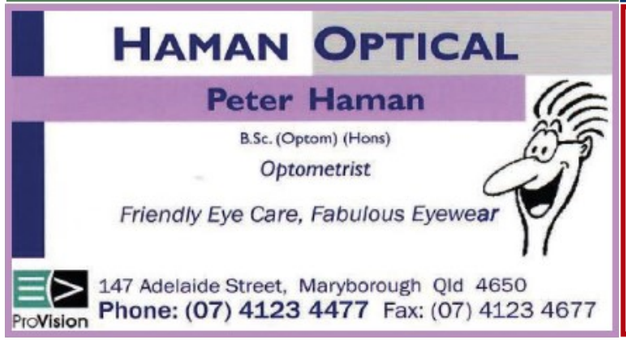
A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

"Your Catholic faith is woven through the many milestones in your life providing guidance, hope and strength. Making a gift of any size through your Will can support the mission of your parish, the Catholic Church and the faith of future generations." Please take a leaflet from the Church/visit Parish office for more details.

ROSTER	Sat 28th Jan.	Sun 29th Jan.	Sat 4th Feb.	Sun 5th Feb.
Welcomer	John	Pat	Tom	Peter
1st Reader	Gerard	Christine	Ron	Susan
2nd Reader	Pamella	Eris	Beverley	Frank
Communion	David Marion	Rebecca Graham	Gerry Wayne	Lita Con
Servers	Andrew Chet	Byron Isaac Xavier	Thu Han Stazio	Sophie Nicholas Charlotte
Musicians	Bong Jearen	Rita	Rita	Justin
Singers	Filipino Choir	Theresa	Choir	Janette
Mass set up	Beverley Lou	Lita Rebecca	Carmel	Lita Rebecca
Morning Tea		St. Mary's college		
Flowers	Felicity Borg and Judy Zaia			



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PARISH PRIEST
Rev. Fr Lucius Edomobi
Email: edomobil@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH MANAGER
Antony Manjooran Sebastian
OFFICE HOURS
8.30AM TO 2.30PM TUESDAY - FRIDAY

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
Ron Wroe 0455 433 335

PARISH SCHOOLS
St Mary's Primary 41 215705
St Mary's College 41 902200

This Week's Mass Schedule

01/02/2023	Wednesday	**09.00am**
02/02/2023	Thursday	**12:00pm**
03/02/2023	Friday	**08:30pm**
04/02/2023	Saturday	**06.00pm**
05/02/2023	Sunday	
	Maryborough	**08.00am**
	Tiaro	**10:00am**

1st RITE OF RECONCILIATION EVERY SATURDAY 5 - 5.30pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **February 1st: 9am**
St. Mary's College Mass

- **February 11th**:
Thanksgiving Mass for Volunteers at 10 am.

READINGS

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A (p.375)
- **1st** - Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13
- **Psalm** - 145 Resp. in hymns page
- **2nd** - 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
- **Gospel Accl.** in hymns page
- **Gospel** - Matthew 5:1-12

Next weekend's: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A (p.379)
- **1st** - Isaiah 58:7-10
- **Psalm** - 111
- **2nd** - 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
- **Gospel** - Matthew 5:13-16

NEWSLETTER 29TH JANUARY 2023
4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

SAVE US, O LORD OUR GOD!
AND GATHER US FROM THE NATIONS,
TO GIVE THANKS TO YOUR HOLY NAME,
AND MAKE IT OUR GLORY TO PRAISE YOU .

Exploring the Beatitudes

Once again, on this fourth Sunday in ordinary Time, in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus provides us with the model through which we can attain the Beatific vision. The word beatitude comes from the Latin word *beati* meaning "the happy ones' or 'the ones being blessed.'

These Beatitudes are also ways by which we become channels of good news of Christ to other people. These are the ideals by which the saints showed their closeness to God's expectations. The nine beatitudes outline the virtues, the Constitution of the Kingdom of God that makes us true Disciples of Christ. These beatitudes are in constant opposition with the values promoted by the world. According to Christina Astorga in her *Living the Faith Option*, and quoted by Fr. Raul Caga, SVD in Bible Diary 2007, beatitudes stress the following values:

1. To be poor in spirit requires a humble recognition that one's life must be lived in radical dependence on the goodness and providence of God.
2. Mourning is in dying to ourselves for others to live, that we rise to new life and to the fundamental meaning of dying and living in Christ.
3. True meekness comes from the gentleness of spirit in a person united with God, who is filled not only with the passion to right the wrong but also the compassion to offer renewal to the wrongdoer.
4. The deepest hunger and thirst of the humble heart is the realization of the righteousness of God in justice.
5. Mercy means more than pity. It is an action which entails the movement of one's heart for the suffering of others in a true and genuine caring for them.
6. To be pure of heart is to centre one's life on God through one's concern and compassion for others.
7. Peace is founded on love, justice and truth. When one of these human values is violated, peace is not attained.
8. A suffering born of love and commitment is a suffering which is truly united with the suffering of the Crucified Christ.
9. Finally, in this famous Sermon on the Mount, Jesus announces a kingdom of blessing. Amid persecution and suffering, those who persevere till the end will be greatly rewarded in heaven.'

