



# Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish

38 Herbert Street Gladstone Qld 4680

4th Sunday of Advent Year A — 21 December 2025

## PARISH OFFICE AND CONTACTS

Phone: (07) 4972 1025

Email: [sosgladstone@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:sosgladstone@rok.catholic.net.au)

Website:

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



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

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday | CLOSED

Tuesday | 9am - 1pm

Wednesday | 9am - 12pm

Thursday | 9am - 4pm

Friday | 9am - 4pm

## PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Fr Andrew Chase

Assistant Priest

Fr Peter Doherty

Finance | Admin Officer

Emma May

Faith Co-Ordinator | Admin

Hayley Lanzon

## OUR PARISH INCLUDES THE COMMUNITIES OF:

Agnes Water

Calliope

Gladstone

Miriam Vale

Mount Larcom

Tannum Sands

Ubobo

## PARISH SCHOOLS

St Francis (Tannum Sands)

(07) 4973 3600

St John Baptist (Gladstone)

(07) 4978 1799

Star of the Sea (Gladstone)

(07) 4972 1305

Chanel College (Gladstone)

(07) 4973 4700

## LITURGIES THIS WEEK

### WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 23 December: Star of the Sea | 5:30pm

Wednesday 24 December: Star of the Sea | 7:00am

✧ Please refer to inside of the Bulletin for Christmas Mass Times ✧

Friday 26 December | No Mass

### SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday 27 December

St Patrick's, Calliope | 5:00pm

Sunday 28 December

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

St Agnes, Agnes Water | 11:00am



### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (RECONCILIATION)

Saturday 27 December

No confessions at Star of the Sea

St Patrick's, Calliope | 4:15pm to 4:45pm

### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturday 27 December

No exposition at Star of the Sea

St Patrick's, Calliope | 4:15pm to 4:45pm

## Did you know?

### WINE IN THE FIRST CENTURY

Did you know that in the time of Jesus, wine was not a luxury item but an everyday staple? In the first century, wine was safer to drink than water, which was often contaminated. For this reason, wine—usually diluted with water—was consumed daily by adults and children alike. Drinking undiluted wine was seen as excessive and even uncivilised.

Wine was also a sign of God's blessing and joy. The Scriptures often link good wine with abundance and peace (think vineyards heavy with grapes). To run out of wine at a wedding, as at Cana, was not just inconvenient—it was socially disastrous. Jesus' first public sign, turning water into wine, quietly restored joy and dignity to the occasion.

Most first-century wine was red, locally produced, and stored in clay jars or animal skins. It was far stronger and more bitter than modern wine, which is why it was mixed with water or sweetened with honey or spices. Wine could also be used medicinally—St Paul even recommends it for Timothy's stomach.

For Jewish people like Jesus and his first followers, wine had deep religious meaning. It marked Sabbath meals, feasts, and other celebrations.

So next time you hear wine mentioned at Mass, remember—you're tasting a story that goes back thousands of years.

Fr Peter

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE



### Christmas Eve

6:00pm | Star of the Sea Church

6:00pm | St Patrick's, Calliope

Midnight | Star of the Sea Church

### Christmas Day

8:00am | Star of the Sea Church

8:00am | St Peter Chanel, Tannum Sands

11:00am | St Agnes, Agnes Water

## PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS BREAK

Please note the parish office will be closed from **Wednesday 24 December 2025** and will re-open on **Friday 9 January 2026**.

If necessary a message can be left on the Parish Office answering machine and either Fr Andrew or Fr Peter will contact you as soon as possible.

### BULLETIN CHANGES

The first bulletin for 2026 will be the weekend of 17 and 18 January 2026.

### CHURCH CLOSED

The Star of the Sea church will be closed while the Parish Office is closed from **24 December 2025 until 9 January 2026** other than the times Mass is celebrated.



## ADVENT NOVENA

The Novena commences 16 December and concludes on 24 December and traces the journey of Our Lord's birth across the Old and New Testaments.

◇ **The novena pamphlets are available at the church doors** ◇



## CATHOLIC MISSION | ROCKHAMPTON DIRECTOR VACANCY

Catholic Mission are currently looking for a suitable applicant for the part time position of Director for the Rockhampton Diocese. Please refer to the Bishop's letter on the noticeboard for further information on the role and how to apply.

## STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH NATIVITY PLAY

School-aged children are invited to join the Star of the Sea Nativity Play. Rehearsals will be after 8am Mass

~ Sunday 21 December 2025

On Christmas Eve, participants will meet at 5pm for dress rehearsal then perform the play during 6pm Vigil Mass. A parent/ guardian must be present with their children during rehearsals.



## THEOLOGY OF THE BODY IMMERSION COURSE IN JANUARY

The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton is offering sponsorship for an individual from our diocese to attend

*Theology of the Body I: Head & Heart Immersion.*

This course is being presented by the Theology of the Body Institute in partnership with the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, and will take place from the 18th-23rd of January 2026 at the Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Gorse Vale (NSW).

The cost of the course is \$2100 but the diocese will completely cover this cost for the successful applicant. The successful applicant will still need to arrange for their own transport to and from the event.

Applications for sponsorship will close on the 8th of December and the successful applicant will be notified shortly after. To apply for sponsorship or for more information go to <https://forms.office.com/r/SEQ5Csz4m9> or scan the QR code.



## CATHOLIC FOUNDATIONS MODULE 3: BEING SACRAMENTAL - REGISTER NOW!

Once again the diocese is delighted to offer the opportunity for formation to people across our diocese. This 9 week course is presented by Archdiocesan Ministries (Brisbane) and hosted online by Diocesan Pastoral Services ([formation@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:formation@rok.catholic.net.au))

Check out the brochure link below for more information! Do not miss this wonderful opportunity.

<https://rok.catholic.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Being-Sacramental-Rocky-Brochure.pdf>

# Fan into Flame



~ Resources for growing your Faith ~

Parish Library

**Catholicism**

**by Bishop Robert Barron**

"Eclectic, unique, and inspiring, Bishop Barron brings the faith to life for a new generation in a style that is faithful to timeless truths while simultaneously speaking in the language of contemporary life."

Bookcase 3 | Bookshelf 4

Online Video | 10 mins

**"Watch this if you want to have a good Christmas"**

**by Ascension Presents**

Fr Mark-Mary gives four practical ways that we can get the most out of the Christmas Octave.

Scan the QR Code to Listen



## MARY'S MANTLE RETREAT 2025



Thank you to those prayer warriors who participated in Mary's Mantle Retreat this year. If you have not received your certificate yet, please collect it from the Parish Office.

## ROSARY FOR PEACE AND HEALING

In the wake of the tragic attack in Bondi last Sunday we will gather to pray the Rosary at **5pm Tuesday 23 December** at Star of the Sea Church. In particular we will pray for the Jewish community in Bondi and across the world. If you are unable to be there in person, I invite you to join us spiritually in a short time of prayer wherever you are.



Fr Andrew

## ADVENT 2nd RITE OF RECONCILIATION



Receive God's love and graces this Advent with the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation to be celebrated at Star of the Sea Church on **Monday 22 December at 5.30pm.**

The evening will include Liturgy of the Word and individual Confession.

## NEW LIFE PRAYER COMMUNITY

The next Prayer & Praise Meeting will resume in January, dates to be advised at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall | Herbert Street

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◇ We would love to see all those who completed the 'Life in the Spirit Seminar' on 21 September. Everyone is Welcome to come and join us ◇

If you have any enquiries please contact

Maryanne Shaw | 0409 898 895

Kim Swadling | 0412 626 619



## ADVENT GROUPS

There will be two advent groups run in the Parish during Advent starting Monday 24 November & Tuesday 25 November.

◇ **TANNUM SANDS** - every Monday at the most Northern Picnic Shelter | Millenium Boulevard at 10:30am ◇

◇ **PARISH CENTRE** - every Tuesday at 11:00am ◇

Both meetings should take between 3/4 hr to 1 hr

*ALL ARE WELCOME*

We are following the Advent Booklet "The Promise" which can be purchased after mass at the Church or at the Parish Office for \$6.00

~ A great way to prepare for the real meaning of Christmas ~



## READINGS NEXT WEEKEND

**The Holy Family | Year A**

### First Reading

◆ Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14

### Second Reading

◆ Colossians 3:12-21

### Gospel

◆ Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23

**Readings for Mass today?**



Scan this QR code with your smart phone

**We acknowledge the Gooreng Gooreng, Bailai, Gurang, and Taribelang Bunda people, traditional custodians of what we now call Gladstone.**

**DIOCESAN MONTHLY NEWSLETTER To view:**

[rok.catholic.net.au/news-events/bishops-newsletter](http://rok.catholic.net.au/news-events/bishops-newsletter)

