



ST PAUL'S PARISH WOODRIDGE

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

15 – 16 AUGUST 2026 YEAR A

RESPONSE: O GOD, LET ALL THE NATIONS
PRAISE YOU!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the Kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!



STOPline—If you think it's wrong...report it. STOPline is an independent service that receives information about suspected abuse, harm and other serious misconduct by workers (including priests, religious, employees, educators, practitioners, support workers and volunteers). Phone: 1300 304 550; Email: AOB@stopline.com.au. Information can be provided anonymously.

Parishioners and visitors are invited to sign-up to Flocknote, our communication tool. Our Parish (and the Archdiocese of Brisbane) has officially adopted Flocknote, as well as all parishes, as a safe, new, and improved way of communicating in parishes. Flocknote is free for parishioners to use, and there is no need to download anything. Your information is kept secure and private. It only takes a couple of minutes to sign up. Then we can communicate with you more easily via email.



PARISH INFORMATION

Website: www.stpaul'swoodridge.org

Parish Priest FR LADU JAMES YANGA Ph (07) 3808 4134
Presbytery 75 Ewing Road, Woodridge Ph 3808 7661 (8pm-8am)
Parish Office 3 St Paul's Drive, Woodridge Ph 3808 4134
Postal Address PO Box 98 Woodridge 4114
Email Address woodridge@bne.catholic.net.au
Office Hours Monday-Friday 10am-4:30pm
Administration Officer Mary Ann Policios Barbour Ph (07) 3808 4134
Pastoral Council Chairman: Peter Geidamovics
Email: pastoral.woodridge@bne.catholic.net.au
Pastoral Council Secretary: Marina Ene
St Paul's School Principal: Helen Boyes Ph (07) 3208 2868
St Paul's Primary School Email: pwoodridge@bne.catholic.edu.au
RCIA Coordinator: Tess Vethecan-Kessels
Choir Coordinator: Reuben Ene

WH&S & Local Safeguarding Officer: Marina Ene
Email: safeguarding.woodridge@bne.catholic.net.au
Custodians Coordinator: Marina Ene
Email: stpaulcustodian@gmail.com
St Vincent de Paul Helpline - 1800 846 643

Custodians on duty

10 – 16 Aug 26 Sofeni & Sally Pa'apa'a
17 – 23 Aug 26 Costello & Ula Afakasi
24 - 30 Aug 26 Chris & Joycelyn Veamatahau
Parish Caretaker: Glen Reiha
Parish Liaison Officer to ROSIES: Margaret Harvey Mob: 0411 300 209

BAPTISM PREPARATION



Please obtain the required forms from the Parish Office via email, or in person. Complete and submit the forms along with the applicant's birth certificate ahead of the actual baptism preparation meeting with Parish Priest, at 3pm every Wednesday. Booking for a meeting with Parish Priest is essential. Baptisms are celebrated individually. Baptism—Sundays

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

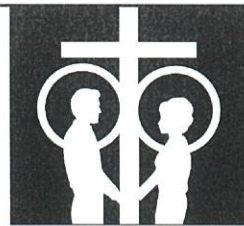
OF THE WORD

Sunday 9am except school holidays.



PREPARATION

By appointment with priest



WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

9 AM — MONDAY-WED-THU-FRIDAY-

SATURDAY

TUESDAYS - NO MASS

The Rosary and Divine Mercy prayers are said before these Masses.

HEALING MASS - 9AM 1st Wednesday of the month

TRINDER PARK AGED CARE MASS—1:30 pm - 1st Friday of the month

ARCARE AGED CARE SLACKS CREEK

MASS—11am—2nd Thursday of the month

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

6PM SATURDAY

SUNDAY 7.30AM & 9AM

SYRIAC MASS —SUNDAYS 4-8PM

AFRICAN MASS—3rd SUNDAY 12PM

ZOMI BURMESE MASS- 1ST SUNDAY 11AM

KARENNI BURMESE MASS- 4TH SUNDAY— 10:30 AM

RECONCILIATION

Sat: 5.15pm-5.45pm or by appointment with Priest

BENEDICTION - Fridays after 9am Mass and during Our Lady of Fatima devotions on the 13th of each month.

PRAYER GROUPS:

Divine Mercy – Mondays 5:30pm-9:30pm—Church

Marian Cenacle - Wed 9.30am -Church
Confraternity of Our Lady Help of Christians - Fridays, 10am - Meeting Room
Adorers of the Eucharist -7:30 pm every 1st Friday of the month - Church

Holy Trinity (Charismatic) -10am— 2nd Sunday of the month- Meeting Room
Our Lady of Fatima every 13th of the month, 6:30 pm—Church

Maria Rosary Group –2pm every 1st Friday of the month - Meeting Room

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN:

Next weekend, our parish will support the Annual Catholic Campaign. This special campaign brings together all the parishes of the Archdiocese, to provide support for local ministries and care for people in need in our own communities.

