



**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
PINE RIVERS**

102 SPARKES RD, BRAY PARK Q 4500
(07) 3205 1493 - BRAYPARK@BNE.CATHOLIC.NET.AU
HTTPS://HOLYSPIRITBRAYPARK.COM
OFFICE HOURS - MON-FRI 9AM - 4:30PM

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Chinua Okeke, C.S.Sp
okekec@bne.catholic.net.au

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr Edward Khaemba, C.S.Sp
khaembae@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH SECRETARIES

Alexandra Lindstrom (Finance)
Giuliano Silvestro (Admin)

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Sat 6:00pm (Sunday Vigil)
Sun 7:00am, 9:00am
Sun Aramaic Mass (TBA)
Sun 5:30pm (during Advent & Lent)

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon 7:00am; Tue 7:30pm;
Wed 7:00am; Thu 9:00am
Fri 7:00am & 7:30pm (1st Friday)
Sat 8:00 am

ANOINTING OF THE SICK (HEALING MASS)

2nd Friday of the month at 7.00am

BAPTISMS

1st and 3rd Sundays of the Month.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8.30am and 5.15pm.
1st Friday of each month 8:15pm

**HOLY MATRIMONY & RCIA (RITE OF
CHRISTIAN INITIATION) FOR ADULTS**

Please contact the Parish Office

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION**

Every Wednesday after the 7am Mass until
Thursday 8:30am & 1st Friday of the month –
8:15pm until 7:30am Saturday morning

ROSARY

After weekday mass.
Second Saturday of the month at 7.30am
Last Friday of the month at 6:30am

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Chair – Matthew Dahms
Secretary – Patrick Collins
braypark@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Chair – John Thomas
Secretary – Sabrina Menezes
braypark@bne.catholic.net.au

LITURGICAL COMMITTEE

Chair – Dawn Penna
Secretary - Marian Brooks
braypark@bne.catholic.net.au

17th May 2026 — The Ascension of the Lord Year A

Today, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension. At first glance, it can feel like a farewell story—Jesus lifting off, leaving Earth behind, and returning to a distant place called Heaven. This image can make Heaven seem far away, and Earth feel like something to be escaped from.

But the Jewish understanding of heaven and earth is that they are two interlocking dimensions of God’s single creation. The Ascension, then, is not an escape. It is an embrace.

By ascending in His glorified body—flesh and bone, body and blood—Jesus does not leave Earth behind. He brings Earth into Heaven. He takes our humanity into the very life of God. The Ascension means that wherever Jesus is, Heaven and Earth are united. And as He promised, He is with us always, until the end of the age.

In the Lord’s Prayer—itself a Jewish prayer—we say: “Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” We are therefore commissioned: “Go into the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation.”

We are all called to become active and involved in bringing heaven to earth. The question asked by the two men in white (the angels)— “Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky?”—is directed especially to those of us who grow passive.

It is so easy to become passive. To admire Jesus from a safe distance. To keep our faith private, polite, and personal. To think, “Someone should do something about the suffering in my parish.” To hope a priest, a bishop, or a missionary will bring Heaven to Earth, while we stay in our Jerusalem (comfort zones), gazing upward. The angels are saying: Stop staring. Start moving.

Let St. Teresa of Avila’s famous words become our mission statement: “Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on Earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He looks with compassion on the world. Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good. Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world.”

You are the Ascension’s continuation. When we feed the hungry, Heaven touches Earth. When we visit the sick and pray with them, Heaven touches the Earth. When we forgive someone who doesn’t deserve it, Heaven touches Earth. When we speak truth in love at a family dinner that could turn hostile, Heaven touches Earth. When we come to Mass on a Sunday morning, even when we would rather sleep in, and PARTICIPATE, Heaven touches Earth.

“Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven.”

Amen.

Father Edward Khaemba CSSp

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic Community of Holy Spirit Parish, Pine Rivers, guided by the Holy Spirit and nourished by the Word and the Eucharist, commit ourselves to:

1. Fulfilling our Baptismal responsibility through evangelization and service;
2. Becoming a loving and welcoming community;
3. Recognizing and affirming the dignity of all as "Children of God";
4. Deepening our spirituality; that God's Kingdom may reign now and evermore.

