ST PAUL'S PARISH WOODRIDGE

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
13 - 14 DECEMBER 2025 YEAR A

RESPONSE: LORD, COME AND SAVE US.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; He sent me to bring Good News to the poor. 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 411 4
Email Address **woodridge@bne.catholic.net.au**
Office Hours **Monday-Friday 10am-4:30pm**
Parish Secretary **Nelda Ward-Naughton** **Ph (07) 3808 4134**
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**

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

8— 14 Dec 25	**Chris & Joycelyn Veamatahau**
15 — 21 Dec 25	**Sofeni & Sally Pa'apa'a**
22 – 28 Dec 25	**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 meetiing 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.

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 MASS- 1STSUNDAY 11AM
KARENNI MASS-4TH SUNDAY- 10:30AM

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

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

By appointment with priest

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH OPERATING EXPENSES:

Small hosts – 6 jars (1,000 count)	- $170.24
Medium hosts – 3 boxes of 50 pcs.	- 41.85
Large hosts – 10 boxes of 10 pcs	- 149.50
Energy Australia – parish	- 444.54
Electricity – church shared w/ school/month	-335.94
Origin – presbytery-quarterly	- 297.83
AGL – presbytery – quarterly	- 161.12
Industrial bin collection-monthly	- 385.69
Rates – church & presbytery	- 1,244.75
Rates - church shared w/ school/quarterly	- 1,430.48
Jani King– cleaners for church facilities/mo	- 778.13
Office internet & telephone –monthly	- 330.15
Repairs & Maintenance – Church	- 407.00
Repairs & Maintenance – Presbytery	-24,550.00
Total Operating Expenses	- $30,727.22

Plus Miscellaneous Expenses – varies each time

Total collections from weekend Masses last week is $2,640.15. Thank you all for your generosity and continual support to the parish. God bless everyone.

AFRICAN MASS – will be celebrated by FR LADU JAMES YANGA on Sunday, 21st of December 2025, 12:00 pm at St Paul's Catholic Parish, Woodridge. All are welcome.

IMPORTANT CORRECTION:

Samoan Community Multicultural Mass donation is $1,105.00 which brings the overall total Multicultural collection to $3,893.00.

THANK YOU:

Karenni Burmese Community for their generous donation of $1,000.00 for Church Repairs and Maintenance.

CHOIR PRACTICE: St Paul's Choir practice for Christmas, Sunday, 21st of December immediately after the 9:00 am Mass in the Church. All are welcome.

ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC PARISH, WOODRIDGE – PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES – are on the table at the back of the church. Reminder for those who have not taken their envelopes yet, please do so. Thank you for your support to the parish.

GOOD NEWS! FR LADU JAMES YANGA – offers to do three Weddings for free at St Paul's Catholic Parish, Woodridge. Please call (07) 3808 4134 for information.

CHRISTMAS BOWL:

Christmas Bowl is more than fundraising. It is a shared spiritual practice, a way to live out Christian discipleship, stand with families who have been displaced, and make God's love visible in action.

Envelopes are on the table at the entrance of the church. Please take one. Thank you.

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Matthew 11:2-11

John is in prison and has heard about Jesus. No doubt he has heard of both negative and positive reactions to Jesus, and he can identify with these differing reactions.

All Jesus is saying is that the job of the Messiah is to bring relief to the suffering and to introduce to ordinary people the Good News of how to walk in the way of the Lord.

John's people go back and report to John what they have seen and heard. Then Jesus turns to the crowd and offers them one of the choicest pieces of inspired poetry that we have about John. The first thing to notice is how Jesus immediately creates connection with the people by putting a question to them.

His first metaphor is the reed shaken in the wind that doesn't have any locomotion of its own. It moves whichever way the wind is blowing. It represents humans without a backbone, who lack purpose and principle. They may simply go with the power and follow the money. But John is not one of these spineless jellies.

Did you see in John a man clothed in expensive gear, out to spend money on himself and forget about everyone else? But such people are in royal houses and don't even know or care how the other half lives.

Then Jesus ends with the classical third, that zeroes in on the right answer. You went out looking for a prophet. But here's the clincher, there are prophets who are models of authenticity, conviction and courage and then there are pseudo-prophets who are for sale, crawling to the highest bidder. According to Jesus, John outshines the lot.

Jesus tells us what He really thinks of John. There is no one greater than John. It is interesting that John has become associated with, and known by his ritual washing or plunging of people in the Jordan that symbolised their readiness to change, to turn back to God with all their heart.

– Laurie Woods

ANSWER THE CALL TO MERCY AND COMPASSION:

Do you have a heart for those on the margins?

