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**Facebook:** Corinda Graceville Catholic Parish

**St Joseph's Church**

Oxley Rd & Martindale St, **Corinda**

**Christ the King Church**

Churchill St, **Graceville**

**St Joseph's School**

28 Clewley St, **Corinda**

Principal: Kim Davis

Ph: (07) 3379 6937

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**Christ the King School**

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**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

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*The Pastor's Pen....*

Did you know that there are two versions of the 'Beatitudes' in the Gospels? Well, there are. One is short, consisting of four happy blessings followed by four woeful warnings. It's found in Luke's Gospel Chapter 6:20-26. The other set of nine happy blessings without any woeful warnings is found in Matthew Chapter 5:1-12. This is the Beatitude text with which we are most familiar.

Both, however, are about the upending of our 'normal' values and the expectations of our society and humanity. The poor are rich, the hungry become filled and satisfied, the sad and sorrowful are comforted and laugh and the persecuted and outcast are rewarded and will leap for joy. Matthew's version of nine refines and amplifies Luke's four by speaking about the merciful, peacemakers, the gentle and humble, the pure of heart, those who hunger for truth and justice and those persecuted for their faith, but the essence of both is the same. Those people who are ignored, marginalised, pushed down and left powerless shall have their day of laughter, rejoicing and gladness and the reward of God's favour.

What is this joy, blessing, happiness and laughter of which Jesus speaks? What does it really mean? Over to our wise friend Fr. Ron Rolheiser OMI (below) to give us his take on this, a take and an understanding worthy of our thought and prayer.

*Fr. Mark Percival, MA, PP.*

**HOW SERIOUS IS LAUGHTER?**

JANUARY 16, 2023

In a homily, Karl Rahner once commented that in the Beatitudes in Luke's Gospel, Jesus makes a rather stunning statement. He says, 'blessed are you who are now weeping, for you shall laugh'. Rahner suggests that Jesus is teaching that our final state of happiness in heaven will not just lift us out of our sadness and dry away our tears, it will bring us to laughter, to "an intoxication of joy." Laughter is integral to the final ecstasy.

Further still, if laughter constitutes the final happiness in heaven, then it should follow that whenever we are laughing, we are on good terms with reality. Laughter, Rahner submits, is part of the eternal praise of God at the end of time.

However, this can be glib and misleading. Not all laughter gives God praise and not all laughter suggests that we are on good terms with reality. Laughter can also be cheap, glib, and wrong. The final joy of heaven is not always found at that place in a room where folks are cracking up with laughter.

There are many kinds of laughter and not all of them are healthy or godly. There is the laughter of drunkenness, of deadening your senses and jettisoning your moral compass and normal sensitivity. That kind of laughter will not be heard in some noisy little corner of heaven. Then there is the laughter of sarcasm, laughter that belittles others, that delights in others' problems, and sees itself as superior. That too won't be heard in heaven. Then there is the laughter that's predicated on being insensitive and blind to the pain of others, that can enjoy itself even while Lazarus is starving just outside the door. The Gospels are clear as to where that kind laughter lands us. As well, there is the laughter of pure superficiality, laughter that comes easy because it really doesn't care about anything. Such laughter, though harmless, speaks of nothing.

However there are other kinds of laughter that speak of health and of God. There is the laughter of pure spontaneous energy, seen most clearly in the natural joyous bubbling over of the life-principle inside of a young person, like the delight you see in a toddler delighting in her first steps. This is the laughter of sheer delight, one that says, It's great to be alive! When we laugh in this way, we are honouring God and thanking God for the gift of life and energy – since the best way to thank a gift-giver is to enjoy thoroughly the gift and delight in it.

This kind of laughter is most spontaneous is us when we are young and, sadly, generally becomes more difficult for us as the wounds, failures, pressures, and anxieties of adulthood begin to depress our spontaneous energies. We still laugh, but when we stop feeling spontaneous delight in our lives, when healthy laughter dries up, we tend to turn to unhealthy kinds of laughter to try to lift ourselves out of our depression. Hence, the loud, boisterous, cranked-up laughter we hear at our parties is often really only our attempt to keep depression at bay. See how happy I am!

*Continued on page two.....*

## HOW SERIOUS IS LAUGHTER? *From page one .....*

Peter Berger once wrote that laughter is one of the proofs for the existence of God in that our capacity to laugh in any situation shows that, deep down, we are aware that no situation ultimately binds us. Our capacity to laugh in any situation, no matter how grave or threatening, shows that on some level we are aware that we transcend that situation. That's why a prisoner being led to his execution might still joke with his executioner and why a dying person can still enjoy a bit of irony. Healthy laughter isn't just godly. It manifests transcendence inside us.

