



Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish

38 Herbert Street Gladstone Qld 4680

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 22 January 2023

PARISH OFFICE AND CONTACTS

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sosparishgladstone

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 10:30am—4pm

Tues, Thurs, Fri: 9am—4pm

Wed: 1pm—4pm

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Fr Andrew Chase

Assistant Priest

Fr Ashwin Acharya

Parish Secretary

Maree Roobottom

Finance Officer

Denise Geljon

Faith Co-ordinator

Hayley Lanzon

OUR PARISH INCLUDES THE COMMUNITIES OF:

Agnes Water

Calliope

Gladstone

Miriam Vale

Mt. Larcom

Tannum Sands

Ubobo

PARISH SCHOOLS

St Francis (Tannum Sands)

4973 3600

St John Baptist (Gladstone)

4978 1799

Star of the Sea (Gladstone)

4972 1305

Chanel College (Gladstone)

4973 4700

LITURGIES THIS WEEK

WEEKDAY MASSES AND LITURGIES

Tuesday 24 January: Star of the Sea, Gladstone— 5:30pm

Wednesday 25 January: Star of the Sea, Gladstone—7:00am

Thursday 26 January: AUSTRALIA DAY MASSES

Star of the Sea, Gladstone—9:00am

St Peter Chanel, Tannum—8:00am

Friday 27 January: Star of the Sea, Gladstone—9:00am

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 28 January

St Peter Chanel, Tannum—6:00pm

Sunday 29 January

Star of the Sea, Gladstone—8:00am and 6:00pm

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (RECONCILIATION)

Saturday 28 January: Star of the Sea, Gladstone—8:30am to 9:20am

Saturday 28 January: St Peter Chanel, Tannum—5:15pm—5:45pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturday 28 January: Star of the Sea, Gladstone—8:30am to 9:30am

Did you know we are all called to be martyrs?

This is not meant to be a morbid topic. But the fact is, the Christian life is one of martyrdom in the literal sense. The word "martyr" is a Greek word meaning "witness", and this works in both directions: I can *witness* something taking place (that is, I can see it). Then I can *give witness* to what I've seen (that is, I can speak about it), and in doing so I can *be witnessed* by those around me (that is, others will see and hear what I saw and heard even if they were not present when I saw and heard it). Martyrdom is only secondarily about death, and the reason is because the Christian faith has from the beginning attracted such hostility from the powers of darkness at work in the world and in the human heart - think of St Stephen, or all of the Apostles (excluding John), or even the many today who are still persecuted and killed for their faith in Jesus, a faith which threatens to unhinge the corrupt powers still ingrained in society today. Lastly, think of today's martyr saint, the young Agnes. She was only a child when she was to give witness to the love of Christ in her life. About her courage in the face of death, Saint Ambrose writes, "*What is beyond the power of nature... must come from its creator. What menaces there were from the executioner, to frighten her; what promises made, to win her over; what influential people desired her in marriage! She answered: 'To hope that any other will please me does wrong to my Spouse. I will be his who first chose me for himself. Executioner, why do you delay...?' She stood still, she prayed, she offered her neck. You could see the fear in the eyes of the executioner, as if he were the one condemned: his right hand trembled, his face grew pale.... while she had no fear for herself.*" Whatever trials our daily walk of faith bring us, may we give witness to the love we know in Christ, a supernatural love beyond all understanding.

Saint Agnes, pray for us!

Fr Ashwin,



All parishioners are welcome to join the **Mercy Associates** for their first gathering for 2023, on **Saturday 4th February** in the **Parish Hall** at **9:30am** beginning with a cuppa.

Our **Guest Speaker** will be **Maxine Brushe** – a ‘Nana’ and ‘Mama’ for her grandchildren.

Maxine will share about ***“Our relationships are the Spice of Life – our training ground to build and hold our connection with God”***.

We hope to see you with us, to hear Maxine share her wisdom and life knowledge, due to her many and varied ‘roles’ within our Gladstone Region.

AUSTRALIA DAY MASSES

Mass will be celebrated in Star of the Sea church at 9am on Thursday 26 January. There will be no 7am Mass that day.

Mass will also be celebrated in St Peter Chanel church, Tannum Sands at 8am.

AUSTRALIA DAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Parish young adults group TIDE invites parishioners and families to an Australia Day BBQ.

Where: Gladstone Marina (Palm Point)

When: 10am – 12pm

Bring: A plate to share and BYO chairs and drinks
Sausage sizzle provided by TIDE

Follow SOS Parish Facebook page for any updated details.

FREE ONLINE COURSE ON SYNODALITY

Lectures on the history, theology, and ministerial practice of synodality available from 6 February to 26 March. For more information and to register visit website formaciononline.bc.edu

THE CATECHISM IN A YEAR PODCAST WITH FR MIKE SCHMITZ

Read the entire Catechism in 365 days, understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter, and transform your relationship with the Church that Christ founded. Go to www.ascensionpress.com/ciy

2023 IGNITE SUMMER CAMP

From 11-15 January, 17 young people from our parish, along with our leaders (Bernadette Ariens, Elise Ganley and Fr Andrew) attended the Ignite Summer Camp together with about 200 other young people. It was an amazing time of friendship, fun, prayer, and lots of encouragement for them in their Catholic faith. They have come back on fire!

Here is just a some of what they had to say:

“Amazing in all ways. 10/10 connected me with God in new ways. Nourished my relationship with God and made me a better person.”

“Everyone who goes has so much fun, not only meeting new friends but also drawing closer in their personal relationship with God.”

“Summer camp was a great experience. I loved seeing friends from the diocese getting closer to God through activities and worship.”

“Camp was a great experience and I loved making friends. My favorite part was the rallies, pool, and the slide.”

“An awesome experience to have fun, make lots of new friends and become closer to God and coming to trust in Him more. After camp, I became closer to God and knew him more than I did before.”

“Super fun. I loved the variety of activities and games they have as well as having a great time meeting new people and people that I remembered from previous camps.”

A very big thank-you to those parishioners who helped financially by sponsoring some of our young people. And a big thank-you to everyone who kept these young people in your prayers.



MEN’S HOLY HOUR

Friday February 3rd at 5pm in Star of the Sea church.

All welcome. Come to connect, pray, and enjoy the company of good men.