

Petrie Catholic Parish

EMBRACING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

Our Lady of the Way—38 Armstrong Street, Petrie & St Francis Xavier—135 McKenzie Street, Dayboro.

Petrie Catholic Community is a dynamic, growing Christian church committed to bringing the message of Jesus Christ to all.

The Nativity of the Lord—25th December 2021

ear Brothers and Sisters,

Christ is born to us! Let us rejoice on this day of our salvation!

A few years ago, Pope Francis said in his Christmas homily, "Let us open our hearts to receive the grace of this day, which is Christ himself. A day of mercy, in which God our Father has revealed his great tenderness to the entire world. A day of light, which dispels the darkness of fear and anxiety. A day of peace, which makes reconciliation. A day of joy: a 'great joy' for the poor, the lowly and for all the people."

On this day, Jesus, the Saviour, is born of the Virgin Mary. The manger became a symbol of humility and a great demonstration of the Father's love for us. Instead of a royal palace, Jesus was born in a simple manger. From the beginning, Our Lord showed what has real value: not the building in which one is born, but the people who occupy it. Jesus values family, strangers, kings, and shepherds, all who came to worship and adore Him. As we celebrate His birth, let us spiritually come and bow down by the crib.

What gift will we bring to the infant? Will it be a new and deeper commitment to seeking out the Lord, like the shepherds? Will it be recognizing the true King, like the Magi? The earthly royalty knew that they needed to bow down to the heavenly King. Do we also recognize the Lord by bringing Him our gifts of service, commitment and love?

My gift to you is my prayer that God will continue to shower His peace, mercy, care and love upon you and your family; that you will be a beacon of hope to all those who are in your lives; that people will encounter Jesus, as the best gift of all, through you. A special prayer for you today is that you, your family and homes be filled with the Blessings of Peace, Joy and Love.

I would like to thank all our parishioners for your commitment to our parish this past year. The giving of your time, talent and treasure to the Lord continues to bear fruit for the Kingdom of God. I extend my gratitude to all who worked so hard to make our Christmas celebrations truly wonderful. Thanks to all who were involved in organising our churches and setting up for the different liturgies in this Christmas season and throughout the liturgical year. A special thank you to the devoted members of the various ministries in our parish and especially to those few who work quietly behind the scenes.

I would also like to sincerely thank everyone for your prayers, Christmas greetings and gifts.

May all my dear parishioners be over shadowed with the mighty and powerful blessings of the Baby Jesus.

With my Christmas Blessings,

Fr. GEO FRANCIS MCBS





Safeguarding Policy—The purpose of the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Policy is to promote a culture of safeguarding within the Archdiocese and reduce the risks of abuse and harm.

The policy applies to all parishes, ministries, and agencies under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Brisbane and to all Archdiocesan workers (including clergy, religious, employees and volunteers).

The Archdiocese and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries, and services and has zero toler**ance** for all forms of abuse. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.



PARISH COLUMBARIUM It has been a long tradition of the Catholic Church to provide a sacred site as a final resting place for those of our community who have passed away. Our Columbarium provides a peaceful atmosphere on a Tom Petrie Homestead site and surrounded by heritage trees. Families and friends are able to pray and remember loved ones. Within the columbarium grounds, beautiful memorial gardens with bush rocks provide an opportunity for placement of memorial plaques. If you are interested in finding out more please contact the Parish Office at 3285 6759, petrie@bne.catholic.net.au



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