SUNDAY READINGS

(Our Sunday readings are also on our Parish Website)

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11 (JB)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (JB)

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:17-23 (JB)

GOSPEL

Luke 24:46-53 (JB)

Jesus said to his disciples:

Everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms was bound to be fulfilled.'

He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures.

And he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of this.

And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he separated from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Mass Intentions

Sat 9 th	8:00am	Florence Leema (RIP Anniversary)
	6:00pm	Celine Jeremiah (RIP)
Sun 10 th	7.00am	Maximiana Go (RIP)
	9.00am	Francis Leema (RIP)
Mon 11 th	7.00am	
Tue 12 th	7.30pm	Michael Watson (RIP)
Wed 13 th	7.00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Thu 14 th	9.00am	Holy Soul of Anthony Caruana
Fri 15 th	7.00am	
Sat 16 th	8.00am	Limeta Family (Thanksgiving)

Upcoming Events

May 1 st 31 st	Domestic Violence Awareness month
May 15 th –23 rd	Pentecost Novena
May 18 th –21 st	Pentecost Seminar 7:00pm
May 24 th	Pentecost Sunday
May 25 th	Mary Help of Christians
May 30 th	Public Rosary 8:45am
May 30 th	RCIA Confirmation/Holy Communion
May 31 st	Trinity Sunday
June 6 th /7 th	First Holy Communion
June 7 th	Corpus Christi
June 12 th	Sacred Heart of Jesus
June 27 th	Working Bee
June 29 th	Solemnity of St Peter and Paul
July 11 th /12 th	Confirmation Commitment
July 28 th	Visit by Bishop Giovanni D'Ercole, FDP
Aug 15 th	Assumption of Our Lady
Aug 30 th	Multicultural Mass
Sep 13 th	Parish Assembly

IN MEMORIAM — TERESA WESONGA KHAEMBA

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Fr Edward's beloved mother, Teresa Wesonga Khaemba, who entered eternal life on Sunday, 10th May.

As a parish family, we invite you to join us in prayer and support for Fr Edward and his family at a Memorial Mass to be held at 3:00pm this Sunday, 17th May, at Holy Spirit Church. Your presence and prayers during this time of loss will be a great source of comfort and strength to Fr Edward and his loved ones. Please keep Fr Edward and his family in your prayers.

PARISH WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

Our Parish website has been redesigned and is also mobile-friendly Visit <https://holyspiritbraypark.com> for Mass times, bulletins, sacramental information, and parish news. We welcome feedback and suggestions.

We also have a regularly updated Facebook page: facebook.com/holyspiritbrayparkcatholiccommunity

PENTECOST NOVENA

The novena will run from May 15th to 23rd. The novena shall include the daily mass, benediction and prayer to the Holy Spirit. The Pentecost seminar is part of the Novena.

PENTECOST SEMINAR 2026



Join us for four evenings of prayer, worship and reflection as we prepare for Pentecost. Monday 18 – Thursday 21 May 7:00pm – 8:30pm at the Holy Spirit Church, 102 Sparkes Road, Bray Park. Each evening features praise &

worship, a talk, Eucharistic Celebration or Benediction, and faith sharing. Programme:

Day 1 – Mary Overshadowed by the Holy Spirit — Fr Edward Khaemba CSSp

Day 2 – The Holy Spirit in the Understanding of St Francis of Assisi — Br Matthew Beckmann OFM

Day 3 – I Believe in the Holy Spirit — Fr January Mkude CSSp

Day 4 – Spiritans Inspired by the Holy Spirit — Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

All are welcome. For enquiries call 3205 1493

CELEBRATION OF THE PARISH FEAST DAY

Pentecost is the feast of the Parish, the Spiritans and the Church. On Pentecost day, May 24 after 9am mass, we shall have celebrations in the canteen area with food and music. Please bring a plate to share

PUBLIC ROSARY

On May 30, Parishioners are invited to a public Rosary at 8:45am, held in the Parish carpark.



HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL BUSH DANCE

FRIDAY, 22 MAY 2026

FOOD VANS FROM 4:30 PM

BUSH DANCE FROM 5:30 PM

\$10 PER FAMILY

CHANGE OF ACCOUNT DETAILS

With cheque facilities being phased out in Australia, we have had to change our account details for our First Collection (Holy Ghost Fathers). If you have a Direct Debit, the details will be changed over automatically but if you deposit directly into the account yourself, please note the new account details below. This will also include any donations made for Pentecost or PNG.

