



Victoria Point Catholic Parish

Victoria Point, Thornlands South, Redland Bay, Mount Cotton,
Coochiemudlo Island and the Southern Bay Islands.

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We recognise the traditional owners of this land, The Quandamooka People.

PARISH PRIEST:

Parish Priest: Fr Jose Panampuzha CMI

panampuzhaj@bne.catholic.net.au

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23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B – 8th September 2024

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Today, the Gospel of Mark invites us to reflect on the miraculous healing that Jesus performed on a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. In this passage, we witness Jesus taking the man aside, touching his ears and tongue, looking up to heaven, and saying the powerful word, "Ephphatha," which means "Be opened." Immediately, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened, and he began to speak plainly.

This miraculous healing story is not just an account of a physical cure, but it also carries a deeper spiritual message for each one of us. In our own lives, we may sometimes find ourselves spiritually deaf and unable to speak clearly about our faith. We may struggle to hear the voice of God in the midst of the world's noise, and we may find it difficult to proclaim the Good News boldly and articulately.

Just as Jesus healed the man's ears and tongue, He also longs to heal our spiritual deafness and empower us to speak the truth with love and courage. The word "Ephphatha," spoken by Jesus, signifies not only physical opening but also spiritual liberation. It is a call for us to open our hearts, minds, and souls to the transformative power of Christ, who can break through our barriers and set us free from whatever hinders our faith and witness.

As we reflect on this passage, let us ask ourselves: Are we willing to allow Jesus to touch our ears, to open them to His voice speaking in scriptures, prayers, and encounters with others? Are we ready to let Him touch our tongues, to speak words of kindness, encouragement, and truth in a world often filled with negativity and falsehood?

Furthermore, the gesture of Jesus looking up to heaven before uttering the healing word reminds us of the source of all healing and grace. It is God who gives us the strength, wisdom, and love to overcome our limitations and make a difference in the lives of others.

Just as the man's ears and tongue were restored by the power of God, so too can our spiritual senses be renewed and our words be infused with divine inspiration.

Let us also reflect on the significance of Jesus taking the man aside, away from the crowd, to perform the healing. This act of intimacy and personal attention signifies Jesus' desire to meet us in the depths of our being, to attend to our individual needs, and to minister to us in a profound and personal way. In a world that often values speed, efficiency, and productivity, Jesus teaches us the importance of slowing down, listening attentively, and giving our full presence to those in need of healing and compassion.

Ultimately, the miracle of the deaf man's healing challenges us to examine our own lives and ask ourselves: Are we open to the transforming power of Christ? Are we willing to be healed of our spiritual deafness and empowered to speak words of faith, hope, and love? May we respond to Jesus' call to "Be opened" with faith, humility, and gratitude, knowing that He who has the power to heal and restore is always near to us, ready to work wonders in our lives.

May the example of the healed deaf man inspire us to be witnesses of Christ's love and mercy in the world, proclaiming His Gospel through our words and actions. Amen.

Fr Jose P CMI, Parish Priest

Today's Readings: Isaiah 35:4-7, St James 2:1-5, Mark 7:31-37

Response to the Psalm: Praise the Lord my soul! Praises to our God!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

For safeguarding inquiries or to raise any concerns, disclosures or allegations please contact our

Local Safeguarding Representative: Bob Snoke on 0419 247 698 sa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au

<https://tinyurl.com/Safeguarding-Incident-Report> <https://tinyurl.com/New-Protecting-Children-Laws>

STOPline Service ☎ 1300 304 550 📧 AOb@stoline.com.au 🌐 www.bncatholic.stoplinereport.com

MASS TIMES

SATURDAY

St Rita's Church

Reconciliation 4.15pm

Mass 5.00pm Vigil

COOCHIEMUDLO ISLAND

(Liturgy of the Word with
Communion – every other

Saturday at 11am)

SUNDAY

St Rita's Church

Mass 7.00am & 9.00am

MACLEAY ISLAND

Sept 8, 18 & 22 – 2pm

(Liturgy of the Word with Communion –
every other Sundays at 9am)

RUSSELL ISLAND

Sept 1, 15 & 29 – 2pm

(Liturgy of the Word with Communion –
every other Sundays at 2pm)

MONDAY

St Rita's Church

Rosary – 8.30am

Mass – 9.00am

Rosary Crusade Pro Life –
9.30am

TUESDAY

St Rita's Church

Rosary – 8.30am

Mass – 9.00am

Praise & Prayer – 7.00pm

WEDNESDAY

St Rita's Church

Rosary – 8.30am

Mass – 9.00am

Art Group – 10.00am

Choir – 3.30pm

THURSDAY

St Rita's Church

Priest Day Off — NO MASSES

FRIDAY

St Rita's Church

Rosary – 8.30am

Mass & Benediction – 9.00am

MAREBELLO

1st Wed – Eucharist

HEALING MASS

2nd Wed Mass – 9.00am



St Vincent De Paul meet the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month, at 10am, in the Ruby Room