But, not all laughter is born equal. There is a laughter that simply bespeaks superficiality, forced lightness, insensitivity, drunkenness, or a thinly disguised attempt to keep depression at bay. That is not the laughter of heaven. However, there is another kind of laughter, spoken of by Jesus in the Beatitudes, which is a laughter that simply delights in the joy of being alive and (in that delight) intuitively its own transcendence. That kind of laughter is a key component in love and sanctity. It will be one of the "intoxications of joy" that we will feel in heaven.

If this is true, then the holiest person you know is not the humourless, dour, easily offended, over-pious person you deem as serious, deep, and spiritual whom you do not necessarily want as your table companion. The holiest person you know is probably the person you want beside you at table.

When I was a novice in religious life, our Assistant Novice Director, an over-serious, fearful man, frequently cautioned us against levity and humour, telling us, that there isn't a single recorded incident in the Gospels of Jesus laughing. Now deceased, I suspect the man is in heaven. I also suspect that from that vantage point, he would drop that caution.

*Fr. Ron Rolheiser OMI*

**OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART:** the painting depicted below was commissioned by the parish in 1997 on the occasion of the 80th Jubilee of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Corinda. The painting depicts the image of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart which appears on the medal worn by the Sisters. Since 1997 this painting has hung in the Clewley Street Convent.



The Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart arrived in Corinda in January 1917. On this very weekend 106 years ago on 28th January 1917 Archbishop James Duhig blessed the original Corinda Convent and St Joseph's School. So important was the occasion that special trains were organised from Brisbane Central, Ipswich and Goodna! Saint Joseph's Primary School opened the next day on 29th January with 50 students.

The Sisters teaching apostolate expanded over the years to include OLSH Junior Boys Boarding School at Corinda from 1919 to 1939, OLSH College Corinda from 1941 to 1972, which was a high school for girls, for both day students and boarding students, and also Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Primary School founded at Darra in 1937. Over the decades the Sisters were also involved in all aspects and ministries of the parish, as well as many ministries beyond the parish. In total over 150 Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart have lived and ministered in the parish in the past 106 years.

Unfortunately, due to the increasing age and declining health of many Sisters it was necessary to move to where nursing care is readily available. Other Sisters, fewer in number, are engaged in ministry elsewhere and are not free to come to Corinda Graceville at this time.

However the Sisters have partnered with St Vincent de Paul Queensland to use the convent to conduct wellbeing programs for women. This ministry which commenced in September 2021 is proving to be much needed and is filling a gap that had previously not been provided for in Brisbane. The Convent is known as the 'House of Hope'.

In acknowledgement of the ministry of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in our parish for over a century and also of their continuing ministry in a new way to those in most need, the painting of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (pictured above) has now been hung in the Martindale transept of St Joseph's Church.

*May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved ~ forever! Our Lady of the Sacred Heart ~ pray for us.*

## **WORD OF GOD SUNDAY ~ 4th & 5th February 2022**

In 2019 Pope Francis asked the Church to dedicate a weekend early in the new year to focus on the Word of God as a way to promote the study of Sacred Scripture, and give new life to the responsibility of all believers to deepen their knowledge of Scripture. We celebrate Word of God Sunday next weekend. This year, Word of God Sunday's theme is a verse from St. John's Gospel, "We proclaim to you what we have seen". (1 Jn 1:3).

Last week, Pope Francis stated "Let us rediscover with amazement the fact that God speaks to us, particularly through the Holy Scriptures." The Holy Father appealed to the faithful to get closer to the Lord through His Word, encouraging everyone to read, study, meditate, and pray, as we are inspired by the Word of God. The Pope recalled what he has said on numerous occasions to have a small Gospel, or a pocket Gospel, to carry it in your bag, always with you; and when there is a moment during the day, to read something from the Gospel. He said it is Jesus who accompanies us.



Next weekend at each of our Masses we will process the Book of Gospels into the church and display it in a place of prominence on the Sanctuary.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word:** will recommence TODAY Sunday 29th January at the 8am Mass at St Joseph's then next weekend at 9.30am Mass at Christ the King on 5th February, alternating weekly between each church throughout the school term. All primary school aged children are welcome. If you wish to assist as a leader or a helper please contact the parish office or speak to one of the Children's Liturgy team members at Mass.

