



The Catholic Parish  
of Corinda Graceville

16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

22nd / 23rd JULY 2023

Catholic Education Week

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**F: Corinda Graceville Catholic Parish**

**St Joseph's Church**

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**Christ the King Church**

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**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

19 Randolph St, **Graceville**

Director: Anne Delsorte

Ph: (07) 3379 8635

**Outside School Hours Care Corinda**

Director: Sam Allen

Ph:(07) 3278 5606

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*The Pastor's Pen....*

Thank you to all who came to last Sunday's Parish Assembly, our second Annual gathering. Thank you to everyone who helped out in any way. Some 80 parishioners attended, listening to updated reporting about our Parish. We then participated in discerning future dreams, hopes and initiatives for us. We used the seven Apostolic Priorities, put to the Archdiocese by Archbishop Mark Coleridge in May, as a starting point or launch pad for our shared discussions and discernment.

A few things soon became clear; **Prayer** matters; doing it, sharing it and teaching it. **Ecology** matters and we have to keep finding ways to soften our carbon footprint and nurture our local Pariah environment. **Communities and Cultures** matter and we need to continue to seek and put in place more ways to involve and celebrate our growing faith community in all of its diversity. **Hospitality** matters and this work among us needs further support and encouragement. **Synodal Governance** matters to us, so along with our assembly which is a practical exercise in local 'Synodal Governance' listening and accountability, more ways to have more members involved in shaping our Parish communities future need to be found and put in place.

Many more thoughts and reflections than these were made and we really do want to hear, respect and respond to all of them. The Parish Assembly Planning team (Mary O'Dea, Helen Ferguson, Mary Holland, Michael Greene, Peter Duffy, Jack Cain and Fr. Mark) will absorb, discern and then collate all of your responses. Then, over the coming few months, we will report back to everyone in our community about some new directions and ways that we can move forward together in response to your discussions and desires. More on our latest Assembly is coming. Please stay tuned.

In St. Matthew's Gospel the centre of Jesus' teaching happens in Chapter 13, right in the middle of the entire Gospel text. We began hearing some of this chapter last weekend in the famous parable of the sower. This weekend we get three more parables, all about what Matthew calls the Kingdom of Heaven.

A man sows good wheat seeds in his field. Someone else (an enemy) sneaks in and sows seeds of weeds. What's to be done? Jesus says that the man who owns the field (God) decides to adapt to this unplanned set of circumstances, letting both wheat and weeds grow together rather than weeding out the bad at the risk of also damaging the good in the process. When the harvest time arrives, these matters can then be sorted out. This is how the world is and how the Kingdom of Heaven gets worked out in history over time.

A man (God) sows in his field a tiny mustard seed, small and insignificant as it is. Slowly it grows, seemingly taking ages. Eventually it becomes a big shrub providing home and shelter for all who pass by. This is what the Kingdom is like and how it works among us.

A woman in her kitchen (God) working hard for her family's well being mixes in a small bit of yeast with a lot of flour and works it until it's leavened all through, infiltrating and affecting all of the flour, raising it up ready for baking. This is the way that God works for us and through us for the coming of the feast of joy in the Kingdom of heaven.

The longest journey we will make is the journey from our minds to our hearts, and the shortest way to make this journey is a story. This is why Jesus speaks in parables. They help us to move from knowledge and ideas to beliefs, commitments and deeds.

With my gratitude to all of you for your goodness and for your living faith in Jesus Christ.

*Fr. Mark Percival. MA, PP.*

**St Joseph's School Fete ~ 9am to 3pm next Sunday 30th July. Cakes, jams, pickles, plants, craft, books, trash-n-treasure, clothes, morning tea, lunch, rides and much more. Enjoy a wonderful day celebrating with our school and parish community.**



**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE THIRD WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY  
23 JULY 2023**

Dear brothers and sisters!

“His mercy is from age to age” (Lk 1:50). This is the theme of the Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, and it takes us back to the joyful meeting between the young Mary and her elderly relative Elizabeth (cf. Lk 1:39-56). Filled with the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth addressed the Mother of God with words that, millennia later, continue to echo in our daily prayer: “Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb” (v. 42). The Holy Spirit, who had earlier descended upon Mary, prompted her to respond with the Magnificat, in which she proclaimed that the Lord’s mercy is from generation to generation. That same Spirit blesses and accompanies every fruitful encounter between different generations: between grandparents and grandchildren, between young and old. God wants young people to bring joy to the hearts of the elderly, as Mary did to Elizabeth, and gain wisdom from their experiences. Yet, above all, the Lord wants us not to abandon the elderly or to push them to the margins of life, as tragically happens all too often in our time.

