

Parish Prayer Calendar - March 2017

From Every Day with Jesus: <i>"This is the issue underlying every other issue; where am I in relation to God?"</i>	
1	On this Ash Wednesday, pray that we might consider again the time Jesus spent in the desert in preparation for His ministry, then to be tempted by the devil. May we be sure of our faith and not give in to the temptations of this world.
2	"Creator God, as we begin Autumn we pray for an end to the hot Summer weather, and we look for cooling breezes and lesser humidity, for an end to bushfires and floods; may there be a return to life-giving rains in the drought-stricken parts of our state and country. We pray that farmers may restock and re-sow with confidence in Your bounty."
3	Pray for the World Day of Prayer celebration services today at St Mary's Catholic Church, Upper Coomera and the Salvation Army Church, Southport – giving thanks for this year's organising committees and hosting of these services.
4	Pray for special activities today – the Working Bee at Holy Rood at 8am, the BCA Bush & Bible Day at North Pine Church at 9.30am and the Picnic in the Park at Paradise Point at 4pm. Give thanks for the organisers of these diverse events.
<u>5</u>	Sunday – Lent 1 "Lord Jesus, give us grace to endure the wilderness times and to remember that it is just those places where You found You were not alone."
6	"Lord our God, may the many glimpses of Your glory shine through in the little things of each day."
7	Pray for good Stewardship over the world's resources and the God's generous will may prevail over human greed and prejudice.
8	Give thanks for Canon Gary & Margaret, and Reverend Don & Lurline, and their leadership and pastoral ministry among us over these last 15 months. "May God's love continue to pour into their hearts through the Holy Spirit."
9	Pray for all our children: those who are yet to be born, premature babies, babies growing up strongly, children of school age, young people and youths, students at tertiary education level and those who are working and beginning families of their own.
10	"Father, we thank You for this wonderful country of ours with its diverse climates and vegetation, for its energetic and open democracy, for the freedom of speech, for its safe community free from terror and for its robust economy.
11	"We pray for all Welcomers, Sidespersons, Lay Assistants, Servers, Sacristans, Readers and Intercessors who support the liturgy of our churches – may they be well trained and supported as they meet together at the Volunteer Training Day at Holy Rood today from 9am."
<u>12</u>	Sunday – Lent 2 Give thanks that Jesus told Nicodemus of spiritual rebirth and went on to relate, "For God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not die but have eternal life."
13	Give thanks for Father Peter and his pastoral ministry among us. "May God's healing hand be upon him as he continues to work through medical issues and may the love of Jesus continue to pour into the hearts of he and Julie, through the Holy Spirit."
14	Give thanks for all those who make donations to missionary work through the "Beyond the Parish" envelopes, and pray for Bush Ministry (specifically the Parish of Maranoa) who will receive the February donations, and for Mothers Union, who will receive the March donations.
15	Give thanks for Bishop Len and Sandy and their supporting ministry among us. "May God's love continue to pour into their hearts, through the Holy Spirit."

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16	Give thanks for God's blessing on us in sending Rev John Dougherty to be our Priest-in-Charge. Pray for a wonderful celebration at St Matthews commencing 7pm tonight as John is commissioned. "May God's love continue to pour into the hearts of he, Felicity and the children, through the Holy Spirit."
17	"Heavenly Father, we remember before You those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of employment. Guide the people of all lands to use their wealth and resources so that everyone may find suitable and fulfilling work."
18	Pray for the "Expert Panel" who are continuing to consider changes to the Australian Constitution to recognise the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia's first peoples.
19	Sunday – Lent 3 "Stir up Your Spirit within us Lord, and give us the 'Living Water' You offered to the Samaritan woman near the well outside the village of Sychar, so we may speak and act urgently to make You known out in the world."
20	Pray for our Parish Council as they meet together with Reverend John, that they may share his vision for the parish as it begins a new phase of its ministry and development.
21	"Lord our Saviour, tenderness and compassion are your example, selfless love is what You gave, mould me into Your image."
22	Give thanks for our Deacons, Reverend Lyn and Reverend Rosie, and their husbands Bruce and Chris; for their pastoral ministry among us and in the community. "May God's love continue to pour into their hearts, through the Holy Spirit."
23	"Into God's care we give this day, our body, mind and spirit; our homes and families; our friends and neighbours; and especially all who need God's help. Give to us now Your all-sufficient grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."
24	Father, we pray for asylum seekers fleeing from persecution in their homelands. We pray that they may be relocated into countries in which they will be made to feel welcome and enable them to live in peace and settle into rewarding lives."
25	As our church observes the Annunciation of the Birth of Jesus to Mary by the angel; pray for Mary and for all mothers and especially for "mothers-to-be" that their confinement may go well for mother and child.
26	Sunday – Lent 4 Give thanks that Jesus opened the eyes of the man born blind; pray that our eyes might always be open to see Jesus, the Light of the World.
27	Give thanks for Reverend Jonathan, Reverend Mary-Anne and Reverend Catriona and their families; for their pastoral ministry among us, particularly in regard to the children whom they serve. "May God's love continue to pour into their hearts through the Holy Spirit."
28	"God our redeemer and sustainer, we pray for survivors of violence, abuse and neglect. Give Your power to the powerless, Your fullness to the empty of spirit. Heal their wounds. Free them from fear, and restore them to true health."
29	"Almighty God, just as Your people trusted You to lead them to the Promised Land, may we trust You to be alongside us in our journey of faith."
30	Give thanks for the little children who are learning the love of music through our "mainly music" program. Pray for the parents and adults who bring the children – may they glimpse the love of Jesus.
31	Lord Jesus we ask Your blessing on Coomera Anglican College and Jubilee Primary School as they complete their first term of studies for 2017.