



Parish Office – 1 Kenmore Road, Kenmore

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

www.oler.org.au | www.facebook.com/oler.org.au

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4th Sunday of Advent

Year A

21st December 2025

Pastor's Message

The promise that God is with us was not for Isaiah's time only, it is for our own. Even now the sign of that continuing presence is a young woman and her child, the Virgin Mary and her son Jesus. For Joseph the unexpected pregnancy of Mary was not a sign to confirm his trust either in her or God, it was a contradictory sign. In the hours of his darkness he found the enlightening Spirit of God, the Spirit who teaches us not to judge by what our eyes see or by what our ears hear. This weekend's gospel shows us that the signs God gives are not always the ones we would choose for ourselves. He gives signs for those who are willing to take on the darkness of doubt in openness and sincerity. This gospel mentions the divine origin of Jesus. Although he has a human mother, he has not a human father, but was conceived in Mary by the power of God. This unique way of coming into life, with God as father, and the virgin Mary as mother, underlines who Jesus truly is: both God and man, one of ourselves and yet one with the eternal God. If this seems mysterious to us, it must have been baffling for Joseph. Close to Mary as he was, and finding her pregnant without any involvement by him, Joseph could only accept in faith what God's messenger told him, that the child was in her womb by the power of the Holy Spirit. With great patience and humility, Joseph accepted the part for which God had chosen him, as guardian and foster-father to our Lord and Saviour. This kind of faithful acceptance is asked from each of us, when Christ comes into our lives, as "God-with-us."

God Bless, Fr Mark

Fourth Advent Candle/Sunday: Love

"And in the end, everything else will turn out to be unimportant and inessential, except for this: Father, Child, and Love." – St. (Pope) John Paul II

The fourth candle of Advent represents Love, the ultimate love of God that He might send His only Son for us. Called the "Angel's Candle," the fourth candle of Advent is lit the Sunday before Christmas, leading us to eagerly await the new Kingdom of God on earth.

Parish Diary

Monday 22nd December – *Parish Office Closed*

- 9:15am Bridge Group, St Catherine's Moggill
- 6:00pm Confessions, OLR Church

Tuesday 23rd December

Wednesday 24th December – *Christmas Eve*

(Parish Office Closes 12:00pm)

- 4:00pm Vigil Mass (Nativity Play), OLR Church Kenmore
- 5:30pm Vigil Mass, OLR Church Kenmore
- 6:00pm Vigil Mass (5:30pm Carols), St Catherine's Moggill
- 7:30pm Vigil Mass, OLR Church Kenmore

Thursday 25th December – *The Nativity of the Lord – Christmas Day*

- 8:00am Mass, St Catherine's, Moggill
- 9:45am Mass, OLR Church Kenmore

Friday 26th December – *St Stephen, martyr – Boxing Day*

Saturday 27th December – *St John, apostle*

- 4:30pm Confessions, OLR Church Kenmore
- 5:00pm Vigil Mass, OLR Church Kenmore

Sunday 28th December – *Holy Family*

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

Prayer for the days after

God of all compassion, we come before you full of confusion and grief in the aftermath of the inhuman massacre at Bondi Beach. We love the beach, a place where the world usually shines. We love the way our sisters and brothers celebrate Hanukkah, a festival of light and family fun. Yet now all joy seems fragile, as we witness the pain caused by hatred and violence. We give thanks for those with grace and courage to stand up in the moment. We pray that we too may stand up and find our voice and, even more, work for the peace which Jesus taught. We know that Hanukkah means 'dedication'. Today, in our sorrow, we dedicate ourselves to a more loving future. It is easier to destroy than to create, to knock down than to build. We will choose the more difficult path as we help to heal this terrible atrocity, and wait in active hope, for the coming of your kingdom. Amen.

Parish Update – Electronic Newsletter

To subscribe to our full electronic newsletter, please go to: <https://OLRKM.flocknote.com/ParishUpdates>

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

1st Reading: *Is 7:10-14*

Sunday Readings

2nd Reading: *Rom 1:1-7*

Readings at Home

Gospel: *Mt 1:18-24*

Liturgy and Prayer resources for 4th Sunday of Advent: <https://universalis.com/australia.brisbane/20251221/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 **Maudie Holland** and all those who have died recently.

Anniversaries: Please remember **Lily Bird** and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time; and for the **Repose of the Soul of Maryke Simons**.