This year, the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly takes place close to World Youth Day. Both celebrations remind us of the “haste” (cf. v. 39) with which Mary set out to visit Elizabeth. In this way, they invite us to reflect on the bond that unites young and old. The Lord trusts that young people, through their relationships with the elderly, will realize that they are called to cultivate memory and recognize the beauty of being part of a much larger history. Friendship with an older person can help the young to see life not only in terms of the present and realize that not everything depends on them and their abilities. For the elderly, the presence of a young person in their lives can give them hope that their experience will not be lost and that their dreams can find fulfilment. Mary’s visit to Elizabeth and their shared awareness that the Lord’s mercy is from generation to generation remind us that, alone, we cannot move forward, much less save ourselves, and that God’s presence and activity are always part of something greater, the history of a people. Mary herself said this in the Magnificat, as she rejoiced in God, who, in fidelity to the promise he had made to Abraham, had worked new and unexpected wonders (cf. vv. 51-55).

To better appreciate God’s way of acting, let us remember that our life is meant to be lived to the full, and that our greatest hopes and dreams are not achieved instantly but through a process of growth and maturation, in dialogue and in relationship with others. Those who focus only on the here and now, on money and possessions, on “having it all now”, are blind to the way God works. His loving plan spans past, present and future; it embraces and connects the generations. It is greater than we are, yet includes each of us and calls us at every moment to keep pressing forward. For the young, this means being ready to break free from the fleeting present in which virtual reality can entrap us, preventing us from doing something productive. For the elderly, it means not dwelling on the loss of physical strength and thinking with regret about missed opportunities. Let us all look ahead! And allow ourselves to be shaped by God’s grace, which from generation to generation frees us from inertia and from dwelling on the past!

In the meeting between Mary and Elizabeth, between young and old, God points us towards the future that he is opening up before us. Indeed, Mary’s visit and Elizabeth’s greeting open our eyes to the dawn of salvation: in their embrace, God’s mercy quietly breaks into human history amid abundant joy. I encourage everyone to reflect on that meeting, to picture, like a snapshot, that embrace between the young Mother of God and the elderly mother of Saint John the Baptist, and to frame it in their minds and hearts as a radiant icon.

Next, I would invite you to make a concrete gesture that would include grandparents and the elderly. Let us not abandon them. Their presence in families and communities is a precious one, for it reminds us that we share the same heritage and are part of a people committed to preserving its roots. From the elderly we received the gift of belonging to God’s holy people. The Church, as well as society, needs them, for they entrust to the present the past that is needed to build the future. Let us honour them, neither depriving ourselves of their company nor depriving them of ours. May we never allow the elderly to be cast aside!

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is meant to be a small but precious sign of hope for them and for the whole Church. I renew my invitation to everyone – dioceses, parishes, associations and communities – to celebrate this Day and to make it the occasion of a joyful and renewed encounter between young and old. To you, the young who are preparing to meet in Lisbon or to celebrate World Youth Day in your own countries, I would ask: before you set out on your journey, visit your grandparents or an elderly person who lives alone! Their prayers will protect you and you will carry in your heart the blessing of that encounter. I ask you, the elderly among us, to accompany by your prayers the young people about to celebrate World Youth Day. Those young people are God’s answer to your prayers, the fruits of all that you have sown, the sign that God does not abandon his people, but always rejuvenates them with the creativity of the Holy Spirit.

Dear grandparents, dear elderly brothers and sisters, may the blessing of the embrace between Mary and Elizabeth come upon you and fill your hearts with peace. With great affection, I give you my blessing. And I ask you, please, to pray for me.

*Pope Francis*



World Day  
for Grandparents  
and the Elderly  
2023



***We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Yuggera and Turrbal peoples, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.***

**St Joseph's School Sponsored Mass:** Welcome to students, families and staff of St Joseph's School who join us to celebrate the Saturday evening Mass this weekend, the start of Catholic Education Week. We are blessed by your presence.

**Children's Liturgy:** will be held at the 9.30am Mass at Christ the King Church this Sunday 23rd July, and then next weekend Sunday 30th July at the 8.00am Mass at St Joseph's Church. All primary school aged children, and all children enrolled in the Sacramental Program, are welcome to attend. Children's Liturgy alternates between the 8am Mass and 9.30am Mass across the two churches each week.

**God's blessings:** to Olivia and Violet who will be baptised at Christ the King Church this weekend. We warmly welcome you into our Parish Family and the Family of God.

**Catholic Education Week in Queensland:** Celebrated annually in week 3 of term 3, Catholic Education Week is an opportunity for all 313 Catholic schools in Queensland to celebrate and promote their distinctive mission and ethos. Catholic education strives to make a difference in the lives of those in our schools and in the wider community by challenging young people to live out the message of Jesus and to reach their full potential as compassionate, contributing, life-giving members of society. This year's Catholic Education Week theme celebrates our communities of faith, hope and love.

