



Mother of Good Counsel Parish

(embracing the areas of Innisfail, Mourilyan, South Johnstone, Babinda, Silkwood & El Arish)

Parish Priest ~ Fr Kerry Crowley

Priest in Residence - Silkwood ~ Fr Hilary Flynn

Innisfail, Babinda and Silkwood Parishes have zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and are committed to safeguarding everyone involved in all activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.

PO Box 64, Innisfail QLD 4860 Tel: 40630650

Contact information for Babinda is as above.

email: innisfail.parish@cairns.catholic.org.au

Parish website www.gcp parish.org.au

Parish Bulletin Sunday 28 April 2024

PARISH CHURCHES

Mother of Good Counsel
90 Rankin St, Innisfail

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St Rita of Cascia
5 Green St, South Johnstone

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Christ the King
10 Harbour Rd, Mourilyan

~ ~ ~

St Rita of Cascia
15 Church St, Babinda

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St John the Evangelist
4 Harold St, Silkwood

~ ~ ~

Our Lady of Fatima
32 Glasgow St, El Arish

Masses for Next Weekend 4/5 May Saturday

Silkwood: 6.00pm

Innisfail: 6.30pm

Saturday Vigil

Sunday

Babinda: 7.00am

South Johnstone: 7.00am

Innisfail: 9.00am

El Arish: NO MASS

This Sunday's Texts:

Acts: 9:26-31

1 Jn 3:18-24 ; Jn 15:1-8

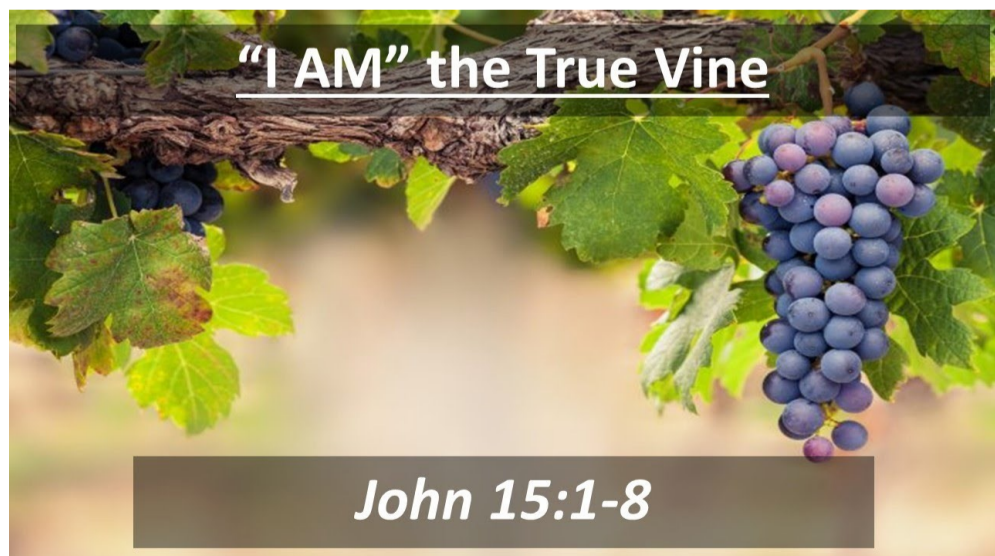
'REMAIN IN ME'

The Lectionary of this Easter season draws out some of the 'classic' gospel passages, particularly some of the discourses from the Gospel of John. Like many 'famous' or familiar passages, it can be true that familiarity breeds contempt – we think we are so familiar with the passage that we don't need to pay it much attention.

At first glance, it appears that there is a certain ruthlessness about the image of the vinedresser pruning the vine: perform or perish! However, the process of cutting away and pruning branches is an incredibly nurturing action; it is removing the unproductive portions of the plant so that the vine has an even better opportunity to produce fruit in the next season. It is an act of love; not an act of economic rationalism. Within our own lives we are called to make decisions about which of our thoughts and actions are life-giving (fruit-bearing) and which are unproductive; negative; crippling; life-diminishing. If we are able to 'prune' our life-diminishing thoughts and actions we allow ourselves the freedom and the ability to really flourish. Feelings of jealousy, greed, resentment, self-doubt and lack of confidence can limit our ability to be fully alive just as addictive and harmful behaviours can physically take away our ability to perform at our best.

I am reminded of the old *Karate Kid* movie when the boy, Daniel, is introduced to the art of bonsai. He is told to close his eyes, imagine the perfect tree and then start clipping and shaping the plant to make real the perfection that lies within it. It is only through a process of cutting away and pruning that we can nurture ourselves to realise the beauty of our potential.

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Today we celebrate
Fifth Sunday of Easter

REFLECTION

Living the Gospel – Bearing fruit

The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.

Scriptural context – In context

The imagery that Jesus used in his parables and in extended metaphors such as the one used in this week's gospel sometimes seems a little foreign to a 21st century audience. However, the world in which Jesus lived and taught was dominated by small scale farmers and producers in an agrarian economy. His use of images such as 'shepherd', 'vine', 'tenants', 'farmers' and 'wineskins' would all have been immediately recognisable to his audience. They would also have appreciated much more than we do the subtlety of Jesus' use of such images when he twists them in an unexpected way.