Meetings held Sept 2nd & 16th, Oct 7th & 21st, Nov 4th & 18th and Dec 3rd

MASS DUTIES FOR 5th SUNDAY OF SEPTEMBER

Readers and Communion Ministers at Mass, please be aware that this month has a 5th Sunday. The weekend of **Sat. 28th & Sun. 29th September will be looked after by** the Readers and Communion Ministers of the **3rd Sunday of the Month Team.**

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks **Safeguarding Sunday**, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. **We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that respects the dignity of all children and adults at risk, and empowers and listens to all people, especially those who are vulnerable.** You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Safeguarding-Sunday-2024>



Each year from 1st September to 4th October, Christians unite in celebration of the Season of Creation. A time to reflect, to pray and review how we can protect our common home and its people. This year, the theme is *'To Hope and Act with Creation.'*

Creation and all of us are called to worship the Creator, working together for a future of active hope and action. Only when we work together with Creation can *the firstfruits of hope* be born. Pauline theology reminds us that both Creation and humanity are conceived from the beginning in Christ and, therefore, are entrusted to each other.

Resource: <https://seasonofcreation.org>

RCIA

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

We celebrated the Rite welcoming Deborah on her RCIA journey at St Rita's Church on the weekend. May she be drawn more deeply into the mystery of God's love and her faith flourish.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Christian Meditation will take place THURSDAYS at 3:30pm in the St Rita's Chapel.

For more information, please contact The Parish Office and your enquiry will be directed to Lorr Popple.

PRAYERS

For all those who are ill, especially Nicola Hardaker, Sebastian Ricca, Elaine Prestney, Maddy Brown, Bill Mellor, Annette Doherty, Lucas Bernal, Alfio Tomarchio, Michael Quilty, Chris Venter, Doris Williamson, Fr Jim Browne, Margaret Ross, Alan Williamson, Lois Hodges, Helen Stockwell, Marlie Meehan, Denise Fowler, Emma Heinrich, Paul Trubody, Jela Cicak, Matthew Scott and those who seek healing in their lives and for all those who care for them.

ANNIVERSARIES: *We pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time, especially Margaret Bierton.*

DECEASED: *We commend the recently deceased.*

GOLDEN JUBILEE

This year *Star of the Sea* church is 50 years old!

To prepare for our celebrations,
we need memories and memorabilia.

If you have any of the coins showing the church from 1974, the history booklets, or any photos of that time, we would love to see them.

If you or anyone you know were involved in the planning and building of the church, we would love to speak with you.

Please contact parish office: 07 3821 4902 or
cleveland@bne.catholic.net.au

FEASTS for SEPTEMBER

Mon 9th	St Peter Claver
Thurs 12th	Most Holy Name of Mary
Fri 13th	St John Chrysostom
Sat. 14th	Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Mon 16th	Sts Cornelius & Cyprian
Tues 17th	St Robert Bellarmine
	St Hildegard of Bingen
Thurs 19th	St Januarius
Fri 20th	Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang & Companions
Sat 21st	St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist
Mon 23rd	St Pius of Pietrelcina - Padre Pio
Thurs 26th	Sts Cosmas & Damian
Fri 27th	St Vincent de Paul
Sat 28th	St Wenceslaus
	St Lawrence Ruiz & Companions
Mon 30th	St Jerome

SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

Our faith will sustain us through challenging times.

Please keep supporting your Parish by continuing your weekly offering if you can, either by using our periodic direct debit or credit card facility or by direct deposit.

Our planned giving bank account details for direct deposits are as follows:

BSB: 064 786

Account No: 100027374

Account Name: Parish Donation

Kindly **reference** your deposit with your **surname** and your **planned giving number/envelope**

WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY, MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS:

RECENT ACTIVITIES – annual RCD testing in Parish Office/Ruby Room and Presbytery, annual test and tag of power cables in Parish Office/Ruby Room.

CURRENT TASKS NEEDING TO BE DONE – Replace three circuit breakers in switchboard in Ruby Room identified in RCD test as not functioning, Chapel split system AC requires a new outdoor thermistor cluster due to the outdoor heat exchanger thermistor being chewed by vermin (to be scheduled), replace rotted out timber planking in OSHC verandah (scheduled Saturday 14 Sept), water blast pathways around Parish Office (scheduled 19 August), complete the painting of OSHC verandah wall, removal of mould and sanding/ painting of presbytery window sills doors and door frames (scheduled for 2024), repair/replace damaged fence panel in church carpark (on hold), painting of presbytery gutters and eaves (on hold), plaster repairs to ceilings in presbytery.

POSSIBLE FUTURE PROJECTS DEPENDING ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING – replace rotted-out fence posts (presbytery yard fence along side school oval).

If any parishioner observes any task on the Maintenance To-do List which they can carry-out or help in, please contact Mike Duggan



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Holy Spirit Church.

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