**Feast of the Presentation of the Lord:** Mass at St Joseph's 9am on Thursday 2nd February.

**Parish Pastoral Council:** the first meeting for 2023 will be held at 7pm on Thursday 2nd February at the parish office

**Youth Group for high school students and young adults:** 6.30pm Friday 3rd February at St Joseph's Hall Corinda. Commencing with a light dinner and finishing at 8.30pm. All young people are most welcome to attend. Contact Malia at the parish office or at [pv.corindagraceville@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:pv.corindagraceville@bne.catholic.net.au) if you require further information.

**Liturgy Team:** will meet at 10.00am on Saturday 4th February at the Parish Office. If you are interested in Liturgy, and all the aspects that need to be planned behind the scenes you may be interested in joining the team. New members are always welcome.

**Fijian Choir:** we welcome back the Fijian Choir for 2023, who will be singing at the 5.30pm Saturday Mass on 4th February.

**Hospitality after Saturday Mass:** will commence on Saturday evening 4th February at St Joseph's. Please make the time to stay and have a bite to eat and a chat with parishioners after Mass.

**Sunday Night Sausage Sizzle:** will recommence on Sunday 5th February after the 6pm Mass at Christ the King. Thanks to our generous helpers who make this happen for our community every first Sunday night of the month.

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Graceville Atrium: Would you like to join our team or enrol your children:** The Atrium will reopen for the children on Tuesday 7th February.

Is there anyone who would like to join our team of Catechists? We have a few groups at the moment that need an extra catechist or assistant and we are eager to have some extra helpers to enable us to better serve the children who come.

Our key task is to usher the children who come into the Lord's presence that He might reveal to them His great love and awesome plan for their lives. If this resonates with you and you would like to respond to this call please email Anne Delsorte at [delsorte@bigpond.net.au](mailto:delsorte@bigpond.net.au) for further information.

**St Joseph's School Opening Liturgy for 2023:** will be held at 9am on Thursday 9th February in St Joseph's Church. All are welcome to attend.

**Parish Choir:** rehearsals for the parish choir recommence at 7pm on Thursday 9th February in St Joseph's Church. New members are always welcome.

**St Vincent de Paul meeting:** 8am on Friday 10th February in the Parish Office at Corinda. Vinnies always welcomes new members to assist in their good works.

**Christ the King School Opening Liturgy for 2023:** will be held at 9.30am on Friday 10th February in Christ the King Church. All are welcome to attend this liturgy.

**Ministers Gathering:** As we commence 2023 we extend an invitation to our Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion and our Mass Coordinators to come together for short time of formation, sharing and renewal on Saturday morning 11th February at 10am in St Joseph's Church. This gathering will be approx one hour so please pop this date in your diaries as we wish all ministers to attend if possible.

**Parish Calendar:** a few copies of the 2023 Parish Calendar are still available for collection. Please pick up a copy for your household, available at the entrances of the churches while stocks last!!

*We pray for the good health, strength and healing of:* Ron Atkins, Alan Carr, Bridie Carr, Beryl Clark, June Denham, Maureen Doherty, Nash Giles, Maureen Gleeson, Gregory Gould, Bob Healy, Myrna Healy, Clare Hickey, Ned Hiller, Greg Hunt, Mark Inmon, Maureen Inmon, Therese Little, Fr Frank Lourigan, Gordon McCormack, Jack McLaughlin, Margaret Mealey, Damien Mollard, Julene Montgomery, Adam Morrison, Monica Morrison, Tri Nguyen, Val O'Brien, Jan O'Donoghue, Jimmy O'Keefe, Taavi Orupold, Emma Parer, Genevieve Parer, Shelly Parer, Glenda Penna, Clive Punter, Dawn Punter, Luke Reed, Megan Riddle, Sr Bernadetta Robinson Olsh, Sr Cyprian Thureson pbvm, Pauline Thureson, Thao Trinh, Sue Venderley, Paul Vickers, Rebecca Wallace, Nick Willemssen.