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Parish Office

OFFICE HOURS for next week

Monday 29 April,
Tuesday 30 April; Wednesday 1 May;
Thursday 2 May
Friday 3 May: 10.00am - 3.00pm

Fr Kerry

This weekend Father Kerry will celebrate Mass in Innisfail and Babinda.

Fr James

This weekend Father James will celebrate Mass in Silkwood, Mourilyan and El Arish.

Reconciliation

Available each **Saturday at 11.30am** in Mother of Good Counsel Church.

After Hours & Weekends

If a priest is required after hours and on weekends please phone **0419 716 627**. Thank you.

Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist

Sacrament of Confirmation:

Monday 27 May - Mother of Good Counsel, Innisfail

Sacrament of First Eucharist:

Saturday Vigil 6.30pm Mass - Innisfail - 1st June
Sunday 7am Mass - South Johnstone - 2nd June
Sunday 9am Mass - Innisfail - 2nd June

Please keep children and their families in your prayers as they begin their preparations for the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist.

Welcome to Country

We acknowledge the Indigenous people's of this land, Ma:mu and Wanyurr Majay Country.

Priests Emergency - Cairns area

Priest for MEDICAL EMERGENCY - 0409 622 392



Baptism

This weekend we welcome **Georgia Woodward** into our Parish community of Innisfail through Baptism.

Time for a Laugh

During a priest's homily at Mass one Sunday morning, one of the parishioners got up and walked out the door.

After Mass, the man's wife went up to the priest and apologised profusely. "I hope it didn't upset you too much," she said. "And please don't take it personally. My husband's been walking in his sleep for years."
(Source: Majellan Media)

St Vincent De Paul – Our Lady of Good Counsel Conference, Innisfail (Vinnies)

Making a lasting difference in your community by becoming a member of St Vincent de Paul Society.

The St Vincent de Paul Society is committed to serving people in need in our community. We do this by respecting every person's human dignity, sharing our hope, and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny.

The Conference meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 4.30pm to 5.30pm in the Parish Centre, Innisfail.

Please consider joining the St Vincent De Paul Conference in Innisfail.

Contact **Mary O'Farrell** on **0427 682 929** for further information.



Feast of the Three Saints - Silkwood

The feast of the Three Saints will be celebrated on **Sunday 5th May** in Silkwood.

Choir Practices will be at Mother of Good Counsel Church, Innisfail on

Tuesday April 30th at 5.00pm and on **Friday 3rd May at 6pm** (following the 5.30pm Mass)

All welcome! It will be a great occasion! Music is inspirational!

Diana O'Brien

World Mission May Rosary Prayers

Join Catholic Mission online to honour Mother Mary during the month of May through praying the Rosary.

Monday – Friday

Time: 2pm Brisbane / Melbourne time

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://tinyurl.com/cmprayer>

Meeting ID: **893 8798 2280**
Password: **876574**



Parish Safeguarding Representatives

Babinda: Anthony Densmore (40672300)
Loretta Musumeci (40671438)

Innisfail: Rosalee Lankinen (0429426949)
Alfio Parisi (0499010242)
Caroline Aracic (0407555039)

Sth Johnstone: Patricia Arnold (0401903269)
Lydia Massa (0424649093)

Mourilyan: Colleen Morrison (0488391111)

Silkwood: Bernadette Pennisi (0437000296)
Gail Bromell (0419682183)

El Arish: Amanda Olsen (0459124085)

To learn more about **SAFEGUARDING** go to <http://cairns.catholic.org.au/services-and-ministries/safeguarding>

it is our responsibility to work together to protecting our young and vulnerable.

Children's Discussion Starters

Fifth Sunday of Easter Year B
Sunday 28 Apr 2024

What are some types of fruit that grow on vines?
Which is your favourite?

In today's gospel Jesus tells us that he is the vine and we are the branches.

How are we Jesus' branches?

How can we produce lots of fruit?

We produce much fruit when we show that we are Jesus' disciples and serve others.

We pray that we will never be cut off from Jesus and we will produce fruit that will last. © Creative Ministry Resources

WORD FROM THE CLOISTERS

diary@thetablet.co.uk

Denis the menace

AFTER HIS ELECTION as Labour MP for Rotherham in 1994, Denis MacShane decided, "probably somewhat pompously" he confesses, that he owed it to future historians to note down as much as possible of what he observed around him.

It seems everyone else in politics was doing the same. But *Labour Takes Power: The Denis MacShane Diaries 1997-2001* (Biteback, £25) has a likeable thread of gossip, self-deprecation and cheerful self-justification that makes it worth reading.

One entry records him introducing his brother, a surgeon, and his uncle, a doctor, to John Hume in the Strangers' Bar in the Commons. Hume and fellow Nobel Prize winner Seamus Heaney had both attended the same school, St Columb's College in Derry. MacShane had forgotten that a brother of his Donegal grandmother, Mgr Joseph O'Doherty, had been the president of the college between 1939 and 1943.

