

# **ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH SOUTH BRISBANE**



**Information for  
New Parishioners**

Dear New Parishioner

Welcome to St Mary's Catholic Parish, South Brisbane. The Parish has been under the care of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars since 2012 when we were invited by the Archdiocese to minister to the Parish.

This is a growing, vibrant parish and we hope that you will enjoy becoming part of our community. There are a variety of parish groups and activities for all and you are more than welcome to become involved as a volunteer.

Join us in celebrating the Eucharist and other devotions. Morning tea/supper is held after our Sunday Masses and this is an ideal opportunity to meet others, as are the special celebrations held during the year.

We have a weekly newsletter, if you would like to receive it via email please contact the parish office with your details for the email list.

If you have any questions, please contact myself, the parish office or any of the contacts listed in this Directory.

Fr Joshy Parappully OFM Cap  
(Parish Priest)

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# Our Parish

## Who we are:

### Our Vision

*Being a Parish community with Jesus at its heart and centre, committed to worshipping God, sharing faith and serving others under the guidance of our Blessed Mother, Mary.*

St Mary's Parish is a Christ-centred Eucharistic community in which people of many cultures worship God and inspire each other to live the Gospel message. We are a community of people who love Jesus and our Blessed Mother, Mary.

### Our Mission

*To welcome and support our diverse community to encounter Jesus, grow in relationship with Him, to live and share our Catholic faith with others in everyday life.*

We want to know Christ and to make Him known; to be a community committed to discovering Christ present in each person through our ministry to each other, our service to the wider community, the joyful celebration of the Eucharist and other Sacraments, and our active concern for pastoral care.

## We want to give attention to:

**Welcoming** – to welcome new and existing parishioners to the Parish Family. If you are a new parishioner, could you please fill out the inserted form, and send it back to the parish office?

**Engaging Parishioners** – to provide a streamlined process for new parishioners to register with the Parish and for new and existing parishioners to contribute and participate in Parish activities.

**Support** – for the sick and needy; *Care and Concern*.

**Faith Education, Spirituality** – promote and sustain spiritual growth as a parish community and our commitment to Christ and his mission;  
- promote nourishment for the different faith and spiritual development needs of various cultural and age groups.

**Youth** – support the faith development of youth and young adults.

You are most welcome to our Parish, and we want to share in your journey, whether you are Catholic or non-Catholic, connected to your faith or feeling disconnected, questioning or spirit-filled. Wherever we find ourselves on the journey, we believe you do not have to journey alone.

St Mary's church has a unique place in Brisbane's history and is one of the finest Italian Romanesque and Renaissance churches in Brisbane. It was built in 1893 and is listed on the Queensland Heritage Register. It is a place of prayer, healing and celebration.

St Mary's Church is dedicated to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary, Queen of heaven and earth, invites all who enter this sanctuary to appreciate their own fundamental worth and destiny. We are brothers and sisters beyond all distinctions of race, religion, nationality or economic class. Here we encounter the gracious mystery within whose presence we journey through life.

Assumpta Est Maria  
Ora pro nobis.

# Mass & Devotion Times

Masses are at the heart of our worship. Mass times are listed below. You are also welcome to the various other forms of worship available in this parish including:

- Eucharistic Adoration
- Rosary
- Anointing Mass.

St Mary's Church is open Monday to Friday, from 12pm to 2pm for personal prayer and quiet reflection.

## **Mass times**

Monday to Friday:	7.00 am
Saturday:	8.00 am (Rosary after Mass)
Sunday:	9.00 am and 5.00 pm

## **Confession:**

Saturday:	8.30 am to 9.30 am
Sunday:	4.00 pm to 4.45 pm

## **Adoration:**

Sunday:	4.00 pm to 4.45 pm
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## **Anointing of the Sick**

First Friday (St Marys):	7.00 am
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## **Baptisms**

2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	10.00 am
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Please contact the Parish Office during office hours for more information.

