



# The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Office Hours: 8.30am –3.30pm Monday to Friday

Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra Street PO Box 79 Bundaberg Queensland 4670

Telephone: 07 4151 6666

Facsimile: 07 4153 3102

Email: [sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au)

Website: [www.bundabergcatholic.net.au](http://www.bundabergcatholic.net.au)



## 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

"You have heard that it was said, *You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.* But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father." —Mt 5:43-45a



## PASTORAL TEAM

**Very Rev John Daly PP VF**  
Parish Priest

**Rev Andrew Hogan**  
Associate Pastor

**Mrs Anne Sheehan**  
Liturgy & Sacramental

**Mrs Denise Tuzes**  
Visitation & Bereavement

**Mrs Diana Pippia**  
Office Manager

**Mrs Kaye Andersen**  
Receptionist

**Bundaberg NET**  
Youth Ministry

## SCHOOLS

**St Joseph's Catholic Primary School**  
Principal: Mrs Kaye Beston  
sjbgrok.catholic.edu.au  
Ph: 4151 4771

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**  
Principal: Ms Madonna Davitt  
stmarysbundaberg.qld.edu.au  
Ph: 4152 2167

**St Patrick's Catholic Primary School**  
Principal: Mr Mark Fox  
saintpatricks.qld.edu.au  
Ph: 4152 1380

**Shalom College**  
Principal: Mr Dan McMahon  
shalomcollege.com  
Ph: 4155 8111

## CHURCHES

**Holy Rosary Church**  
Cnr Barolin & Woongarra Sts

**St Patrick's Church**  
16 Powers St

**St Mary's Church**  
Cnr Barolin & Boston Sts

**St James' Church**  
38 See St Bargara

## OTHER CONTACTS

**Diocesan Safeguarding**  
Daniel Donnini: 4931 3632

**Diocesan Response Line**  
Melissa Davey: 1800 830 113

**Centacare:** 1300 523 985

**St Vincent de Paul:** 4151 5455

**Ozcare:** 1800 692 273

**Towards Healing:** 1800 337 928

**AFTER HOURS**  
**Anointing of the Sick**  
**for Medical Emergencies**

Phone 4151 6666  
& follow the prompts

## FOCUS by Anne Sheehan

**Evangelise or Buy Moth Balls:** Pope Francis challenges us continually in his writings, messages and interviews. Recently his message to the laity was to “evangelise or buy moth balls!” You’ve gotta love him for his doggedness and perseverance. There is one appeal he continually makes and that is to “Go! Spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.” But there’s a catch. “Go outside of oneself and take risks in evangelizing, rather than staying stuffed up at home while the moths move in.”

“Sometimes I think the best business we can do with many Christians is to sell them mothballs so that they put them in their clothes and in their lives and aren’t eaten by moths,” the Pope said. “They have to go out, they have to go and bring the message of Jesus” to others, he said, explaining that the Good News is meant to be shared, not stored away.

Speaking recently with the young children preparing for their first holy communion and their parents we mentioned that in some ways the dismissal at the end of the Mass – “Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord / Thanks be to God” is one of the most important dialogues we will have during the hour. We are a people sent on mission after every Mass. We are a missionary people. How well do we evangelise in the days to follow? Are we like the family for whom “the mass isn’t over until the casserole is delivered (to the elderly housebound lady down the road)?”

All the baptised are responsible for evangelising. You, me and us are co-responsible for mission. “Go to all peoples everywhere & make them my disciples.” (Mt 28:19). I just wonder how well we do this? How difficult is it to do as Pope Francis suggests or as Jesus points out in today’s gospel: “are you doing anything exceptional?”

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## LITURGY: The Assembly

The liturgical assembly is the place where the Holy Spirit bears fruit. Each member should be present, because this gathering of the gifts of the Spirit is found only and uniquely in the gathering of the members of the community.

In the assembly no one does everything but each one acts according to their own role, just as in daily life of the Christian community, no one can do everything but everyone is called to collaborate to build up the church according to their gifts and talents.