MacShane went to St Benedict's School, Ealing, west London, where Chris Patten was head boy. "I was far too noisy and naughty for such promotion," admits MacShane. His next volume of diaries will cover his time as Tony



Blair's Minister for Europe. "I'll be recounting my battle to defeat the pagans at the FCO who wanted to merge the British Embassy to the Holy See with the Embassy to Italy."

ON SATURDAYS, John Tracy liked to sit on the steps of Barclays Bank on London's Clapham High Street with his beloved dog Diamond. He was on duty. While he was sipping beer from a can, he was also watching what was going on. He would be counselling this one, telling that one where they could get a free meal, looking out for where he needed to step in and sort things out before

a "situation" developed. "John seemed to know everyone in Clapham, the dog walkers, the restaurant owners, the police, the elderly, the beggars," the writer Kristina Cooper tells us.

John was always short of money because of his drinking. "But the more I got to know him, the more I realised what a decent man he was," Cooper says.

When Cooper learned that Sally, a woman who used to beg outside St Mary's Catholic Church, had terminal cancer and wanted to make her peace with God, she arranged for her to have her confession heard. She discovered that John had accompanied her several times to hospital. Sally liked to gamble, and when she was lucky, she would ask John to look after her winnings as he was the only person she trusted.

John had had two children back in Scotland when he was little more than a teenager. His daughter had got in touch to tell him he was now a grandfather. He booked a bus ticket to Scotland to visit them. A few days later he went to bed early with a stomach pain. His flatmate found him dead in his bed the following morning. He wasn't yet 50.

"I had probably walked past John hundreds of times without noticing him," Cooper says. "We so often fail to see people, to realise what they are doing below the radar."

THE TABLET: 20 JANUARY 2024

Responsorial Psalm: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Please pray for.....

Those who are sick: Gloria Pietrobon, Vicki De Brincat, John Lizzio, Rodney Calleja, Sarina Nucifora, Ralph Arnell FMS, Len Parisi, Fr Hilary Flynn, Lucy Contarino, Dino Della Mattea

Recently Deceased

Ken BRAND, Angelina (Ange) MACCARONE, Abner MARIBLANCA (Los Angeles - brother of Aida Giardina), **Connie MATARAZZO, Fr Marty LARSEN** (Brisbane)

Anniversaries

Ernest TRELOAR, John HORE, Vida NELSON, Dema AGLI, Hope TAYLOR, Tony STRAATMAN, Nina BOOTHBY, Alex BLACK, Sr Pilar LUCERO A.R., Audrey BOVEY, Esther GALEA, Fr Daniel ORMONDE OSA, Catalina SAEZ, Patrick BAXTER, Antonio PUCCINI, Victor CISCATO, Carmel STRAATMAN, Mary LIZZIO, Victoria ANASTASI, Rosaria CATANIA, Henry NOONE, Martin ZARINS, Mena FALLON, Antonia MARTINEZ, Greg CAMPAGNOLO, Giuseppe CANINO, Lenny PAPPALARDO, Fr Thomas CAHILL, Harry ARCHER, John MAMO, George CARDONA, Roy CROFT, Michael MURPHY, Stella BALZAN, Maria NUCIFORA, James DOOLAN, Victoria SULTANA, Thomas TIERNEY, Ricky ACCATINO, Giovanna BITA

WEEKDAY MASSES

MONDAY 29th	NO MORNING MASS	
TUESDAY 30th	8.00am Innisfail	St Pius V, pope
WEDNESDAY 1st	8.00am Innisfail 5.00pm Babinda	
THURSDAY 2nd	8.00am Innisfail	St Athanasius
FRIDAY 3rd	5.30pm Innisfail	Sts Philip & James apostles

SUNDAY MASS TIMES & ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 4/5 MAY				
4/5 MAY	6.30pm Sat Innisfail	7.00am Sun Mourilyan	7.00am Sun Sth Johnstone	9.00am Sun Innisfail
COMMENTATOR	S. Todd	////////////////	S. Heaney	Youth
READERS	P. Dryden	////////////////	L. Massa N. Smith	Youth Reader Youth Reader
CIBORIUM		////////////////	////////////////	Youth
CHALICE	C. Catalano L. Catalano	////////////////	F. McLeish J. Brincat	Youth
HOSPITALITY	M. Lehmann	////////////////	M. Lissa	M. Richards
MUSIC	Silkwood Duo	////////////////	////////////////	Youth Group

BABINDA MASS TIME & ROSTER	
28 APRIL	7.00am Sunday
READER	L. Musumeci
CHALICE	T. Densmore & P. Lawie
5 MAY	7.00am Sunday
READER	S. Jia
CHALICE	L. Musumeci & F. Lizzio



When making out your Will please consider the needs of the Parish.
www.gcparish.org.au

Altar Linen Roster Week commencing 29 April 2024	9.00am Mass Set-up 5 May 2024
Maria Gangi	T & M Hogan