On Wednesday, 20 February the commissioning mass for the Reverend Fr. Ken Howell was held at the Calvary Church, Miami and was presided over by the Archbishop of Brisbane, the most Reverend Mark Coleridge.

Burleigh Parish Associate Pastors, Fr. Huong Van Nguyen and Fr. Lucius Edomobi, assisted, and were joined by visiting Priests, Fr. Peter Dillon, (Dean, South Coast Deanery) Fr. Rafał Rucinski (Nerang), Fr. Kevin Smith (Caloundra), and Fr. Geoffrey Agu, (Southport). The Rev. Greg McGrory, Anglican Church, and the Rev. Colin Batt, Uniting Church, also participated in the rite of Commissioning. Marymount school captains, dressed in formal uniform, represented their school.

The theme of the evening was *Pastoring the Flock*, and the hymns chosen reflected this theme. During his homily, Archbishop Mark stated that when he was considering a replacement for Fr. Pat, he felt that there was no one better than Fr. Ken “to harness the whirlwind of Burleigh Parish”. The Archbishop remarked, also, that the day was Fr. Ken’s birthday and continued by saying that the evening was not only about Fr. Ken, but also about “Someone far greater.” Archbishop Mark then referred to the readings for the Mass, and he commissioned our Pastor to ask us to:

“Repent and believe the Good News” which is Jesus Christ among us here and now,

“To be the Shepherd of the Flock”

The Mass ended with an address of thanks from Fr. Ken, who acknowledged his predecessor, Fr. Pat; the many old friends and the new ones he would make; also the many people who had made this night possible. A large covered area had been erected outside the Calvary Church for the serving of Supper. All present gathered with Mrs Howell, Fr. Ken’s mother, and sang Happy Birthday to Fr. Ken, after which a vote of thanks was given by Mrs. Bern Lane.
To our great delight, Fr Martin Doyle is with us today. Fr Martin was the third Parish Priest of Burleigh Heads and a significant force in the development of this College. Marymount students of today, who regularly come in and out of this building – called the Doyle Centre, could possibly have asked: who is Doyle and why is this building name after him?

Well, I am very happy to speak of this great priest and humble man in the presence of the College of 2013. Soon after the building was opened, Fr Doyle suffered a serious and debilitating health issue which meant that he could no longer continue as Parish Priest. Within the period of his convalesce, I became Administrator of the Parish and I asked Archbishop Bathersby if we could name this building in Fr Doyle’s honour as a way to respect his mighty contribution to Marymount and the Burleigh Heads Parish. The other day I found a copy of the words I spoke to the College in March in 1994 when I announced that the building would be called the Fr Martin Doyle Centre.

Fr Martin was too unwell to come back for the announcement or for any farewell and recognition of his years of faithful and faith-filled ministry to this Parish.

Can I conclude by quoting what I said then:-

Today we pay tribute to Fr Doyle and we thank God for his faith, vision and his quiet determination – a determination that would not allow us to say: “it can’t be done”. We thank Fr Doyle, for we have all benefited from his leadership and ministry, especially Marymount, where Father’s belief in Catholic education is legendary. Thanks to him and those who worked with him, Marymount is a school of quality with few to equal its high standards.

Fr Doyle, it is a special joy for me to welcome you back to Marymount today, and now in your presence to say thank you for all you have done. Your name may live on as a name on this building, but your legacy of faith and hope will live on in many many more ways. Fr Martin Doyle we salute and thank you.
A fun Day!

On 13 April, 2013 the Infant Saviour Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will host refugees from the Logan area at Tallebudgera for “a day at the beach”. It will be the eighth year that this annual event has been held with the valued assistance of the Tallebudgera Life Saving Community. On each occasion families have been entertained in the water at Tallebudgera, followed by an onshore barbecue. Of the 100 to 150 attending on each occasion, most of the refugees come from either Africa or Myanmar (Burma).

Buses travel from St. Pauls, Woodbridge to Tallebudgera. On arrival our visitors are provided with morning refreshments and are offered beachwear generously donated by families from both Marymount Primary School and the Life Saving Club. For the next few hours the life saving community (mainly from the junior membership) provides advice on safety issues as well as ensuring that the children enjoy the water, including being taken on rides on some of the rescue craft.

A memorable typical Aussie barbecue lunch of sausage sandwiches, cake and soft drinks is enjoyed by all present. Portable shade structures, tables and barbecue equipment are all provided by Marymount College. After lunch, some of the children return to the water, under supervision, whilst the older visitors entertain all present by presenting music and dance from their country of origin. In recent years the Australians have responded with some fair dinkum music of their own.