Dear friends, let us remember some of our brothers and sisters whom today we celebrate as Saints, not because they were perfect when they were here with us but because they accepted their sufferings and persevered till the end. Though we are on our pilgrim stage, but so long as we continue to persevere in the face of sorrow and pain till the end, our perseverance will ultimately win us our lives. Yes, if they can do it, we can do it too.

Peace be with you!
Fr Lucius

EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION: Every first Thursday we have Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction at St. Mary's Church from 11:15am to 11:45am followed by Holy Mass at 12:00 PM.

Thanksgiving Mass

Fr Lucius extends an invitation to all parish volunteers to attend a Mass of Thanksgiving on Saturday 11th February, 2023 at 10 a.m. followed by morning tea in the parish hall.

All current volunteers are required to complete an update of Safeguarding to comply with Archdiocesan requirements. A short video will be shown and you will be asked to sign a form acknowledging your commitment as a volunteer in 2023.

Areas in which you may be active include: Finance or Pastoral Council, Minister of Word or Communion, Sacristan, Altar Servers, Floral Arranger, Brass Cleaner, Organist, Musician, Soloist, Choir Member, Visitor to the housebound, Piety Stall Convenor, Morning tea server, Correctional Centre Chaplain, SVDP Member, Children's Liturgy Co-ordinator, Sacramental Programme leader, Banner Changer, Seamstress or Gardener.

Anyone interested in joining the volunteer ranks is most welcome to attend.

For catering purposes, please RSVP to the Parish Office by phone or email by Tuesday 7th February.

"Where would we be without our volunteers?"

All organisations rely on volunteers to assist with the operation of the particular services they are responsible for. Church communities and charitable groups are at the top of this list and the phrase, "Where would we be without our volunteers?" is one we have all heard over and over again. Whether we volunteer because we see a need and want to help, offer because we feel an obligation to do so, put our hand up because we have the time or maybe we are influenced by friends, the end result means that the more people who commit will be for the benefit of everyone.

Here at St Mary's, we are very fortunate to have loyal people who have been volunteering for much of their adult life which is testament to their faith and a selfless undertaking which we should never take for granted. It doesn't matter what area or how much time we dedicate to our chosen volunteer role, the fact that we say "Yes I wish to help" is enough to show that we are willing to share the load in whatever capacity we can.

On the downside, there has been a huge overhaul of the volunteer role in the past five years regarding safety and other regulations which has made it more difficult to engage people not to mention the amount of paperwork that has been generated by the Archdiocese and Workplace Health and Safety agencies to protect both the employer and the volunteer in the event of an accident.

We acknowledge the extreme generosity of time and labour that some of our senior parishioners continue to give week after week and hope that the younger generation will be inspired to step up and offer to assist with general tasks that 'someone' has to do to keep the wheels turning.

Please take the attachment (above invitation) as your personal invitation to attend the Mass and morning tea on Saturday 11th February at 10a.m. to support one another in the volunteering roles we should be proud to undertake in conjunction with the practice of our faith.

Mary Kirkpatrick

Entrance: Blest Are They

Words and Music: David Haas, © 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.

Blest are they, the poor in spirit,
Theirs is the Kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow,
They shall be consoled.

Refrain:
Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the Kingdom of God!

Blest are they, the lowly ones;
They shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst;
They shall have their fill.

Blest are they who show mercy;
Mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart;
They shall see God!

Blest are they who seek peace;
They are the Children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith;
The Glory of God is theirs.

Blest are you who suffer hate
All because of Me.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the Kingdom;
Shine for all to see.

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Psalm Response: (Read)

Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Rejoice and be glad
Your reward will be great in heaven.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Communion: I Have Loved You

M. Joncas © 1979, New Dawn Music

Refrain:
I have loved you with an everlasting love.
I have called you and you are mine.

Seek the face of the Lord and long for Him:
He will bring you his light and his peace.

Seek the face of the Lord and long for Him:
He will bring you his joy and his hope.

Seek the face of the Lord and long for Him:
He will bring you his care and his love

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Thanksgiving: Prayer for Peace

David Haas © GIA Publications.

Peace before us, peace behind us,
Peace under our feet.
Peace within us, peace over us,
Let all around us be peace.

Love before us, love behind us,
Love under our feet.
Love within us, love over us,
Let all around us be love.

Light before us, light behind us,
Light under our feet.
Light within us, light over us,
Let all around us be light.

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Recessional Hymn: Let There Be Peace On Earth

Sy Miller and Jill Jackson © Jan-Lee Music

Let there be peace on earth
and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth,
the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father,
we are family;
Let us walk with each other
in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me,
let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment
in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
and let it begin with me.

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Please Remember in Your Prayers:

Those in ill health: Evelyn Keys, Peter Barry, Brian Berry, Karl Guerin, Rita Sempf, Daryl Sempf, Carmel Bird, Gregory Massingham, Patricia Thackeray, Dianne Hasselbach, Paul Massingham, Moira Hansen, David Brettell, Anna Pecar, Ame Cox and Laurel Dingle.

The Recently Deceased: Herbie Wright, Dick Cumming, and Sean Burkett.

Anniversary of Death: Clare Morais, Mary Rutland, Josefina, Luisa, Lydia Jao, John Phillips, Raymond Proctor, Alice O'Connell and Alan Jones.