

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

Monday Thursday  
9.00am  
(Morning Prayer 8:45)

Friday - 7.00pm  
(Rosary 6.30pm)  
Stations of the Cross - 7.45pm)

**WEEKEND MASSES**

Saturday - 9.00am  
(Morning Prayer 8:45)  
Sunday - 9.45am

**PARISH ADDRESS**

688 Nudgee Road  
Northgate  
QLD 4013

**PARISH PRIEST**

Fr. Saji Valiyaveettil  
0470 359 307

**TRUSTEES**

Aji John  
0401 825 251  
Antony Mathew  
0415 374 738  
George P Varkey (Babychen)  
0432 417 601

**SAFETY OFFICERS**

Jolly Karumathy  
0423 273 295  
Jolly Shaiju  
0421 857 559

**CATECHISM COORDINATOR**

Priya George  
0434 261 194

**NEWSLETTER ENQUIRIES**

Biju Thomas 0450 510 246

**PARISH CONTACT**

W: [stalphonsaparishbrisbane.org.au](http://stalphonsaparishbrisbane.org.au)  
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## In Giving Up We Gain

I remember the first time I was asked to abstain from meat on a Friday. My initial reaction was reluctance as I thought, "What good would it do? Why should I give up something I like?" However, within a few weeks I realised how important it was to refrain from eating meat at least once a week. When I didn't give in to my desires of consuming meat, I realised that I had the resolve to give up anything for the Glory of God. During this season of Lent, God asks us this question, "Are you able to give up something for Me?"

There are many occasions in life where we must make sacrifices so that others may benefit. Most of the time we believe that giving up possessions won't help us in any way, however, sacrificing some things will help us to increasingly appreciate the blessings we already have. But we shouldn't strive to just give up material things; our material sacrifices have true meaning when we offer ourselves completely to God. By submitting our desires into the hands of God, He transforms our lives and changes us from ordinary to extraordinary.

A story that we can all relate to is the Prodigal Son. When he left the presence of his father with his own goals and plans, he spent all he had and wasted everything for the wrong reasons. However, while he was in the depths of poverty and sadness, he realised his mistakes and decided to return to his father with a humble heart. Upon his return, the father lovingly embraces his child and restores him to his original status as his beloved son.

This Lent season, God wishes to embrace and become one with us. In order to do this, we need to become poor in spirit, realising and reflecting upon the sinful state of our lives. Remember; when we are worth nothing to this world, we are worth everything to our Heavenly Father. The Prodigal Son realised his wrongdoings; let us also become aware of who we really are.

Let us pray: O God, in this Lent season, give us the grace to reflect on ourselves and realise that we are lowly human beings who, through your mercy, have become worthy to be called your children. Grant us the wisdom to know that you care for each one of us abundantly. Enlighten us to understand that You are moulding us into the shape you desire through the difficulties in our life. Help us to recognise that through fasting and penance we will increase our holiness and become closer to your sufferings.

Once again God asks us "Are you able to give up anything... anything for Me?"

I prayerfully wish that during this Lent season we will bear much fruit.

God Bless

**Allan Jomon**

## Bible Study Class



Bible study classes have commenced on the 19th of February, conducted by Fr. Saji. It's a great opportunity for our parish members to dive deeper into the Bible and its teachings as well as grow in our faith. If you are interested in attending the sessions, it will be happening every first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm.

## PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council meeting was held on 15th of February. The below decisions were made:

Catechism students have to be registered parish members. This will ensure all the children attending Catechism will be covered by the public liability insurance.

New committee will be formed to help and encourage Syro-Malabar overseas students to be part of our Parish.

## ANNUAL RETREAT



The Annual Parish Retreat led by Fr. Anish Mundiyanickal (Director, Charis Bhavan, Athirampuzha) commenced on Friday the 28th of February, beginning with the Holy Mass.

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

Building Committee Updates:

The public notification period for our DA application finished on 17/02/2020. There were more than 300 individual support submissions made. The committee would like to pass on their sincere appreciation to everyone who has taken time to provide support for the DA application.

The submissions are under review by the Brisbane City Council.

## READINGS - MARCH 2020

|            |               |             |                   |
|------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|
| March 1st  | Exod 34:27-35 | Eph 4:17-24 | SMYM              |
| March 8th  | Gen 5:19-31   | Rom 6:15-23 | St Paul           |
| March 15th | Gen 7:6-24    | Rom 7:14-25 | St Mary Mackillop |
| March 22nd | Gen 11:1-9    | Rom 8:12-17 | St Benedict       |
| March 29th | Gen 16: 6-16  | Rom 12:1-11 | St Thomas         |

## MATHRUVEDHI

**Mathruvedhi is organising  
a half day seminar on **09/05/2020**  
Please save the date.**

## CATECHISM

### Sunday School Reopened

Sunday School resumed on 26 Jan 2020 which started with the PTA meeting. The PTA members were elected for this year and the teachers for each class were introduced (please refer to <https://stalphonesaparishbrisbane.org.au/catechism/teachers/>) Also, the general guidelines were discussed during the meeting.

