



# OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

22 March 2020

### Gladstone Parish

Includes the following areas:

Agnes Water  
Calliope  
Gladstone  
Miriam Vale  
Mt. Larcom  
Tannum Sands  
Ubobo

### Parish Priest

Fr Andrew Chase

### Assistant Priest

Fr Simeon Uchendu

### Admin Officers

Maree Roobottom  
Ann Mara

### Faith Coordinator

Maria Cabral Fernandes

### Finance Officer

Denise Geljon

**Phone: 4972 1025**

**Email: [sosglad@tpg.com.au](mailto:sosglad@tpg.com.au)**

### Website:

[www.sosgladstone.org.au](http://www.sosgladstone.org.au)



[sosparishgladstone](https://www.facebook.com/sosparishgladstone)

### Office:

38 Herbert Street  
Gladstone Qld 4680  
**Postal Address**  
PO Box 5062  
Gladstone QLD 4680

### Primary Schools

**St Francis (Tannum Sands)**

4973 3600

**St John Baptist (Gladstone)**

4978 1799

**Star of the Sea (Gladstone)**

4972 1305

### Secondary School

**Chanel College (Gladstone)**

4973 4700

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you are now well aware, the impact of the Corona virus on our Church life has been enormous. At our bishop's request, all public Masses and liturgies are suspended until further notice. This is not a decision taken lightly, but it is without doubt a devastating, if necessary, eventuality. The Eucharist is the lifeblood of Catholics and I – like so many of you – am heartbroken at this time.

But sadness and disappointment cannot be the final word for us. We are fundamentally a people of hope: not because of some vague sentimental optimism, but because we know that Jesus Christ's victory over evil is complete. Furthermore, "whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith." (1Jn 5:4)

And that brings me to my main reason for writing this message. In these difficult times, it will be more important than ever before to pray, to fast and do penance, to be kind to each other, to look out for the vulnerable in our community and to nurture our souls with the Word of God in the Scriptures as we look forward to the time when once more we will be able to celebrate the Mass as a community of faith. To this end, I urge you from the bottom of my heart, to continue to keep Sunday holy by setting aside some time for prayer. I suggest reading the Scripture readings for the day (or at least the gospel) and perhaps praying the rosary as a family (or at least one decade).

In the coming days I will be making available some resources that you can use to keep the Lord's Day holy and to nurture your faith in these difficult times. If you have access to Facebook, please "like" the parish page ([www.facebook.com/sosparishgladstone](https://www.facebook.com/sosparishgladstone)) as there will be regular updates and resources offered there. You can also find the parish bulletin on our webpage ([www.sosgladstone.org.au](http://www.sosgladstone.org.au)) and there will be copies in the Church. You can also subscribe to our mailing list so that you can receive emails with any important news and information: simply email the parish office ([sosglad@tpg.com.au](mailto:sosglad@tpg.com.au)) and ask to be added to the mailing list (your address will not be shared with anyone and you can unsubscribe at any time).

Our current situation is in great flux at the moment so things could change regularly. For the moment the situation is this:

### CANCELLED:

- All public Masses (Sunday and weekday)
- Stations of the Cross
- Tuesday morning Bible Study group at the parish centre
- Sacramental program for Confirmation and First Communion

### UNCHANGED:

- Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation): Sat 8:30am – 9:30am, Star of the Sea.
- Star of the Sea Church will remain open on weekdays, Saturday mornings and Sunday 9am – 10am and 5pm – 6pm for personal visits and prayer.
- Fr Simeon and I will continue to offer Mass privately, praying especially for an end to the health crisis and for the physical and spiritual good of our parishioners. Sunday Mass will be celebrated at 8am and 4pm at Star of the Sea Church (but the Church will be closed).
- "24 Hours for the Lord", 7pm Friday (27/3/20) – 7pm Saturday (28/3/20) will continue. Please contact the parish office if you can volunteer an hour to watch and pray with the Lord.

Please share this information with as many as you can, and watch out for further developments as they come through. Things may change and I will endeavour to keep you as clearly informed as I can. In the meantime, as the old maxim says, *oremus pro invicem* (let us pray for each other). And may Our Lady, Star of the Sea, pray for us all.  
In Christ,  
Rev Dr Andrew Chase PP

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

With the suspension of all public liturgies until further notice, we have had to make the sad decision to postpone our Confirmation and First Communion program for this year. All those enrolled already will be able to receive these sacraments next year. We will be in touch in the coming days with more information.

### Coronavirus Novena

Father in Heaven, have mercy on us and on the whole world. We come to you today with our fears and concerns -- You know what's in our hearts.

We love You, trust You, we need You.

We ask You to be with us. Stay with us.

Help us through these times of uncertainty and sorrow. We know you are the Divine Physician, the healer of all.