# Liturgical Ministries & Other Activities

## **Sharing your Gifts**

There are a variety of avenues for your involvement in parish life and ministry. We all have different talents and abilities to contribute to this mission of the Church. If you would like to offer your gifts, please make yourself known to the relevant nominated contact shown in this booklet. For requirements of volunteering please refer to page 21 of this booklet.

## **Ministers of the Word**

Reading at either daily or Sunday Masses as per roster. Training is provided.

## **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

Laity assisting the Priest with the distribution of Holy Communion either at Mass or taking Holy Communion to elderly/sick Parishioners who are unable to attend Mass.

## **Communion & Visitation of the Sick**

It is the Church's custom to draw into communion with herself those who cannot be present at the celebration of the Eucharist. From very early times the food of the Church gathered for Eucharist has been taken to those who have not been able to come to the assembly of the Church. This has been done so they too can be held in the unity of the one body and nourished with life and strength in the midst of whatever difficulties have kept them from the celebration of the Eucharist.



All who take Communion to the sick and housebound represent Christ whose minister they are. They also represent the whole community of faith.

Should you know of a parishioner who is sick or housebound and unable to attend Mass please suggest they contact the Parish Office to arrange Communion and visitation to them at home.

## **Sacristans**

Sacristans prepare the Church for Mass each week. Assistance is always required, and your interest would be most welcome. Assistance is also required with the washing and ironing of vestments and liturgical cloths.

## **Altar Servers**

Boys and girls, men and women who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation are welcome to be trained as Altar Servers and be included in the roster to assist the Priest at Mass.

Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

## **Music Ministry**

We value and appreciate the St Mary's Choir. They are always more than happy to welcome new members whether you can sing or play the piano, organ or other musical instruments.

Choir practice is held forty-five (45) minutes prior to each of the Sunday Masses. Additional practices are held prior to significant celebrations, eg. Feast Day, Christmas, Easter etc.

## **Offertory and Gift Procession**

Each Sunday, members of the worshipping community, on behalf of the worshippers' present, take up the offerings of bread and wine. Anyone can participate in this important part of the liturgy.

## **Collectors and Counters**

Each Sunday Mass, collectors distribute the bowls to gather offerings for the Parish. Parishioners also meet to count the Sunday offerings.

## **Children's Liturgy**

Children's Liturgy is conducted during the 9 am Sunday Mass. The children learn prayers, songs, bible stories. They learn through different activities connected with the Gospel readings as well as games and crafts. Children also participate at the Christmas Vigil Mass Nativity play and the Good Friday Stations of the Cross play.

Please contact Sr. Salvacion or the Parish Office for more information.

## **Adult Faith Formation/RCIA**

We welcome new members to the Catholic faith every year. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program is a journey of faith to initiation through the unified rights of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Those wishing to undertake this journey meet regularly to learn about Catholicism and come part of our community. The faith journey is adapted for children.

The program runs for 25 weeks and usually commences in August or September each year. Catechumens will be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass.

Please contact Sr. Salvacion or the Parish Office for more information.

## Baptism, Wedding or other Sacraments

Please contact our Parish Office or browse our website to find out more about how we can assist you to celebrate significant milestones in your life with God.

## Funerals and Bereavement

We desire to support our community through the difficult times. While the possibilities for funerals are limited due to lack of off-street parking on weekdays, for small congregations, the Parish Priest may be able to accommodate your request.

Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

## Votive Candles and Prayer Requests

Votive candles, at a cost of 50 cents each, are available for lighting in front of Our Lady and the Sacred Heart of Jesus statues. Prayer Request forms are also available and may be placed in the box under Our Lady's statue.

## Home Blessing

A Home Blessing marks the move into a new home. The occasion provides a special opportunity for parishioners to have their house and the homeowners blessed. Parishioners may contact the Parish Office if they wish to arrange a Home Blessing.

## Mass Offerings

### Something some don't know...

Older Catholics know about this. An interesting question surfaces periodically among younger Catholics: "***Why/how does one have a Mass said?***"

**WHY?** Having a Mass said is an ancient and venerable tradition of the Church.

Praying for the repose of the soul of a deceased person speaks volumes about our Catholic faith and family. A person wants to do something for a deceased member of the faith-family. This is a very compassionate custom. When faced with death, the Mass is our greatest and comforting prayer.