We are seeking one or two kind, empathic women of deep faith to serve as Pastoral Visitors to join Centacare's teams of chaplains at a women's correctional centre.

Pastoral Visitors offer friendship, hope, and spiritual support to incarcerated women through weekly visits – being a living sign of God's love and mercy.

Training, mentoring, and ongoing support are provided.

If you feel called to accompany women in their journey of faith, healing, and transformation, we would love to hear from you.

"I was in prison and you visited Me…" – Matthew 25:36

For more information or to express your interest, please contact: Centacare Pastoral Ministries:

Email: judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au

Phone: 3324 3193

ROSTERS

CLEANERS – DECEMBER 2025 & JANUARY 2026

12-13 December 2025: Zomi Community
19-20 December 2025: Veamatahau & Ioane Family
26-27 December 2025: Samoan Women's Group
2-3 January 2026: Burmese Community

READERS THIS WEEK: 13/14 DECEMBER 2025

6PM	7:30AM	9AM
Pesi Silao	Shana Tominiko	Hoty Trinity
Marina Ene	Lillian Tagaloa	Choir
Atele Ula	Theresa Tominiko	

READERS NEXT WEEK: 20/21 DECEMBER 2025

6PM	7:30AM	9AM
Andrea Nigodemo Idris	Mago Ioane Tausaga	Divine
Rebecca De Los Ama	Marina Ene	Mercy Chr
Julita Jaurigue	Jeannie Stehr	

THIS WEEK'S READINGS- 13/14 DECEMBER 2025 (THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A)

1. 1st Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10
2. 2nd Reading: James 5:7-10
3. Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS–20/21 DECEMBER 2025 (FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A)

1. 1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14
2. 2nd Reading: Romans 1:1-7
3. Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

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.

vocation BRISBANE.com "As your models in suffering hardships and in patience, friend, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord." (James 5:10). 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 David ALVARADO, Ndayizeye Lina GABRIELL, Liliana DERNIER, Reba WILSON, Bev ANDERSON, Abner TAGALA, and all the sick of the parish. May the healing power of Jesus Christ breathe across your being now.

POOR BOX – last weekend is $143.50. Thank you.

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 BRIGID'S NERANG 2025 ANNUAL DAWN MASSES:
St Brigid's Church Solemnly Invites the Faithful to the Dawn Masses 2025 – Together, we pray for the world, our families, and loved ones and thank God for all the blessings and graces we have received.
When: 16th – 24th December 2025 at 5:00 am
Where: 39-49 Mclaren Road, Nerang QLD 4211, Australia.
Light refreshments from our Mass Sponsors – Tuesday, 16th December–Missionaries Family of Christ; Wednesday, 17th December– Kubo Grill c/o Hermie Gutierez & Global Centre Gold Coast/Australia Skills Management Institute (ASMI) c/o Letty Walls; Thursday, 18th December-St Brigid's Parish Patoral & Finance Councils and Lourdes Doctolero; Friday, 19th December– Mother of Perpetual Help Prayer Group; Saturday, 20th December-Salad Master Gold Coast c/o Ann Pilapil; Sunday, 21st December-Light of Jesus (LOJ) The Feast Gold Coast; Monday, 22nd December-The Catholic Filipino-Australian Council Gold Coast; Tuesday, 23rd December-Filipino Gold Coast Choir; Wednesday, 24th December-Mabuhay Grill c/o Vicky Orcullo and Family.

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him.' – Romans 15:13

More information: Celinne – 0427 319 775

INSTITUTE PASSES SECOND AUDIT WITH FLYING COLOURS:
The Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea is embedding a strong safeguarding culture, according to a new audit released by Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL). Source: CathNews.

ACU – AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY – TO FUND NEW RESEARCH INTO HEALTH INDUSTRY:
Australian Catholic University will fund new research to understand the unique challenges faced by health and social services workers and care recipients.
Source: CathNews.

LAUGHS: LAURIE WOODS
An English professor put the following sentence on the screen for his students.
'Woman without her man is nothing.'
He then asked the students to punctuate the sentence correctly.
The men wrote, 'Woman, without her man, is nothing.'
The women wrote, 'Woman! Without her, man is nothing.'

PRAYERS FOR YOU:
O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are true, and You have promised this goodness to Your servant.
– 2 Samuel 7:28

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NEXT TO "FOODWORKS WOODRIDGE"

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.**

MAKE IT FABRICS – Do you love sewing but on a budget? See Paola at Shop 4/54 Kingston Rd, Underwood Tel: (07) 3162 4700 for budget sewing materials, laces, trims and sewing machine repairs.

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