



Speech by

# Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 8 March 2006

---

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### St Joseph's Festival

**Hon. PD BEATTIE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (9.50 am): I want to pay tribute to the St Joseph's festival at New Farm. St Joseph's will be holding this special event on Sunday, 19 March. The festival is attracting other multicultural groups to attend. I congratulate it for that. I seek to have details incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

Members of Brisbane's newest refugee communities are invited this year to join with members of the Italian community at their annual St Joseph's Festival at New Farm in my electorate on Sunday, March 19.

The Festival usually attracts about 15,000 visitors and is supported by a \$10,000 Queensland Government grant.

This year, the organisers have extended an invitation to new refugee communities to join the festivities and participate in the festival.

I would like to congratulate organisers, Casa Italia, for sharing their festival with our newest refugees from countries such as Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Mentoring can play a vital and successful role in assisting new Queenslanders to learn about, and become part of, our community.

I look forward to this year's festival as it is always a great event and this year's festival promises to be even bigger and better.