Funds raised will directly impact our parish and local communities. The Campaign supports the holistic formation of our future priests, care for our elderly and retired priests, provides access to a Catholic education to children in need and hope to those suffering physically and emotionally in our community.

Please do take a Campaign brochure and giving envelope (hold up brochure with envelope attached) with you when you go today. You can either pop it in the mail or return it here next week. If you prefer, you can also fill it in today and place it in the collection, or scan the QR code on the envelope to make your gift online.

Thank you and may God bless you for your generosity and faithfulness.

MULTICULTURAL MASS - Sunday, 30th of August 2026, 2:00 pm at Queen of Vietnamese Martyrs Catholic Church, 54 Flint Street, Inala. It will be celebrated by Archbishop Shane Mackinlay, Mass will be followed by refreshments, cultural performances and activities for kids. All are invited to wear traditional attire. Please come along.

This year's theme is "Even just one of these children" – Pope Leo.

ST PAUL'S MARIAN CENACLE ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO CANUNGRA - Wednesday, 9 September 2026. Bus leaves from St Paul's at 8:30 am and departs from Canungra at 2:30 pm. Cost is \$25.00 per person. Mass will be celebrated by FR LADU JAMES YANGA at 11:00 am. Bus fare is \$25.00 per person. All are welcome. Please contact Adela Eastell by text message on 0468 953 196.

70 YEARS OF COMMUNITY – THE PASSIONIST FATHERS – OXLEY: The Passionist Fathers of Oxley invite you to their community's 70th year celebrations on August 22 & 23, 2026.

Open Day & Heritage Tour, Saturday, 22 August 2026 – discover the rich history of the Fort; Guide tours of chapels and historic buildings; Scenic views and photo displays – commencing at 8:30 am.

Thanksgiving Mass & Celebration, Sunday – Celebration Mass with Archbishop Emeritus of Brisbane, Archbishop Mark Coleridge and Passionist priests; Blessing of the grounds and memorial space; Tree planting – Mass at 8:15 am, All Are Welcome! Whether you have a connection to the Fort or are visiting for the first time – Hospitality Provided - coffee & tea, please bring a plate to share after Sunday Mass. Deacon Martin Lewis on 0438 583 873.

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Matthew 15:21-28

The Gospel reading from Matthew 15 is a little confronting at first sight because it looks as if Jesus is unwilling to help the mother in her distress. Leaving His native Galilee, Jesus and His band head northward to the land of the Phoenicians, present day Lebanon. A woman, who had possibly heard Jesus speak or had been told of His reputation as a Healer, came to ask a favour. Her daughter had a condition that was interpreted in those days as being possessed by a demon. In general, people who suffered from physical or mental illnesses that had no apparent medical explanation were thought to be possessed by demons or unclean spirits.

Matthew tells us that Jesus virtually ignored the woman because He did not give her any reply. This strikes us as out of character since Jesus usually showed great compassion to people in distress. What is equally unusual is that the woman, a Canaanite, as Matthew refers to her, addresses Jesus as Son of David. Elsewhere in the gospel (20:30), the expression 'Son of David' is interpreted as a mark of faith in Jesus as Messiah, but here, Jesus does not respond to the woman's declaration or her request.

She persists and the disciples urge Jesus to send her away because she keeps on nagging. At this point Jesus gives us a clue to the way He sees His mission, that is, exclusively directed to the people of Israel. His reply to the woman certainly strikes us as harsh, particularly as He refers to the Gentiles as dogs when He says, 'It's not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the houndedogs.' The Jews looked on Gentiles as dogs because, like dogs, they ate all kinds of food and even ate food considered unclean by Jewish standards.

The focus in His reply is not on the word 'dogs' with its implied insult but on the fact that it is not right to deny food to the children. The *food* and *dogs* metaphor is far less important in this episode than the primacy of Jesus' mission to the people of Israel. Jesus is stressing His priority, and He is not going to be easily deflected from it. But neither is the Canaanite woman going to be deflected from her purpose for she comes back with, 'Even the houndedogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' She does not dispute Jesus' point of view but argues that He should still help her. In effect, she is pushing Him think outside the box; to reset His compass and broaden His ministry to include the Gentiles.

Straightaway Jesus can see the strength of purpose in this woman, and He appreciates her reply as a king hit. She has not been put off but has remained firm in her trust that Jesus can and will do something to help her. Her trust and determination have caused Jesus to reassess the situation and His own priorities. This is not only a turnaround but a learning exercise for Him – even non-Jews can show extraordinary trust.