St Vincent de Paul Society, Infant Saviour Conference, extends an invitation to those who would enjoy welcoming the refugees at the barbecue to be held at Tallebudgera on Saturday 13 April, 2013.
Out and About the Parish

FAMILY GROUPS

On Sunday, 2 August 2012, the Parish was fortunate to have Fr. Peter McGrath, the founder of the Family Group Movement, attend a gathering of Family Group members. An informal picnic lunch was held in the Sports Centre, Marymount Primary School, at which Fr. Peter spoke about the aims of the Family Group Movement.

“Established in 1972 by Fr. Peter McGrath cp, the aim of the Family Group Movement is to build Christian community through the development of extended families. With loneliness and isolation so prevalent in our society, there is a genuine need for people to know and support each other. Family Groups create an extended family atmosphere within the community and are open to everyone.

Our focus is on people caring for, loving and accepting each other.”

www.pfgm.org

Family Groups gather once a month for various activities, such as a picnic, barbecue, or perhaps a casserole meal. Highlights are a annual weekend away, and the celebration of special anniversaries. Family Groups live the faith in the everyday circumstances of their lives.

“Do I have to be Holy? You just have to be yourself. Many non-church attendees have found belonging to a Family Group is a great way to become involved in the faith life of their family.” Family Groups provide a non-threatening environment for non-church going partners, and friends, including all who wish to belong, married, single or divorced. Do you find it difficult meeting new people? Nearly everyone does. By joining a Family Group you will be in immediate contact with other families.

To join or for further information, please phone Rosemary 0412606492 or the Parish Office 5576 6317.

World Marriage Day Mass for the South Coast Deanery,

They came from all parishes on the Gold Coast, including Tweed Heads and Brisbane. There were four couples who have been married over 60 years. Eight couples celebrating fifty and fifty plus years and there were a few couples who were celebrating their marriage of less than ten years. Over one hundred people came including children and grandchildren. Father Rafal Racinski, Parish Priest at Nerang celebrated this special World Marriage Day Mass.

The permanent theme for the Mass is from John 14, “Love One Another”

Before the couples renewed their Marriage Vows, Fr Rafal provided in his homily some sound thoughts to take home:- The Sacrament of marriage is a union of 3, wife, husband and God.

It is important to write the law of love in our hearts.

Love means being ready to give to ones spouse and family.

Love means being ready to rejoice with each other’s achievements and successes.

The uplifting singing for the Mass was lead by Cathy Carroll on organ and Peter Tanna as the Cantor. The Mass was followed by a shared lunch on the verandah of St Benedicts. The gentle Mudgeeraba breeze, the delicious food and good company resulted in most staying to meet and chat with other couples from different parts of the coast and generally having a good time!

The celebration was a combined effort of the Gold Coast ‘Team for Married Spirituality,’ the South Coast Deanery, Burleigh Heads Parish and a dedicated group from the worshipping community of St Benedict’s Church.

Congratulations 60 + years
Baptised in Grace for Grace Elizabeth

from Josee Hill

Baby Grace Elizabeth Ingram was baptized by Fr Pat Molony during the celebration of the 10am Mass on Sunday 25 November 2012, at the Doyle Centre, Marymount College on the feast of OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST UNIVERSAL KING.

It was a very special and joyous occasion for the Doyle Centre 'family of faith’. Baby Grace was supported by her parents Angela and Mike, godparents Paul and Linda, together with her grandparents, her 2 year old sister Amelia, relations and friends and especially the many young children present in the congregation. Angela’s parents had journeyed all the way from England for this momentous occasion.

Morning tea was filled with a party atmosphere and a beautiful celebration chrismening cake which was demolished appropriately and acclaimed by all. Congrats to the Cook. Everyone loved it!

Baptised in the Grace of Our Heavenly King

A gift from God in this ‘Year of Grace’
A child so precious and sweet of face
This day of her Baptism and angels sing
Blessings of Joy, voices raised in hymn
This holy day her Baptism they acclaim
This child so blessed and graced by name

Many Congratulations Angela, Mike and Amelia - Welcome in thanksgiving the newest smallest member of our Burleigh Waters faith community,

GRACE ELIZABETH INGRAM

Mum Angela, is a Minister of the word at the Doyle Centre Sunday morning Mass. We hope one day baby Grace will follow in her footsteps.