**HOW?** Mass intention envelopes are available in the foyer of the Church. Use these envelopes for a Mass for a deceased loved one or for a special intention. According to Diocesan directives, a stipend for a requested Mass is \$20.00 or any offering you may consider appropriate.

## Advent and Lenten Prayer Programs

Advent and Lenten Reflection Programs are held each year during the seasons of Advent and Lent. Please check the newsletter in the lead up to Advent and Lent for details.

## Pilgrim Virgin Statue May – October



Invite a Pilgrim Virgin statue into your home and commit to praying the Rosary every day while it is there. It will bring great peace and holiness to your life and is the best method of honouring Mary. The statue usually stays with each family for one week. The statue may be taken home after the 8 am Mass on Saturday at St Mary's.

The purpose of the Pilgrim Virgin statue home family visitations is to aid families in responding to the requests made by the Blessed Mary during her apparitions at Fatima. The essence of her requests is threefold: return to God; make reparation for sins; pray the Rosary for Peace.

To arrange for a home family visitation of the Pilgrim Virgin statue from May to October please contact Sr Salvacion.

# Parish Organisations

## Parish Pastoral Council

Our Parish Pastoral Council is a group of committed lay people whose role is to promote the Church's mission to live and communicate the love and values of Christ in our world.

## Parish Finance Council

The Parish Finance Council is convened in accordance with Church law and assists the Parish Priest to meet his financial and administrative responsibilities.

## Care and Concern

Provides care and concern to those members of our parish community requiring transport to Sunday Mass and/or medical appointments where they do not have access to any other means of transport.

We are seeking volunteers to join this ministry and provide transport using their own vehicle. Volunteers will be required to hold a current Qld Driver's Licence, *Working with Children*, Blue Card, undergo a Police Check and complete the Archdiocese's *Safeguarding* training.

## Fundraising

We have a Fundraising sub-committee who arrange various fundraising activities to support St Mary's Restoration Fund. If you would like to assist with fundraising you would be most welcome.

## Need a Christian Gift?



Sister Salvacion and her St Francis Table helpers are making special occasion cards including Confirmation, First Holy Communion and Baptism, sacramental candles, Baptismal stoles, rosary beads and bracelets and medals. The funds raised through the sale of these items will help fund the restoration of St Mary's Church. If

you are interested in purchasing any of these items, please see Ruby or Dianne.

## St Francis' Table

Meets on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, excluding public holidays, from 10 am to 1 pm for activities (craft, games etc.), fellowship and sharing prayers and a meal at St Francis Church Hall, 47 Dornoch Terrace, West End.

We believe in fellowship extending beyond the walls of our individual churches and appreciate the importance of gathering socially and spiritually with others on a social basis.

Please contact Sr. Salvacion or the Parish Office for more information.

## Sewing Group

The sewing group meets each Tuesday from 9.15 am to 2.15 pm at St Ita's Meeting Room. The group works on a number of projects including sewing new albs for Altar Servers, altar linen, banners, chasubles etc.

## St Vincent de Paul Society (West End Conference)

Is a ministry provided by the Dutton Park Parish offering support to the disadvantaged in the Dutton Park and South Brisbane Parishes.

Please contact Parish Office for more information.

# General Information

## Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Prevention & Protection Policy

*...for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Mark 10:14*

**The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.**

This means that everyone in the church must ensure that the fundamental rights of children are respected. This will be achieved through the development of respectful relationships and a commitment to safety embracing appropriate boundaries, behaviours and practices, in accordance with the Archdiocesan Code of Ethical Behaviour and adherence to legislative imperatives of the State.