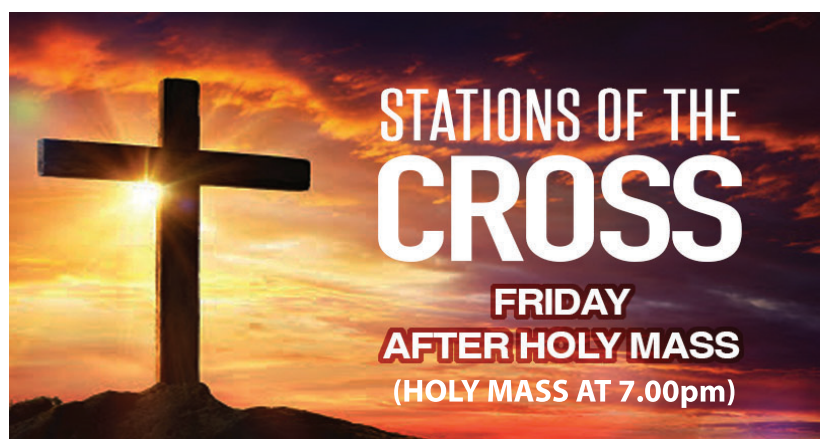
### Enrolment

All students were requested to submit the enrolment form as part of registration. The last day to submit the enrolment form was 29 Feb 2020.

### Holidays

There will be no Sunday School classes on **March 1st, April 5th and April 12th.**

**OFFERINGS** 02/02/20 - \$860.75 16/02/20 - \$858.40  
09/02/20 - \$871.15 23/02/20 - \$911.50







## PRAYER NIGHT

Thank you to everyone who attended our first Prayer Night for the year. The next one will be on **March 11**.

## YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

The annual Youth Leadership Summit was held in Melbourne from February 7th-10th. Congratulations to Joan Jomon for being elected into the SMYM National Team.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

|          |     |                      |  |
|----------|-----|----------------------|--|
| 04 March | Wed | 07.00 pm             | Bible study                                |
| 07 March | Sat | 10.00 am             | Communion Meeting                          |
| 08 March | Sun | 12.15 pm             | Catechism Meeting                          |
| 11 March | Wed | 07.00 pm             | SMYM Prayer                                |
| 12 March | Thu | 09.30 am             | Nurses Ministry Prayer                     |
| 14 March | Sat | 02.00 pm             | Food Stall (BMA)                           |
| 15 March | Sun | 11.00 am             | Liturgy Committee                          |
| 16 March | Mon | 05.00 pm             | Bulletin Committee                         |
| 18 March | Wed | 07.00 pm             | Bible Study                                |
| 19 March | Thu | 09.00 am             | St. Joseph Feast                           |
| 21 March | Sat | 09.00 am<br>02.30 pm | Parish Council<br>Marian Valley Pilgrimage |
| 22 March | Sun | 11.00am              | Food Sale                                  |

## COMMUNION ROASTER March 2020

| Date     | Day    | Communion Minister              |
|----------|--------|---------------------------------|
| 01/03/20 | Sunday | Littisha, Therese, Albin, Benet |
| 06/03/20 | Friday | Anita, Albin                    |
| 08/03/20 | Sunday | Amrutha, Smitha, Littisha, Juan |
| 13/03/20 | Friday | Anita, Benet                    |
| 15/03/20 | Sunday | Therese, Anu, Juan, Amrutha     |
| 20/03/20 | Friday | Anu, Albin                      |
| 22/03/20 | Sunday | Smitha, Littisha, Albin, Benet  |
| 27/03/20 | Friday | Amrutha, Benet                  |
| 29/03/20 | Sunday | Anita, Anu, Therese, Juan       |



### OFFERINGS WILL BE APPRECIATED

HOST AND WINE, CANDLES \$100.00 for one month

MARCH offerings by: **A WELL-WISHER** *Thank you*

## CLEANING

March 6th - St Paul

March 13th - St Mary Mackillop

March 20th - St Benedict      March 27th - St Thomas



## Safeguarding

The National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (NCSS) are designed to be implemented by all Catholic Parishes.

### SAFER CHURCHES STANDARD ONE

Committed leadership, governance and culture

Child safeguarding is embedded in the St Alphonsa Parish's leadership, governance and culture.

Child-safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

It's mandatory to have a Blue Card prior to commence volunteering jobs in the parish.

All the volunteers must attend Safer Churches training to familiarise with parish safeguarding policy and Code of Conduct.

## WARD MEETINGS

| Ward           | Date  | Time  | Venue   |
|----------------|-------|-------|---|
| St Benedict    | 01/03 | 18:00 | Pramoj & Riya<br>28 Markwell Crescent , Mango Hill  |
| Mary MacKillop | 07/03 | 18:00 | Aji & Reena<br>41/20 Alice Street, Kedron           |
| St Mary        | 07/03 | 19:00 | Benoy<br>83 Flockton Street Stafford Heights        |
| St Antony      | 07/03 | 19:30 | Reena Mohan<br>20/735 Trouts Road. Aspley           |
| St Joseph      | 12/03 | 19:00 | Jose & Susan<br>40 Walu Street, Bracken Ridge       |
| St Thomas      | 14/03 | 19:30 | Sibi & Roshni<br>12 Mirragin street, Chermside West |
| St Alphonsa    | 26/03 | 19:00 | Shijan & Laigy<br>31 Quarrio street, Taigum         |
| St Therese     | 28/03 | 19:00 | Wilson & Anies<br>4 Covey Street, Chermside West    |



## Food Sale



The Building Fund Food Sale was held on the 23rd of February

Next Food Sale will be on 22nd March





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