Sick: Please pray for Susan Miller, Mary Kent, Bronwyn Tingley, Joyce Gough, Rick Dela Cruz, Margaret Kerwick, Bruce Leggat, Veda Francoise Cateaux, Magda Blessing, Kay Shannon, Sandia Ryan, Edwing Ling, Olivia Pinwill, Robert Burton, Camilla Cowley, Eric Olsen, Deanna McNamara, Doris Fern, Ian Turner, Sandra Dickson, Sian Fitzpatrick, Olivia Williams, Kitty Foxon, Pat Dryden, Joan Halvorson, Stewart Behan, Alicea Longford, Pat Nelson, Eli Bartlett, Krystyna Kazimierczuk, Stephen Jones, Elizabeth Shand, Hayley Shatkovsky, Mario Garza, Juliet Quiterio, James McGrath, Graham Jackson, Leonard Cox, Prida Dibbayawan, Clint Quinlivan, Rosemary Foxon, Judy Kocho, Pat Clohessy, Matthew Gilroy, Maria Langenberg, Nina Smart, Evelyn Gardner, John Green, Cherry Austin, Denise Reeves, Chris Morris, and all those who are sick.

Baptisms

This weekend, we celebrate the Baptisms of **Arabella Lyons, Cosima Lyons, Rori Hodgetts, & Archie Kelleher**. Let us pray for them and may they be guided in faith with the help of their parents, godparents, and this parish community.

Bible Study

Discovering God's Word

The Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures as she venerated the Body of the Lord: both nourish and govern the whole Christian life... CCC141.

Come join us for a 10-week study of selected Psalms. Commencing Wednesday 4th February from 7:00pm – 8:30pm at St Catherine's Moggill. Study Book (essential): \$12.00 each. Register and pay through Parish Office by 31st January 2026. The New Testament lies hidden in the Old and the Old Testament is unveiled in the New.

Lenten Program

The Connect team invites you to go deeper this Lent and join our Lenten Reflection Group as we explore the Lenten resource *The Journey Home - Daily Reflections for Lent*. *The Journey Home* reminds us that Lent is not merely a period of sacrifice or reflection; it is a pilgrimage. This resource aims to draw us together as companions on the road, renewed in faith and strengthened in love, as we follow Jesus towards the promise of our true home. Reflections and prayers have been written by Archbishop Emeritus Mark Coleridge.

Held each Sunday from 15th February – 22nd March, 11:00am – 1:00pm at St Catherine's, Moggill. Books Available from Piety Shop.

Women's Retreat

A Women's Retreat will be held on Sunday 30th May 2026 at St Catherine's Moggill. More information to come in the coming months.

Office Hours over Christmas/New Year Period

The Parish office will be closed for the Christmas /New Year period from 12 midday on Christmas Eve Wednesday 24th December, through to Monday 5th January 2026 inclusive. Normal Parish Office hours resume on Tuesday 6th January from 8:30am. During the office closure please phone 0418 785 440 for a priest in an emergency. For all other matters please email kenmore@bne.catholic.net.au as the parish email will continue to be monitored during the break, urgent matters will be responded to where possible, all non-urgent matters will be responded to when the office reopens. Fr Mark and the parish staff wish parishioners and visitors a Happy and Holy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

There will be a New Year's Day Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on Thursday 1st January at 9:15am at OLR Church Kenmore.

Important Message regarding OLR Long Day Care – New early years services coming in 2026

Dear families,

I'm pleased to share that, in partnership with Catholic Early EdCare and Our Lady of the Rosary School, we will be expanding the early years offerings in 2026.

The kindergarten will offer extended hours from Term 1 and there is a new proposed long day care service due to open mid-year. These changes are designed to provide families with more flexibility, support, and continuity of care within the community.

Warm Regards, Fr Mark Franklin

Living Faith Book

January / February / March 2026 edition

Available this weekend at both churches – \$10.00 each *Living Faith* provides brief daily Catholic devotions based on one of the Mass readings of the day. Published new each quarter, these reflections are written by women and men from a variety of backgrounds - lay people as well as clergy and religious. *Living Faith* writers include such well-known Catholic authors as Amy Welborn, Sr. Melanie Svoboda, Deacon Greg Kandra and Msgr. Stephen Rossetti.

Your Parish Offering

For information or to review your level or method of giving please feel free to contact the Parish Manager at finchm@bne.catholic.net.au

For electronic funds transfer, our bank details are:

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Reserve Account

BSB Number: 064 786 Account Number: 100001192

(Please include your name, planned giving number if applicable, or purpose, such as "Parish Giving")

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.

Parish Primary School	Principal – Paul Rees	07 3378 2412	pkenmore@bne.catholic.edu.au
Parish Kindergarten	Director – Gillian Hanlon	07 3720 1777	kenmorekindy@catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au
Outside School Hours Care	Coordinator – Alex Mallon	07 3378 8943	kenmoreoshc@catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au