**This policy applies to Clergy, Religious, Staff, Parishioners, Volunteers, students on placement and Visitors to our sites.**

In order to support this policy it is mandatory that all Parishes and Agencies of the Archdiocese engage in the following four strategies:

1. safe recruitment and selection practices – helping prevent those who pose a risk to children from holding positions of trust;
2. adhering to the Code of Ethical Behaviour – having clear guidelines that set out what is and is not acceptable behaviour as an essential part of keeping children safe;
3. operating safe activities for children – can help ensure a safe environment for children;

#### 4. mandatory reporting of harm or suspected harm.

The Archdiocese is committed to safeguarding children through vigilant prevention and protection practices as prescribed by the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference and legislation.

## **St Mary's Volunteers**

We have many truly wonderful people who have volunteered in our Parish and we acknowledge and thank them for all the effort they continue to give to our community. We warmly welcome anyone who would like to join our volunteers. If you wish to volunteer, please contact the Church Coordinator or the Parish Office.

Areas to consider:

Ministers of the Word, Eucharistic Ministers or Extraordinary Minister for Communion to the Sick, counters, cleaners, gardeners, singers/choir members, etc.

All volunteers are required to complete our Volunteer Registration Form and satisfy the requirements of the Archdiocese's Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Prevention & Protection Policy. The various volunteer roles have different requirements and the Parish Office can advise you in this regard.

## **Planned Giving**

Please consider contributing to our planned giving program. Many parishioners use Direct Debit from their bank account or credit card as their method of payment.

The cost of running and the upkeep of a parish the size of St Mary's takes a considerable amount and we ask that you prayerfully consider committing to assist our planned giving program. To help you understand how this works, set out below is a summary of how the finances are distributed:



### **At each weekend mass there are two collections.**

- All parishes pay 18% of total collections to the Archdiocese – this covers the Parish Assessment, Priests Foundation and Clergy Sustentation.
- Balance of the First Collection goes to the Order caring for our parish to assist with the living costs of the Capuchin Friars ministering in our parish.
- Balance of the Second Collection goes towards covering the running costs of the parish (eg. electricity, insurance, wages of administration staff and maintenance of all buildings within the parish).

### **Fundraising**

This is separate from the collections as it is for a specific purpose (e.g. restoration of Church). We have been blessed with generous fundraising which has initiated the start of restoring our Church.

### **6 Reasons to Support Planned Giving**

1. Increases the number of parishioners contributing to the Second Collection;
2. Increases the amount parishioners are contributing to the Second Collection;
3. Increases awareness of financial matters relating to the parish;
4. Creates an opportunity for parishioners to make a yearly contribution;
5. Encourages contribution vis direct debit or credit card;
6. Promotes shared responsibility for parish commitments.

If you are able to assist with this program, please collect a planned giving form at the back of the church or contact the Parish Office.

## Catholic Schools

Catholic Primary and Secondary Schools in the adjoining Parishes of Dutton Park and Kangaroo Point-East Brisbane are:

**St Ita's Primary School** is located at 249 Gladstone Road, Dutton Park. This is a Prep to Year 6 School. Contact details:

Phone: 07 3838 8400

Email: [pduttonpark@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pduttonpark@bne.catholic.edu.au)

Web: <https://www.stitasduttonpark.qld.edu.au>

**St Joseph's Primary School** is located at 26-36 Leopard Street, Kangaroo Point. This is a Prep to Year 6 School. Contact details:

Phone: 3391 5397

Email: [pkangaroopt@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pkangaroopt@bne.catholic.edu.au)

Web: <https://www.stjosephskpt.qld.edu.au>

**St Laurence's College** is located at 82 Stephens Road, South Brisbane. This is a Year 5-12 Boys School. Contact details:

Phone: 3010 1111

Email: [slc@slc.qld.edu.au](mailto:slc@slc.qld.edu.au)

Web: <https://www.slc.qld.edu.au>

## Bequests

Did you know that you can create a gift to the Parish that lasts forever?

Please consider naming the Parish as one of the beneficiaries in your Will. You can designate a specific gift amount to the Parish or create a permanent endowment fund in your family name which will provide perpetual support for the Church. Endowments provide a steady stream of income to the Parish forever.