Account Name: Holy Ghost Fathers

BSB: 064-786

Account Number: 1000 29092

In due course, our Church account will also be changed and the updated details will be communicated at the appropriate time.

Thank you for your understanding.

SPIRITAN SPIRITUALITY

Availability is one of the most consistent features of Spiritan spirituality. It is both openness to God and attentiveness to our brothers and sisters — an inner movement that runs through our history from Poullart des Places to Libermann and remains today at the heart of our vocation.

From the very beginning, Poullart des Places embodied this attitude. This inner movement took concrete form in availability: going wherever God's call was heard, even to the poorest and most neglected places. The motto of the first Spiritans expresses this attitude perfectly: *"Ecce ego, mitte me"* — Here I am, send me. Spiritan readiness is this constant "yes" that makes us mobile for mission and attentive to the needs of the community. This movement of openness, inaugurated by Poullart, is the first expression of the Spiritan charism.

PRAY FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS IN NIGERIA

Christians in Nigeria continue to suffer greatly for their faith, yet many persevere with deep trust in Christ and devotion to Our Lady. Aid to the Church in Need invites you to join with John, a Catholic farmer in Nigeria, in praying a decade of the Rosary this week for persecuted Christians and all who suffer for their faith. Watch John's moving testimony and download a free Red Rosary Prayer Card to unite your prayers with the suffering Church throughout the world.

Visit www.rebrand.ly/RedRosary26

TREADMILL WANTED

Does anybody have a treadmill that is in good condition that they no longer need? Please contact the Parish Office.

We pray for all of our sick parishioners and those who we have been asked to pray for, especially:

Eddie & Silvia Perazzoli, Bernadette Di Marchi, Rosemay Cherval, Bryan Doyle, Dorcas Leema, Carolyn Tanner, Vincent Stufano and family, Sr Lina Vaschina, Anna Maria Vaschina, Christina Grace Hambling, Josie Longo, Marco Polo Tanzi, Gerry Demenzes & Maria Stufano,, Joe Barrett, Genevieve Marie, Lameka Eketi, Sa Tamalii, Brendan Drury, Stephen Thompson, Marg Wallace, Ellie Zemann, Clive Smith, Editha Hall, Betsy

Van Meygaarden, Peter Brown, David Lowe, Clifford Naughton, Darren Searle, Glen Brown, Henry Mencia, Victoria Murrell, Maarten Vollebregt, Henny Van Meygaarden, People in Nursing Homes.

We Remember

Eileen Brewer, Beryl Burke, Josephina Espiritu, Dominique Baxendell, Mary Bell, Joan McAndrew, Frank Bellett, Sheila Flynn, Vivien Groth.

THE LOLIT BUMANLAG Team

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Lolit Bumanlag, BSC (Acctg), Cert IV Prop Svcs
Sales and Marketing Consultant
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E lolitb@harcourtspinnacle.com.au

SCAN ME FOR A FREE MARKET UPDATE

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
Marriage Encounter "The Vow" Mini Retreat - All couples welcome.
Date and Time: Saturday 30th May 2026 from 9am to 12:30pm
Venue: St Oliver Plunkett Church Hall, 21 Beauvardia St, Cannon Hill.
RSVP to: Cathy and Vince Agius - vinceandcathywwme@gmail.com

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Tae Kwon Do classes held at Holy Spirit School every Wednesday afternoon. All ages welcome. Established since 1988. Please call Damian or Daisy on 0438 860 967 for more information.

Roster for this Sunday – The Ascension of the Lord 16 th /17 th May (3 rd Sunday of the Month)			
	6pm Saturday	7am Sunday	9am Sunday
Readers	Doreen Mones Bernie Piovesan	Paul Ferris Sherine Tobias	Joyce Cubillan Crisalyn Tenio
Special Ministers	Sacristan Doreen Mones Doreen Mones Pat Casey Carleen Augustus Bernie Piovesan	Sacristan Lito De La Vega Lito De La Vega Marie Hird Agimary Joseph Mia Young	Sacristan Bryan Irvine Veronica Topindik Ester Malgapo Joyce Cubillan Alvin Cubillan Bryan Irvine David Waken
Altar Servers			Francis Fernando Peter Fernando
Data Projection	Michael Heyne		
Music	Glen Edmonds	Emmanuel Choir	Couples for Christ Australia
Hospitality			Couples for Christ Australia