
Website :
www.holyfamilyrunawaybay.org.au

FOR ALL ENQUIRIES:
Tel: 07 5537 4320
Emergency : 0434 825 260
Facebook :
holyfamilycatholicchurchrunawaybay

Hours:
8.30am—3.00pm
Monday—Tuesday
8.30am-1.00pm
Wednesday-Thursday
(closed FRIDAY)

Reconciliation:
Saturdays 4.30pm

Baptisms
Every 2nd/3rd/4th Sundays
after 9am Mass
Please contact the Parish Office.

St Francis Xavier School:
Principal : Ronan O'Mahony
Tel: 5537 2633

St. Vincent De Paul Helpline
1800 846 643

Stopleveline Service
1300 304 550
AOB@stopleveline.com.au
www.bneccatholic.stopleveline.com

Parish Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR)
Michael Nicholson
Tel : 07 5537 4320

ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR A
Matthew 28:16-20

Context Connection

This Sunday's Gospel, in observance of the feast of the Ascension of Jesus, concludes the Gospel of Matthew. In Matthew's account of the Resurrection (which is the Gospel reading for the Easter Vigil), Jesus rises from the dead on Easter morning and greets the women who have come to see the tomb (see 28:1-10). Jesus instructs the women to tell the disciples to go to Galilee, to the pre-terminated place on a mountain. The disciples leave Jerusalem immediately and travel to Galilee. Matthew's account also differs from the one found in the Acts of the Apostles, which states that Jesus ascended into heaven forty days after the Resurrection (see Acts of the Apostles 1:3), from Mount Olivet (see Acts of the Apostles 1:12) near Jerusalem.

The conclusion of Matthew's Gospel makes three profound statements about the authority of Jesus, the commission of the disciples, and the promise of Jesus's abiding presence. The encounter of Jesus on the mountain in Galilee, according to Matthew, is the disciples' first experience of the risen Jesus. In this instance, it is Jesus who comes to the disciples, whereas in other parts of Matthew, it is the disciples who come to Jesus. Jesus shares with the disciples a profound truth about himself: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me" (28:18). The risen Jesus has been given supreme authority over the universe, all power in heaven and on earth, by his heavenly Father because of his obedience—even unto death.

Based on his universal power, Jesus then commissions the disciples to carry on his work here on earth. Everyone, not just the Jews, is invited to be disciples of Jesus Christ. The words Jesus uses when he commissions the disciples and tells them to baptize all nations are the same words used in Baptism today.

Finally, Jesus promises he will always be with his followers. Jesus's promise to be continuously present to the disciples in every generation brings to fulfilment Jesus's name, Emmanuel, which means "God is always with us." The Spirit of God will guide and protect the Church at all times.

Wisdom Connection

Matthew's community is most likely a group of Christian converts from Judaism. Perhaps some members of the community wish to be exclusive rather than inclusive, making it difficult for non-Jews to convert to Christianity and join their community. In a dynamic way, Matthew presents the risen Jesus as the true Messiah that has been given complete authority over heaven and earth. It is this glorified Jesus that declares that his salvation is for all people—Jew and Gentile alike. In fact, Jesus commands his disciples to go forth and make disciples of all nations. Jesus's discipleship is one of inclusion not exclusion.

The Church is presented with the same challenge today. How can we spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to all peoples everywhere? We are called to be evangelizers by our Baptism. It is our Christian vocation to be focused outward and to share the salvation of Jesus Christ with all nations. We have such Good News that everyone deserves to hear it and to encounter Jesus, the Christ.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 32:1-2,4-5,18-19 : R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy : a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. **R.**

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R.**

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. **R.**

SECOND READING Eph 1:17-23 He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt28:19,20

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt28:16-20 All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Holy Family Parish Registration (Census) 2023

My dear friends,

On the Feast of Holy Trinity, we will conduct a Parish Registration (Census) process so that we can update our Parish records in relation to the people who reside or worship within this Parish.

This will take place on the weekend of 3rd/4th June 2023. We will ask parishioners to complete the registration forms on that weekend.

It has been quite some years since a Registration process has been initiated in this Parish. Therefore, our records are mostly out of date and need updating.

I am very grateful for your assistance in this process.

Many blessings,

Monsignor Peter Meneely

Maintenance Work at the Presbytery

In the coming weeks, much needed maintenance work is being done at the Presbytery. This is to strengthen the structural aspect of the floor and some other minor repairs.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2023

53 children would have received their workbooks/handouts and their parents will journey with them and guide them through the program.

The Contribution fee of \$80/child is now due and we would appreciate if parents could finalise the payment. EFTPOS is available in the Parish Office or a bank deposit to the Parish account

RUNAWAY BAY PARISH
BSB : 064 786
ACC : 100006388
REF : FAMILY NAME/CONF.

FAMILY WORKSHOP & CONFIRMATION PRACTICE:

Sunday, 4th June 2023 at 10:30am

CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION:

Wednesday, 7th June 2023 at 6:00pm

****AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IS THE PREPARATION OF THE CHILD AT SUNDAY MASS, THEREFORE THE CHILDREN ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS DURING THE PROGRAM.**

All meetings are requirements and will be held at **Holy Family Parish, Runaway Bay**. If you require further information, please contact Maria Blancia on 5537 4320 or email rbay@bne.catholic.net.au every Wednesday from 3pm to 5:30pm. *Please regularly check the parish or school newsletter for updates.*