For more information on naming our parish in your Will, please contact the Catholic Foundation on 07 3324 3211 or [giving@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:giving@bne.catholic.net.au)

## **Flowers**

We are grateful to those parishioners who sponsor the cost of the flowers some weeks and to the volunteers who give their time and talents to arrange the flowers for the altar.

You would be most welcome to join our monthly roster of either sponsoring the cost of the flowers or arranging the flowers.

## **Hospitality after Mass**

Please join us for regular gatherings after Mass – a simple tea and coffee after Mass – a chance to meet, get to know each other better – and enjoy some little treats. All welcome.

We are always looking for more people to be part of a roster to set-up or clean-up after Sunday Mass. Parishioners are welcome to bring a plate of food to share.

## **Special Celebration Morning Teas/Suppers**

In addition to morning tea/supper held after each Sunday Mass, St Mary's Parish Pastoral Council also holds Special morning teas/suppers during the year to celebrate major feast days and other special calendar events. Dates are advertised in advance in the Parish newsletter.

## **Parish Feast Day**

Each year on the Sunday nearest to the Feast Day of the Assumption of Our Lady (15 August), the parish takes the opportunity to strengthen its faith connections with each other by joining together to attend a special Mass and feast afterwards.

## **History of our Church**

The current church at St Mary's was blessed and opened on 2nd July 1893. It replaced the first St Mary's – a small wooden church built on the

site of the present car park around 1864. The land on which it was built was a grant of land from the NSW government in 1859 (before news of the declaration of the state of Queensland became known).

Cardinal Moran laid the foundation stone of the new church on the 25th September 1892 in a ceremony attended by Archbishop Dunne, Archbishop Carr and other high-ranking clergy. The church was blessed and opened by Archbishop Dunne on 2nd July 1893.

From 1866 the original chapel had been a dual-purpose building also functioning as a school. After the opening of the new church it continued to be used as a school until 1909 when substantial new school buildings were built. The chapel then served as the infant's school until 1926. A substantial bell housed in a timber belfry was erected in 1914 adjacent to the church and in 1915 a convent for the Sisters of Mercy was constructed, diagonally opposite the school on the corner of Cordelia and Peel Streets. The most significant change to the church since its construction in 1893 was the completion of the sanctuary, including vestry and sacristy, in December 1929. The school closed in 1964 and the school, convent and belfry have since been demolished. The St Vincent de Paul centre now occupies the site of the school.

The relics of St Agnes, St Francis of Assisi, St Clare of Assisi, St Peter Chanel, St Pius X, St Mary MacKillop and St Pio of Pietrelcina were placed in the Altar during the Dedication of the Altar and Church of St Mary's on Sunday 6 December 2015.

The church was placed on the Queensland Heritage Register in 2004.

## **Parking**

On-site parking for Sunday Masses is available in the large carpark adjacent to the Church and the rear carpark. Street parking may be available on Merivale Street and is subject to the regulated parking signage. Please do not park in Men's Hostel parking bays nor in private properties in the vicinity of the Church.

## Toilets

A unisex toilet is available in the Parish House located at the rear of the Church.

## Parish Website and Facebook

We aim to keep you informed and updated. An online version of the weekly newsletter is available, along with current Mass times and details of events held in the Parish.

Visit: WEBSITE: [www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au](http://www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au)

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryssouthbrisbane/>

## Your Suggestions

We encourage you to offer any suggestions that you consider would be beneficial to the parish. Please place in the collection plate or feel free to approach any of the contacts listed in this booklet.

# Parish Contact Details

Parish Priest	Fr Joshy Parappully OFM Cap
Parish Office:	47 Dornoch Terrace, WEST END 4101 9 am to 2 pm, Monday to Friday
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator	Sr Salvacion SFI
Parish Secretary	Niken Westerman
Finance Officer	Kevin Bhasin
Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Representative	Christine Bolger

## Contact Details

- Telephone 07 3844 2744
- Email [southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au)
- Website: [www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au](http://www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au)
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryssouthbrisbane/>

**January 2022**