A Spanish Influence at Ozanam Villa

Ozanam Villa is never short of visitors who come to entertain and share their talents with the residents of the Aged Home.

Some are there weekly, some visit maybe once a year, and other volunteers come weekly without fail to help with the moving of the patients who are wheelchair bound, so that they are included in the entertainment that is available.

Such was the case when 'Catholic Life' caught up with some young Spanish girls who came to help out at the home and entertain with Spanish dancing.

It was also a joy to one of the residents who had migrated from Spain some years ago, that she enjoyed the girls conversation in her native tongue.

Pictured right: Our young Spanish visitors dancing for the Residents and speaking Spanish with resident Mrs. Antonia Cepero.

Where Young and Old Meet

Paying a visit at a Morning Tea at Ozanam Villa were young grade 2 Students from Marymount Primary School.

They seemed enthusiastic to show off their reading skills to the residents, and judging by the picture the residents were equally enthusiastic to receive their attention.

Be Still and Know that I am God

A very successful prayer and reflection day was conducted at the Infant Saviour meeting room on 29 September 2012. The prayer day was run by the Faber Centre of Ignatian Spirituality, and facilitated by Dale Keenan and Lynne Head-Weir. The day focused on using the ancient prayer of the church, the Lectio Divina, combined music and art to offer a deep and rich contemplative experience of God. Participants mediated on Isaiah 43:1-5 using the Lectio Divina process finishing their contemplation with the Chopin Piano Concerto No 1 in E Minor, Op 11: Romanza: Larghetto.

In the afternoon session, participants were encouraged to make a visual representation of the morning contemplation by drawing a mandala of their experience. Each participant was given a bookmark with the following thoughts to remember their experience of praying with music and art.

Bach gave us God’s words
Mozart gave us God’s laughter
Beethoven gave us God’s fire
God gave us music so we could Pray without words.

Leonardo Da Vinci gave us insight
Pablo Picasso gave us God’s many perspectives
Henrie Matisse gave us God’s love of play
God gave us visual arts
So we could see what we pray.
Gone but won’t be forgotten

The Community Development Office concluded all services as from 30 November 2012, because Government funding had ceased. The Gold Coast branch had operated out of the Burleigh Catholic Parish Office, and had provided social justice services for the community, which included:

- A Counselling Network
- A Northern Gold Coast Seniors annual event
- A Homeless Connect Annual Day
- A Street Library – providing books, information and friendship to those affected by homelessness.
- A Community Cuppa
- A Family and Community Expo South

The Community Development Office had been in operation for 25 years and was originally founded by the Deanery in Southport. Catholic Life wishes to acknowledge and extend thanks to all those who have worked tirelessly to achieve social justice within our community.

FAREWELL TO A LONG ASSOCIATION

At the midday Mass at the Miami Church in December, Sister Clara Condon of the Order of the Missionary Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, was farewelled from the Burleigh Parish as she continues her work for the Care and Concern in Kingscliff.

Mrs Bern Lane addressed the congregation at Miami for the Ministers of the sick in early December, and spoke of the many areas that Sr Clara had been involved with.

Her association has been a long one in the Burleigh Parish going back to the early 1950’s. At that time the sisters travelled from the convent in Coolangatta, and as Head, Sr Clara dealt with the daily running of the then Infant Saviour School, in Burleigh Heads.

It was some years later that Sister Clara became very involved with the planning for Marymount College with Parish Priest Father Frank Shine. Sister Clara at some stage in her busy scheduled became involved with and was working for the Marriage Tribunal in the arch diocese of Brisbane.

In the past ten years, sister has led the visitation team with Care and Concern and also spent many hours visiting the Robina Hospital patients, and bringing with her, a loving presence to them in the Eucharist of Our lord Jesus Christ.

Sister is remarkable in the example she has always given in her gentle and quiet way with all the tasks she has undertaken in the Parish. Sister Clara embodies all the qualities of the Missionary Franciscan Order and as the last representative of such, we say a sad farewell to her, but with every good wish for Sister Clara’s future work in her new parish of Kingscliff. Afterwards Sister attended the Ministers for the sick Luncheon at the Burleigh Bear’s Sports Club on Christine Avenue.

Pictured: Top Left: Sister Clara Condon
Above Top: with her good friend Mrs Bern Lane
Above: with Mrs Carmel Henley.
Palm Beach Faith Community

In our last issue we highlighted the Piety Stalls from four of the Mass Centres. This month we were fortunate enough to obtain photos from Our Lady of the Way Palm Beach Community Centre Piety Stall. Volunteers are there for both masses on Saturday 6pm and Sunday 7am.

