



Parish Office – 1 Kenmore Road, Kenmore.

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Office Hours: Tues – Fri | 8:30am – 2:00pm

[www.oler.org.au](http://www.oler.org.au) | [www.facebook.com/oler.org.au](https://www.facebook.com/oler.org.au)

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4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Year B

21<sup>st</sup> April 2024

### Pastor's Message

When people go to Rome on pilgrimage, they usually try to include a visit to the Catacombs, the earliest Christian cemeteries in existence. The earliest Christian art is there in the catacombs, in images are very simple and unadorned compared to the art that would emerge in later centuries. Yet these pictures are very striking just because of their simplicity and directness. One of the images of Jesus most found in the catacombs is that of the Good Shepherd. One is in the Catacomb of San Callistus, showing a young beardless man with a sheep draped around his shoulders and holding a bucket of water in his right hand. Clearly the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd that we find in today's gospel spoke to Christians from the earliest days of the church. The shepherd image in the catacombs appealed to Christians from the start, because it conveys the personal nature of the relationship between Jesus and his followers; it portrays the close personal care that the shepherd has for the sheep. The shepherd has gone looking for the one sheep that was wandered off and having found it, he takes it home to the flock upon his shoulders. There is a bond between the shepherd and this one sheep. That is what Jesus conveys in today's gospel. He declares that he knows his own and his own know him, just as the Father knows him and he knows the Father. It is an extraordinary statement to make. Jesus is saying that the very personal relationship he has with his heavenly Father is the model for the equally personal relationship he has with each one of us. Jesus knows us as intimately as the Father knows him, and he wants us to know him as intimately as he knows the Father. There is a great deal to ponder there. When it comes to the Lord we are not just one of a crowd, lost in a sea of faces. In a way that we will never fully understand, the Lord knows each one of us by name. He relates to us in a personal way and he invites us to relate to him in a personal way. He wishes to enter into a personal relationship with each one of us. I am often struck by a line in Saint Paul's letter to the churches in Galatia, where he says, 'I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me'. We can each make our own those words of Saint Paul. When Jesus says in today's gospel that, as the good shepherd, 'I lay down my life for my sheep', he is saying that he lays down his life for each one of us individually. The Lord who knows us by name, who gave himself in love for each one of us, also calls us by name. Today is Vocations Sunday. The Lord has a calling that is personal to each one of us. He calls us in our uniqueness with our very particular temperament, our unique identity, the background that is specific to each one of us. No one of us is like anyone else. Parents know how distinct and unique each of their children is. They will all have been given the same love; they grow up in basically the same environment. Yet, from a very early age, their uniqueness becomes very evident. The family is a microcosm of the church as a whole. From the time of our baptism, we are each called to be the Lord's disciples, to follow the good Shepherd. However, the way we do that will be unique to each one of us. The particular way in which the Lord works through us is unique to each one of us. I can do something for the Lord that only I can do.

Each person in this church can do something for the Lord that only he or she can do. Each one of us has a unique contribution to make to the work of the Lord in the world, to the life of the church, and that contribution is just as vital as anyone else's contribution. We each have a unique vocation and each vocation is equally significant. Each one of us is vitally important to the Lord. When we each respond to our unique vocation, we give a lift to everyone else. When any one of us fails to respond to that vocation, we are all a little bit impoverished. On this Vocations Sunday we commit ourselves anew to hearing and responding to the call of the good shepherd.

**God Bless, Fr Mark**

### Parish Diary

#### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

- 9:00am OLR Church Roof Cleaning
- 9:15am Bridge Group, St Catherine's Moggill
- 1:00pm Mah-jong Group, St Catherine's Moggill
- 3:00pm Confirmation Interviews (until 6:00pm), OLR Church Meeting Room

#### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

- 9:00am School Easter Mass, OLR Church Kenmore
- 3:00pm Confirmation Interviews (until 6:00pm), OLR Church Meeting Room
- 7:00pm Parish Finance Council Meeting, OLR Church Meeting Room

#### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April

- 9:15am Mass, OLR Church Kenmore
- 9:15am Craft Group, St Catherine's Moggill

#### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April – Anzac Day (Parish Office Closed)

- 9:15am Anzac Day Mass, St Catherine's Moggill

#### Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April – St Mark

- 9:15am Mass, OLR Church Kenmore
- 3:00pm Primary School Youth Group (*Launch Pad*), CCC Hall, OLR School
- 6:30pm High School Youth Group (*Magnify*), CCC Hall, OLR School

#### Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April

- 8:30am Confirmation Interviews (until 10:30am), OLR Church Meeting Room
- 11:00am Baptism, OLR Church Kenmore
- 11:45am Baptism, OLR Church Kenmore
- 4:30pm Confessions, OLR Church Kenmore
- 5:00pm Vigil Mass, OLR Church Kenmore

#### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (Confirmation Enrolment Weekend)

- 8:00am Mass, St Catherine's Moggill
- 9:45am Mass, OLR Church Kenmore (Morning Tea)
- 5:30pm Mass, OLR Church Kenmore

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: **Acts 9:26-31**

**Sunday Readings**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: **1 Jn 3:18-24**

Gospel: **Jn 15:1-8**

**Readings at Home**

Liturgy and Prayer resources for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter: <https://universalis.com/australia.brisbane/20240421/mass.htm>

**Vision: To be a welcoming and inclusive community, sharing God's kingdom with all.**

**Privacy Policy - <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/privacy-policy>**

## PARISH INFORMATION

### Prayer Requests

If your relative or friend has been removed from this list and you wish them to remain on it, please call the Parish Office.