## STAR OF THE SEA LITURGY ROSTER

28 December 2025

### Readers:

8:00am: H. Vale, O. Erohubie

6:00pm: A. Babijis, B. McAuliffe

### Co-Ordinator:

8:00am: A. Borbon

6:00pm: A. Rowe

### Minister of Holy Communion:

8:00am: **Body:** P. Erohubie, S. Nagy

**Blood:** M. Duncan, K. Richardson

6:00pm: **Body:** A. Villanueva

**Blood:** I. Liddell, S. Thetford

### Data Projector:

8:00am: E. Nagy

6:00pm: R. Babijis

### Altar Servers:

8:00am: Erohubie Brothers

6:00pm: S. Olive, C. Olive

**Church Cleaners:** P. Todd, L. Keating, H. Vale



## PRAYER INTENTIONS

### For our recently deceased Sisters and Brothers

Marianne O'Reilly, Glenda Romagnolo, Sid Fisher, Charles Pollard, Henry Kramer, Glenda Maunders, Kerry Callaghan, Siaosi Nicholas Manutai, Marie Campbell

### For others who have died

Melecio Maravillas, Stan Mobbs, Gloria Longasa, Czez, Zenio, Piotr Halino, Tom Barry, James Wallace, Bernard Weber, Milton Blain, Stephen Blain, Frank Blain, Luis Nacario

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

Tony Gibb, Eli Colin Vale, Ron O'Brien, Noon Family, John & Joy Massingham, Brian Booxson, Evie Trenamen, Patricia Lynch, Nicole Knox, Julian Watkins, Christopher Marra, Dolly O'Sing, Jacque Rive, Cedric Philips, John Walker, Dorothy Thompson, John Judge, Timothy Howard, Justin Nelson, Amanda Ward, Paul Van der List, Stacey Eccles, Rosemary Ross, Gizella Laurance, Gizella Andrews, Henry Seal, George Nagy, Salude Marshman, Sally Donovan, Henry Norman, Joanne Pond, Gerard Watts, Rosie Baravilala, Silvia Walker, Craig Jenkinson, Linda Benz, Dennis Swadling, Julieanne Jarram, Anita Tanna, Peter Vale, Robyn Cavellerie, Terry Hamilton, Cecily Burkett, Joe Mobbs

## MANAGING COMPLAINTS IN THE DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON

The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton abides by the principles of the *National Catholic Safeguarding Standards* (2022), and is committed to Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk. For further information or support, or to voice a concern, please contact the *Diocesan Professional Standards and Safeguarding Office*:

Response Line: 1800 830 113 (free call) or

Email: [pssoadmin@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:pssoadmin@rok.catholic.net.au)

## WEEKLY LITURGY SCHEDULE OTHER THAN STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH

### St Peter Chanel, Tannum Sands

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

### St Patrick's, Calliope

- ◆ 5:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month

### Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Mount Larcom

- ◆ 11:00am Mass 1st Sunday of the month

### St Peter Chanel, Miriam Vale

- ◆ 11:00am Mass 2nd Sunday of the month

### St Mary's, Ubobo

- ◆ 11:00am Mass 3rd Sunday of the month

### St Agnes, Agnes Water

- ◆ 11:00am Mass 4th Sunday of the month
- ◆ Liturgy of the Word with Communion on the 1st & 3rd Sundays at 11:00am

## RECONCILIATION

### Star of the Sea

- ◆ 8:30am - 9:20am Saturday

### St Peter Chanel (Tannum Sands) & St Patrick's (Calliope)

- ◆ 4:15pm - 4:45pm (*before Vigil Mass*)

## BAPTISMS

**Star of the Sea Church:** 1st & 2nd Saturday 9:45am

**Other Mass Communities** ~ *Available on request*

Bookings are essential. Parents are to take part in a baptism preparation class held on the 1st Sunday of the month in the Parish Hall at 9:15am, 38 Herbert St Gladstone.

## ROSARY

### Star of the Sea Church

- ◆ Saturdays 9:30am

### St Peter Chanel Church

- ◆ Each Wednesday 10:00am

### Parish Centre Chapel

- ◆ 3rd Thursday of the month 9:45am

## MEDITATION

**Star of the Sea—Tuesday, Parish Chapel 12:30pm**



You can manage your own financial contribution to the parish by scanning this code with your smart phone.



◆ Thank you for your support ◆