Pictured top right: Tony Dodds and Maureen Pocock look after the 6pm Mass on Saturday evening
Middle right: Santo Toscano looking after the stall at the 7am Mass on a Sunday

In late 2012 Archbishop Coleridge launched the International edition of the New Community Bible. A unique feature is said to be the pastoral commentary that accompanies the text, which helps the faithful understand and assimilate and live the Word of God in their day to day life. The special price of $11.00 per copy is available for 2013 only.

Copies are available at all Parish Piety Shops.

Palm Beach Community held their annual Christmas Party at the Pines Tavern at the beginning of December. Diane Wilson was there to take some photos of some who had gathered to wish each other the best of the season.

The Annual Raffle was won by Keith Linanne and Peter Tanna pictured right entertained the party with his wonderful voice.

Christmas Luncheon

Christmas is a time to say thank you to the many volunteers in the parish that are called to the different ministries of parish life. On the 6th December The Ministers who take the Eucharist to the sick and to those in Aged Care Homes and Villas came together to celebrate Mass at the Miami Church, and afterwards met for a Christmas Luncheon at the Burleigh Sports Club.

"Catholic Life" was fortunate to be able to photograph some of the people who attended.
**CHRISTMAS TIME IN THE PARISH**

The new church year begins with Advent, and with it comes a time of reflection on the forthcoming feast of Christmas. The five parish Mass centres conduct their own Christmas activities. Participants in the children’s liturgy at Calvary Church, Miami, together with others, took part in the annual Christmas Play. For 2012 the theme was “Has Anyone seen Christmas?” the event being organized by Sr. Pat Tomlinson and Mrs. Jan Zimmerman.

When the night arrived the children came as shepherds, wise men and angels to complement Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus. Fortunately the heavy rain storm which occurred during the evening did not deter 100 people from attending. Everyone enjoyed the performances of the children, who were wonderful in their presentation of ‘Looking for Christmas’ in the midst of consumerism and secular times.

Sr. Pat (pictured) narrated and presented the story of Christmas with direction for the children. As the Wise Men were introduced, two proceeded to adore the baby Jesus and we were left to conclude that the third Wise Man must have lost his way in the storm that was going on outside.

Nevertheless, the story and actors were applauded by an appreciative crowd and afterwards, all adjourned to the back of the church for a sausage sizzle and tables full of Christmas goodies.

---

### Children’s Christmas Art Contest

From Jan Zimmerman

Calvary Church Community held a colour in competition for the children over the Advent Christmas season and the winner—Ryan Fitzpatrick—All the categories were presented with their prizes at a Sunday Mass.

Other categories were:-

- Most consistent: Janice Ngo
- Most Inventive: Bryn Larkin
- Attention to Detail: Piper Stockwell

Best of series: Ryan Fitzpatrick

Youngest Entrant: Claudia Fisher (aged 3)

A big thank you to all the children for their entries. Your lovely pictures enhanced our Christmas Theme and were much admired. It was very hard job for our judging panel to make their selections.

---

**The Christmas cheer spilled over with many joining in the festivities at St Benedict’s Church at the Mudgeeraba Christmas Party**

Parishioners from the other Mass Centers came to be part of the Christmas cheer and to wish each other the peace of the Christmas season. Organised after the regular 5.15pm mass on the first Thursday in Advent, the St Benedict Community hosted a very happy evening.

**Pictured are some of the crowd that surrounded a laden table of Christmas Cheer.**

---

**Children’s Christmas Art Contest**

From Jan Zimmerman

Calvary Church Community held a colour in competition for the children over the Advent Christmas season and the winner—Ryan Fitzpatrick—All the categories were presented with their prizes at a Sunday Mass.

Other categories were:-

- Most consistent: Janice Ngo
- Most Inventive: Bryn Larkin
- Attention to Detail: Piper Stockwell

Best of series: Ryan Fitzpatrick

Youngest Entrant: Claudia Fisher (aged 3)

A big thank you to all the children for their entries. Your lovely pictures enhanced our Christmas Theme and were much admired. It was very hard job for our judging panel to make their selections.

---

**WINNER OF THE SERIES**

**Pictured below:** Children taking part in the Story of Christmas told at the 6pm Mass at the Doyle Centre.

---

**Stories of Christmas**

**Above:** Sr Pat directing the children.  
**At right:** Angels Adoring the baby Jesus.