**Recently Deceased:** Please remember **Margaret Twomey** and all those who have died recently.

**Anniversaries:** Please remember all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Sick:** Please pray for **Robert Loseby, Kitty Foxon, Pam Finch**, Pan Leggat, John Wells, Pat Dryden, Felicity McPhee, Carlos Leyden, Joan Halvorson, Francis Ribeiro, Stewart Behan, Alicea Longford, Mary Logan, Kay Bernoth, Pat Nelson, Eli Bartlett, Krystyna Kazimierczuk, Stephen Jones, Noupahn Phanthavong, Elizabeth Shand, Hayley Shatkovsky, Lex Ross, Mario Garza, Amy Deans, Juliet Quiterio, Ellen Farkas, Harry Deans, Denise Venables, Brenda Carlos, James McGrath, Graham Jackson, Leonard Cox, Prida Dibbayawan, Nicole Dyer, Clint Quinlivan, Rosemary Foxon, Anna Stewart, Judy Kocho, Pat Clohessy, Matthew Gilroy, Maria Langenberg, Nadine Jones, Nina Smart, Evelyn Gardner, John Green, Jackie Rutter, Cherry Austin, Denise Reeves, Benjamin Stekhoven, Chris Morris, Noelene Casey, and all those who are sick.

### Anzac Day Service

An Anzac Day Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 9:15am at St Catherine's Moggill, followed by Morning Tea – *Lest we forget.*

### OLR Church Roof Cleaning

This Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April we have engaged contractors to give the OLR Church roof a soft wash, to remove the grime which has built up since the major roof renovation and repaint of 2019, some five years ago now. During the works on Monday, which are scheduled between 9:00am and 2:00pm, we ask that parishioners and visitors keep clear of the church for everyone's safety. If you have any concerns please contact the Parish Manager. Our Kenmore Church has stood proudly on the corner of Moggill and Kenmore roads as a welcoming beacon of faith to the community for 55 years, and with care and regular maintenance it will be here for the next 55 years. Maintenance of all of our church properties across the Parish is funded solely through the generosity of all those who contribute to the Parish Giving Program along with those who give on the collection plate and tap devices at Mass. We have also been blessed with specific donations at various times to aid in these works. We are very grateful to all contributors. If you would like to assist the parish financially please don't hesitate to contact the parish manager who can answer your questions regarding financial gifts to the Parish, be it regular giving, one off donations or bequests in your will.

**St Vincent de Paul Helpline Phone 1800 846 643**  
**Email helpline.bne@svdpqld.org.au**

**Our full electronic Parish newsletter is emailed each week by subscribing at <http://bit.ly/olrflock>**

### 1<sup>st</sup> Communion & Penance Registrations 2024

Families who wish to register for First Communion and Penance (children in year 4 and above), please contact the Parish Office via email and provide the following information: Name of Parents; Name of Child/ren; Class level; Sacrament registering for. We will respond to your email with further information regarding this years' Sacramental Programme.

**Confirmation Programme Registrations for 2024 are now CLOSED** – Families who have enrolled, please email the Parish Office to book an interview appointment with Fr Mark.

### A Message from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference on the Bondi Junction Attack

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference offers its prayers and condolences in the wake of the Bondi Junction attack. Conference President, Archbishop Timothy Costelloe, said it was a time of mourning for all Australians. "We should all remember in our prayers those who are being treated in hospital and the souls of those who have died...We pray for the family and friends of those who lost their lives or were injured. And we pay tribute to the police, paramedics, store staff and shoppers who showed courage and compassion in the face of traumatic circumstances." Archbishop Costelloe urged anyone impacted by the attack to reach out and seek support. "May those who mourn know the consolation and comfort of God's love."

### Statement from Archbishop Anthony Fisher-Roman Catholic Archbishop of Sydney regarding the recent attack on the Assyrian Bishop in Sydney

Archbishop Anthony Fisher says the stabbings of Bishop Mar Mari Emmanuel and Father Royel are "shocking and has caused distress to many in the community... Houses of prayer have traditionally been places of peace and solace, refuge and sanctuary and so the video footage of the attack upon a religious leader during a religious service inside a church has been especially confronting...The images of the violence that subsequently occurred outside the church are also confronting...We have seen these types of events in other countries but, up until now, Australia has been largely free from this type of blatant violence in and around places of worship...Every person in this country, be they bishop or priest, rabbi or imam, minister or congregant, should be able to worship in safety, without fear that they might be subject to acts of violence while gathering in prayer...I urge the faithful to not respond to these events with fear, avoiding places of worship because they are worried about further attacks, nor with anger, engaging in acts of reprisal or revenge. The best response to violence and fear is prayer and peace...On behalf of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, and in solidarity with other religious leaders, I offer prayerful support to Bishop Emmanuel, Father Royel and all others affected. May the God of peace reign in our land."

### Our Lady of the Rosary Education Ministry

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish has a number of education services, please contact these for further information.

<b>Parish Primary School</b>	Principal - Paul Rees	07 3378 2412	prees@bne.catholic.edu.au
<b>Parish Kindergarten</b>	Director - Rebecca Handasyde	07 3720 1777	kenmorekindy@catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au
<b>Outside School Hours Care</b>	Coordinator - Alex Mallon	07 3378 8943	kenmoreoshc@catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au

**Office for Safeguarding - <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/support/safeguard/>**