*We pray for all who are suffering from Covid19. We remember and pray for all our parishioners living in aged care.*

*May the recently deceased rest in peace:* Francisco Dominguez Del Brio, May Byrne, Bob Fechner, Lyn Crowley, Lois Kerwick

*We pray for those whose anniversaries occur about this time:* Desmond McCormack, Barbara Hawkins, Des Campbell, Brian Claffey, Ann Sellars, John Staunton, Thomas Bennell, Shirley Chalmers, Kath Hennessy, Clare Foster, Stephen Kimmins, Stan Winter, Joan Lynch, Tony Condon, Kathleen Condon, Charlotte Hagan, Patricia Powell, Lindsay Powell, Bill Boucher



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### WEEKDAY LITURGIES

Wednesday 9.00 am St Joseph's - Mass  
Thursday 9.00 am St Joseph's - Mass  
Friday 9.30 am Christ the King - Mass

### SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5.30 pm St Joseph's  
Sunday 8.00 am St Joseph's  
9.30 am Christ the King  
6.00 pm Christ the King

### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday 4.30 pm – 5.00 pm St Joseph's

### Other times by appointment.

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism for Children is celebrated by appointment on the following Sundays of the month

2nd Sunday 11.00 am St Joseph's  
4th Sunday 11.00 am Christ the King

**All enquiries to the Parish Office**

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Printed so that users may pray daily the Liturgical Prayer of the Church)

#### FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

SUN, 29 JAN 4th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME  
Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12  
MON, 30 JAN Heb 11:32-40; Mk 5:1-20  
TUE, 31 JAN St John Bosco, priest, patron saint of youth and Catholic publishers - *Memorial*  
Heb 12:1-4; Mk 5:21-43  
(Alt. Phil 4:4-9; Mt 18:1-5)  
WED, 1 FEB Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Mk 6:1-6  
THU, 2 FEB The Presentation of the Lord - *Feast*  
Malachi 3:1-4 or Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40  
FRI, 3 FEB St Blaise, bishop, martyr, patron saint of relief of throat ailments - *Optional Memorial*  
St Ansgar, bishop, patron saint of Denmark, "apostle of the north" (Scandinavia) - *Optional Memorial*  
Heb 13:1-8; Mk 6:14-29  
SAT, 4 FEB Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Mk 6:30-34

#### FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

SUN, 5 FEB 5th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME  
Is 58:7-10; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

### HYMNS AND RESPONSES FOR SUNDAY MASSES

#### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (8.00 AM): "DISMISSAL FOR CHILDREN"

We send you now to hear God's word; God's message just for you.  
Walk with Jesus by your side in ev'ry-thing you do.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

"HAPPY THE POOR IN SPIRIT"



Hap-py the poor in Spi-rit. the king-dom of heav'n is theirs

#### COPYRIGHT ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## THE CATHOLIC LEADER

**"The Catholic Leader":** The St Vincent de Paul Society has reluctantly decided that we cannot continue to sell *"The Catholic Leader"* in our two churches. As regular purchasers would be aware, the paper is no longer able to organise reliable delivery to our churches, and in consequence SVDP has been experiencing substantial losses each month. Should you wish to continue to read *"The Leader"*, you have these options:

- Arrange a home delivery: copies posted each month
- Arrange an online monthly email subscription

This can be done by going to [catholicleader.com.au/](http://catholicleader.com.au/) subscribe/ or by phoning 3324 3555. Please note that this phone is not monitored every day, but that you can leave a message and they will get back to you.

**The 2023-25 Sacraments of Initiation program** - run by the Catholic Parish of Corinda Graceville – is for all children who are baptised and have turned 8 years of age by July 1, 2023, (usually Grade 3 children and above), regardless of which school they attend. The premise under which this policy is implemented within our Parish, is about inviting children to complete their initiation into the Catholic faith as part of a parish based, school supported, family centred preparation program. **We will be working together as a team to continue your child's faith journey.**

An information night is proposed for **6:30pm 16 March 2023, at Christ the King Church**, Churchill Street, Graceville, for parents who would like to find out more about the program (Confirmation, First Holy Communion and Penance) and the process for enrolling their child/children in the same. Important information regarding the program will be provided at this night, so at least one parent or guardian should attend so that you may be in the best possible position to make an informed decision on whether your family wish to commit to the program at this time. ***Only parents/guardians need attend this short session.***

To express your interest in attending the information night simply email the Sacramental Program Coordinator at the following address :- [sc.corindagraceville@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sc.corindagraceville@bne.catholic.net.au) Your correspondence will be acknowledged with a confirmation. A copy of the agenda for the evening will be made available closer to the event.

This meeting is a great opportunity to ask questions to help make an informed decision about whether the time is right for you and your family to participate in our program.

**Vinnies Corinda Shop:** has reopened after renovations. Come and visit the new store and support Vinnies in their good works. Helpers are needed to assist in the store! **Volunteers are required to assist at the Corinda Shop particularly on Fridays and Saturdays.** Please visit the shop to enquire further or phone them on 3379 9565 and they will assist you further.

***We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we gather, the Yuggera peoples and Turrbal peoples, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the continuing and deep connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country, its land, waters and culture.***