And so we ask that you bring your loving and healing presence to all those who are sick and suffering right now.

Please comfort them.

Please be with the grieving families of those who have passed away.

Please have mercy on those who have died, may they be with You in heaven.

Please stand at the side of all medical professionals who are putting themselves at risk while they work to bring healing to others. Lord, we are scared and we are sorrowful.

Please heal us. Send us your peace and overwhelming presence.

*(Mention your intentions here)*

**Day 1:** We ask the Fourteen Holy Helpers, those who lived during the time of the plague, to Pray for us and all who are at risk!

**Day 2:** St. Anthony the Great, patron of those affected by infectious diseases, pray for us!

**Day 3:** St Edmund, patron for victims of pandemics, pray for us!

**Day 4:** St Damien of Molokai, you put yourself at risk to minister to lepers, pray for us!

**Day 5:** St Rocco you are venerated for your prayers for those suffering from infectious diseases, pray for us!

**Day 6:** St Joseph, patron of the dying, pray for us!

**Day 7:** St Jude and St Rita, patrons of impossible causes, pray for us!

**Day 8:** St Francis Xavier Cabrini, you founded hospitals dedicated to caring for the sick, pray for us!

**Day 9:** Mary, Untier of Knots, please for the knot of this virus to be undone for the greater glory of God!

Jesus, we thirst for You. You chose to enter this world as a vulnerable baby. Be with the most vulnerable now. Help us to continue to return to You with our whole hearts throughout this ordeal. Amen.

## DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON SAFEGUARDING

Judy Pidcock, the Safeguarding Manager informed us that under the present circumstances relating to the Coronavirus (COVID19), all Safeguarding face to face training has been postponed until further notice. We are exploring options to deliver training by other means and will be in contact with you again soon.

## **DIOCESAN MARRIAGE RETREAT POSTPONED**

In response to the escalating concerns about COVID-19 the previously advertised diocesan marriage retreat will now be postponed indefinitely. A new date will be decided at some stage in the future. If you were interested and would like to be advised of the new date once it has been decided then please contact [vocations@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:vocations@rok.catholic.net.au)

## **DIOCESAN OFFICE CLOSED**

As of Thursday 19 March the Diocesan Office will not be open to the public and staff are being encouraged to work from home until the coronavirus situation subsides. They will still be providing support during normal business hours via the regular phone contacts and email and they will have the capacity to undertake most of their regular work from home. Thank you for your support in this matter.

### **24 HOURS OF THE LORD.**

The annual **24 Hours for the Lord** is just around the corner. Once again, Pope Francis and Bishop Michael have encouraged us to dedicate 24 hours in our parish to a special time of prayer and adoration of the Lord. This time will involve continual exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for 24 hours and will include various forms of prayer and devotion at different moments during this time.

Please consider signing up for a period of an hour or more to be present in the Church so that we can have continual adoration during this time. There is a sign up sheet at the door of each of the Churches.

**WHEN:** 7pm 27<sup>th</sup> March – 7pm 28<sup>th</sup> March

**WHERE:** Star of the Sea Church (Midnight to 6am in the Parish Centre Chapel)

### **WAYS TO KEEP IN TOUCH**

 [sosparishgladstone](https://www.facebook.com/sosparishgladstone)

**Parish Website:** [www.sosgladstone.org.au](http://www.sosgladstone.org.au)

**Subscribe to Parish Email list by emailing:** [sosglad@tpg.com.au](mailto:sosglad@tpg.com.au)

Bulletin available at Star of the Sea Church

### **MERCY ASSOCIATES**

Meeting scheduled for 4 April has been cancelled.





Thirty-two-year-old Sakun lives in a village in central east India. She developed polio as a child and has difficulty walking. Until now Sakun, an indigenous Gond woman, has been isolated in her community, unable to earn a livelihood and without knowledge of government schemes that could help her. After joining a Caritas Australia-funded program, Sakun has learned new skills and gained important mobility. Through their strategic guidance and support, Sakun now earns her own income and makes a small profit which goes towards her family's basic needs. She is more resilient, more confident and more independent.

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**Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help uplift vulnerable communities and support the rights of indigenous peoples around the world.**

**Let's Go Further, Together.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

## PRAYER

God of all peoples and nations,  
As you accompany us on  
Our Lenten journey,  
May our fasting strengthen our  
commitment to live in solidarity,  
Our almsgiving be an act of justice,  
And our prayers anchor us  
In love and compassion.  
Awaken our hearts and minds that  
We may be one human family  
As we all go further together.  
We ask this in Jesus' name  
Amen



Thank you for the generosity of those parishioners who contribute to our Planned Giving. If you are new to the parish and would like to be part of the Planned Giving Program, either through Direct Debit or Weekly Envelopes, please contact the Parish Office.