**Parish Choir:** practice will be held at 7pm on Thursday 27th July at St Joseph's Church. The choir will be leading the music ministry at the 5.30pm Mass next Saturday 29th July. New members always welcome.

**St Vincent de Paul Meeting:** 8am Friday 28th July at the Parish Office. New members are always welcome.



**Youth Group:** join us this Friday 28th July and every Friday of the school term from 6.30pm to 8.30pm for the Corinda Graceville Youth Group at St Joseph's School Hall. We play games, have a light dinner, make friends, and learn about our faith. Grades six and above are welcome. To find out more or to register please contact Claire on 0490 202 194. Young adults, as leaders to help out, are very welcome and needed (Safeguarding required for all leaders). This is a great space for faith to come alive. If you can help out please let Claire know.

**Morning Tea:** will be served after the 8am Mass at St Joseph's next Sunday 30th July.

**St Joseph's School Fete ~ 9am to 3pm Sunday 30th July.** Cakes, jams, pickles, plants, trash-n-treasure, craft, books, clothes, food, rides, morning tea, lunch and much more. Come and enjoy a wonderful day together in the winter sunshine.

**Parish Pastoral Council:** will meet at 7pm on Thursday 3rd August at the Parish Office.

**Liturgy Team meeting:** 10am on Saturday 5th August at the Parish Office.

**Sausage Sizzle:** will be served after the 6pm Mass at Christ the King on Sunday 6th August.



**Thank you:** Once again our Parishioners and school communities have responded with generous hearts to the Winter Appeal of the St Vincent de Paul Society. We are delighted to report that a little over \$13,000 was raised, which will enable us to continue reaching out to those in our area who are struggling to afford food, power and other expenses. We can assure you that the donations will be put to good use in coming months and thank you once again for your support. In addition we are delighted to welcome several new members to our conference and remind you that newcomers are always very welcome. To enquire, you can talk to one of our Vincentians, or email [ctksj4075@svdpqld.org.au](mailto:ctksj4075@svdpqld.org.au).

**Archbishop Mark has a message for you:** Last weekend in the Cathedral we had Mass to bless and commission some of the pilgrims going from Brisbane to Lisbon (note the rhyme!) for World Youth Day. This will be the first since the pandemic receded, so there's fair excitement. World Youth Day isn't magic but it draws upon the power of pilgrimage, the power of the crowd and the power of young people (and the Pope!) to make a potent mix. With the right preparation and follow-up it can produce real fruit in the lives of young people. Adeus!

*We pray for the good health, strength and healing of:* Joan Armstrong, Ron Atkins, Margaret Bailey, Jack Cain, Barbara Carmody, Alan Carr, Bridie Carr, Beryl Clark, June Denham, Maureen Doherty, Margaret Fernandez, Erica Finnimore, Nash Giles, Laurie Gillespie, Gregory Gould, Bob Healy, Myrna Healy, Ned Hiller, Mark Inmon, Maureen Inmon, Charles Keating, Shelly Kelly, Annie Little, Fr Frank Lourigan, Monique Maltet, Gordon McCormack, Neil McCormack, Damien Mollard, Julene Montgomery, Gabrielle Morgan, Adam Morrison, Monica Morrison, Val O'Brien, Patrick O'Dea, Jan O'Donoghue, Jimmy O'Keefe, Rita O'Keefe, Taavi Orupold, Emma Parer, Genevieve Parer, Jennifer Parer, Shelly Parer, Glenda Penna, Clive Punter, Dawn Punter, Sr Cyprian Thureson pbvm, Pauline Thureson, Thao Trinh, Sue Venderley, Paul Vickers, Rebecca Wallace, Ben Waters, Nick Willemsen.

*We remember and pray for all our parishioners living in aged care.*

*We pray for all who are suffering due to conflict, natural disaster and ill health.*

*May the recently deceased rest in peace:* Julie Gates

*We pray for those whose anniversaries occur about this time:* Con Carroll, Orm Gauld, Stella Sheard, Daphne Quinn, Doreen Beauchamp, June Burton, Kathryn Matheson, Trevor Butler, Colleen Kimmins, Dorothy McIntyre, Catherine Corrigan, Lurline Lannen, Teresa Jackson, Erminia Danieli, Mollie Parer, Bob Parer, Anna, Dominic, Anna, Patricia McGuire, Margaret Jeffs, Annie McMullen, Trevor Fanton, Veronica Galligan, Isabel Henry, Joe Dwan, Neil Murphy, Ivan Donaldson, Marie Cuthbert, Noreen Kennedy



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