– Laurie Woods

ROSTERS	
CLEANERS – AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2026	
21-22 August 2026: Burmese Community	
28-29 August 2026: Burundian Community	
4-5 September 2026: Divine Mercy Group	
11-12 September 2026: Syriac Community	
THIS WEEK'S READINGS- 15/16 AUGUST 2026 (20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A)	
1. 1 st Reading:	Isaiah 56:1, 6-7
2. 2 nd Reading:	Romans 11:13-15, 29-32
3. Gospel:	Matthew 15:21-28
NEXT WEEK'S READINGS– 22/23 AUGUST 2026 (21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A)	
1. 1 st Reading:	Isaiah 22:19-23
2. 2 nd Reading:	Romans 11:33-36
3. Gospel:	Matthew 16:13-20
PIETY STORE – Opening hours are: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:30 am – 10:30 am. Saturdays: 6:45 pm, Sundays: 8:15 am and 10 am.	
 It is so easy to push people out of our lives. But the Lord knows no boundaries, races, or colours. Spread the Good News that we are all God's people. To talk to someone about your vocation, contact Vocation Brisbane, by calling 1300 133 544 or by email vocation@bne.catholic.net.au	
PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD/ANNIVERSARIES – We pray for all the holy souls in purgatory, our family members, our friends, and people who have died in Ukraine, Israel, & Gaza. May they rest in peace.	
PRAYERS FOR THE SICK – We pray for God's healing touch for Robin CLARK, Justine MANGWI, Reba WILSON, MEGAN, Shawn HEATHCOTE, Abner TAGALA, Kevin HICKS, and all the sick of the parish. May the healing power of Jesus Christ breathe across your being now.	
ST PAUL'S PARISH WOODRIDGE, BANK DETAILS: For those who wish to donate directly online. Thank you. Account Name: St Paul's Catholic Parish, Woodridge BSB: 064 786 Account Number: 100 001046	
ST PAUL'S 'FASHION ADVICE' FOR THREE NEW PRIESTS: Priestly ordinations not only reflect the diversity of the global clergy, but also stand as reminders of how everyday persons are called to holiness, Sydney Archbishop Anthony Fisher said at the ordination of three new priests. Source: The Catholic Weekly.	
POOR BOX – last weekend is \$135.05. Thank you.	

CATHOLIC MISSION – WE ARE HIRING: Diocesan Administrative Assistant . Part-time 3 days per week . Based in Brisbane . Supporting Dioceses in QLD Applications will be assessed as soon as they are submitted. Visit: https://www.catholicmission.org.au/jobs-at-catholic-mission
A STRANGE WAY HOME – MARK COLERIDGE: <i>A Strange Way Home</i> is the story of a journey that spans continents and cultures, faith and family. In this deeply reflective memoir, Archbishop Mark Coleridge traces the path from his Irish, Scottish and English forebears, through childhood in Melbourne and Adelaide, the streets of Rome, and ultimately Archbishop's House in Brisbane. Written with candour, wisdom and literary grace, <i>A Strange Way Home</i> offers a rare glimpse into the life of one of Australia's most respected Church leaders. Mark Coleridge served as Archbishop of Brisbane from 2012 to 2025 and previously worked in the Holy See's Secretariat of State after studies in Rome. A gifted preacher, scholar and communicator, he has been a leading voice in Australian Catholic life for more than four decades. Mark Coleridge was ordained a priest of Melbourne in 1974. He studied in Rome and worked in the Vatican before being named Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne in 2002, Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn in 2006, and Archbishop of Brisbane in 2012. He retired in 2025. Link to order – https://tinyurl.com/4yevwaah (paperback)
DAD JOKES: IAN ALLEN Customer: Have you got any camouflage jackets? Assistant: We've got dozens but I can't find them.
PRAYERS FOR YOU: Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. - Francis of Assisi
ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC PARISH, WOODRIDGE – FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026: Parent-Info Session – Thursday, 8 th of October at 3:30 pm in the Church. Five First Holy Communion Classes – every Thursday at 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm in the Church. It starts on the 22 nd of October, 29 th of October, 5 th of November, 12 th of November and ends on the 19 th of November. The children must attend all the classes. All parents/carers are also expected to attend. The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be on Saturday, 21 st of November 2026, 11:00 am at St Paul's Catholic Parish, Woodridge. It will be celebrated by FR LADU JAMES YANGA. Enrolment for Sacrament of First Holy Communion is now open, and will close on Thursday, 8 th of October 2026. A child must be Grade 4 or 9 years old and older. Confirmation Certificate is a requirement. Please contact the Parish office for registration forms. For students at St Paul's Primary School, they can also get the parish registration forms from Diane Johnson.

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RUMMIKUB = Wednesdays 10am-3pm in Room 1 at the Adult Ed Centre Cost:
2 BYO Lunch Contact Reba 0403 482 210 or Anne 0403 300 660.

CARPET BOWLS - Every Thursday 10-12pm in the Fr David Batey Hall.
Joining fee \$2 Session \$4 Contact Connie on 0423 004 684

TAI CHI CLASS - Thursdays 5pm-6pm in Fr David Batey Hall with Joseph
Cheng - 0434 445 678.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL MIGRATION ADVICE SERVICE - This FREE service
of a Migration Agent/Lawyer is offered on the **1st Saturday of each
month from 10am-1pm in the Meeting Room at St Paul's Parish,
Woodridge.** An Appointment is essential. This advisory service is for
those who cannot afford the services of a migration agent/lawyer. Please ring 1
800 846 643 between 6pm and 9pm.

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St Paul's School Woodridge

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