The total of parishioners contributions for this week amounted to \$2044.70



## PRAYER INTENTIONS

### For our recently deceased Sisters and Brothers

John Gerard Quinn, Ailsa McGree, John Gleeson  
Anne Andrewartha, Richard Navratil, Stan Janas,  
Jeffrey Hebbard, Glenda Cordwell, Margaret Shaw  
Anthony Hallows

### We remember in prayer:

Prothesis Thomas, Joseph & Jeanne Bultreys,  
Harry & Ev Gormley, Claude & Lorna Jordan,  
Dionisio Oro, Salvador Oro, Visitacion Capin,  
Kathleen Doris West, John T O'Hagan,  
Joe Mathews, Clare Mathews, Bernard Weber,  
Apolina Jacinto, Edwin Diola

### For those we love who are ill and frail

Lincoln Rose, Barbara Filer, Paul Sundstrom,  
Janene Porter, Eli Colin Vale, Tom Barry,  
Betty Smith, John & Joy Massingham, Noon Family,  
Eion MacLeod, Ron O'Brien, Dene Kershaw,  
Brian Booxson, Evie Trenamen, Benjamin Gibson,  
Michael Harrigan, Kathy Immoos, Patricia Lynch,  
Dorothy Maudsley, Julian Watkins, Ben Rose,  
Alice Hodowaniec, Christopher Marra, Gloria Carter  
Brad Maitland, Bruce McGree, Remy Scholl,  
Brendan Burkett

## Readings Next Sunday

### Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A

1st Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

2nd Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Gospel: John 11:1-45

## Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is my Shepherd: there is nothing I shall want

# PARISH SCHEDULE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

## MASS TIMES

Star of the Sea Gladstone

- ◆ Tuesday 5:30pm
- ◆ Wednesday 7:00am
- ◆ Thursday 1 0:40am Chanel College otherwise 7am
- ◆ Friday 9:30am
- ◆ 1st Saturday of the month Anointing Mass 8:30am
- ◆ Sunday 8:00am & 6:00pm

St Peter Chanel Tannum Sands

- ◆ 6:00pm Saturday Vigil: 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of the month
- ◆ 8:00am 2nd & 4th Sunday Liturgy of the Word with Communion
- ◆ 9:30am 1st Wednesday of the month Anointing Mass

St Peter Chanel Miriam Vale

- ◆ 11:00am 2nd Sunday of the month

Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Mt. Larcom

- ◆ 11:00am 1st Sunday of the month

St Patrick's Calliope

- ◆ 6:00pm Saturday Vigil 2nd & 4th

St Mary's Ubobo

- ◆ 11:00am 3rd Sunday of the month

St Agnes, Agnes Water

- ◆ 12:00pm 4th Sunday of the month
- ◆ Liturgy of the Word with Communion on the other Sundays at 12:00pm

## NURSING HOME MASSES

Eden Vale

- ◆ 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:30pm
- Domain Auckland Place
- ◆ Last Wednesday of the month at 2:15pm

## ADORATION AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturday 8:30am—9:30am Star of the Sea Church except when Mass is celebrated on the first Saturday of the month.

## ROSARY

Star of the Sea

- ◆ 1st Saturday of the month after the 8:30am Mass
- ◆ 3rd Thursday of the month Parish Chapel 9:45am

St Peter Chanel, Tannum Sands

- ◆ Wednesday 10:00am

St. Agnes, Agnes Water

- ◆ Each Sunday at 11:30am

## BIBLE STUDY

Star of the Sea

- ◆ Tuesday Parish Centre 11:00am

## LUNCHEON MEDITATION

Star of the Sea

- ◆ Tuesday Parish Chapel 12:30pm

## RECONCILIATION

Star of the Sea

- ◆ 8:30am-9:20am Saturday
- ◆ Except on 1st Saturday of the month 9:00am-9:30am

Other Mass centers available on request

## BAPTISMS

*Star of the Sea Church*

- ◆ 1st & 2nd Sunday after 8:00am Mass

*Other Mass centers*

- ◆ Available on request

Parents are to take part in a baptism preparation class held on the 4th Sunday of the month in the Parish Hall 38 Herbert St. Gladstone. Baptism packs are available at the Parish Office.

## MARRIAGES

An appointment with a priest is required prior to booking the marriage date.

## MANAGING COMPLAINTS in the DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON:

The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton abides by the principles and procedures of Towards Healing.

The Diocese is committed to healing for victims by providing a sensitive and compassionate response to complaints.

Contact the Diocesan Professional Standards and Safeguarding office:

Response Line on m: 1800 830 113 (free call) or

email: [pssso@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:pssso@rok.catholic.net.au)

Diocesan Website for more information:  
[www.rok.catholic.net.au](http://www.rok.catholic.net.au)



*We acknowledge the Gooreng Gooreng, Bailai & Gurang people, traditional custodians of what we now call Gladstone*