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## STEWARDSHIP

The desire to always go a step further, to give even more than is required, is truly honourable. Jesus speaks to his disciples about this when he urges them to give more than what is asked and to travel two miles in service when all that was required of them is one. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to live the same way. It is fundamental to understanding a stewardship way of life.

True generosity has no limits. When we say that mature disciples are to answer the call of Jesus Christ regardless of the cost, we are inviting good stewards to embody this type of generosity. We can be the person who does not respond to the call, be the person who responds and gives what is required, or, finally, be the person who seeks to give above and beyond what is required. God doesn't just give us what we need, but he gives us more than we need. Made in his image, we are called to do the same. If we try to live in this manner every day, then we might just succeed in leaving this world a little better than the way we found it.

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## JUSTICE & SUSTAINABILITY

World Social Justice Day is 20 February. We remember the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals which are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

*As members of the world community we can each become more aware of these goals and play our part in addressing them.*

## LITURGIES

### Monday 20 February

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

### Tuesday 21 February

9.00am St James - LWC

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

### Wednesday 22 February

#### Chair of St Peter - Feast

8.00am Shalom College - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

### Thursday 23 February

#### St Polycarp - Memorial

6.30am St Mary's - Mass

10.00am St Mary's

- Mass w/- Anointing

1.45pm St Mary's School - Mass

### Friday 24 February

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

### Saturday 25 February

7.30am St Mary's - LWC

9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance

## NEXT SUNDAY

26 February 2017

### 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

Year A (I) Psalter Week 4

#### Saturday

6.00pm St Patrick's

#### Sunday

7.00am St James'

8.00am Holy Rosary

9.00am St Mary's

5.30pm Holy Rosary

## SCRIPTURES

### First Reading

Isaiah 49: 14-15

### Second Reading

1 Corinthians 4: 1-5

### Gospel

Matthew 6: 24-34

## NOTICES & EVENTS

**Sacramental Program:** A Parent Session and Child Session on Reconciliation will be held Sunday, 19 February 2017 at 10:30am and Wednesday, 22 February 2017 at 7pm in the Parish Office. For more information contact Anne (4151 6666).

**Bundaberg Passionist McKillop Family Group:** Breakfast at Bargara Pub, Sunday, 19 February 2017 at 8.30am. All welcome.

**United Hearts Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group:** First Prayer Meeting, Tuesday, 21 February 2017 at 7pm in the Novakoski Centre.

**Prayer for Christian Unity:** Thursday, 23 February 2017 at 10.00am in the North Transept of Holy Rosary Church followed fellowship afterwards in the Novakoski Centre.

**menALIVE Men's Breakfast:** Saturday, 25 February 2017 at 7.30am in the Parish Office. Guest Speaker: Dr Andre Conradie (Cardiologist). Cost: \$10. Please RSVP to the Parish Office by Wednesday, 22 February 2017.

**Secondary Students' Sacramental Preparation:** begins on Sunday, 26 February 2017 from 4.00pm - 5.00pm in the Parish Office for any young person wishing to prepare for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, First Communion or Reconciliation. Contact Anne at the Parish Office for information, timetable and registration.

**World Day of Prayer:** Friday 3 March 2017, 9.30am, Uniting Church (Barolin Street). Everyone Welcome!

**CWLA Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration:** will be held on **Thursday, 16 March 2017** in the Shamrock Room at the Brothers' Sports Club. Devonshire tea from 9.00am, followed by a variety concert with an Irish theme; Lucky Shamrock; Lucky Spots; Raffles & Continuous Cent Sale. Proceeds go towards supporting Local & Australian charities. Bookings: Carmel - 4152 5979 or Maureen - 4152 1263.

**The Little Black Easter Books:** and Purple Books for Children are available from all Churches & the Parish Office at a cost of \$3.00 each.

**Easter Ministries:** All Ministers who are available for ministry at any or all of the Easter Mass & Liturgies please write your name on the list provided at the front door of the Church.

**Religious Instruction is a Qld Treasure:** It gives Parents the freedom to choose for their Children to learn about the teachings of Christianity in a fun, supportive environment. Are your Children enrolled in RI? Don't forget to pray for the RI Instructors in your Church. Could you support the work financially or become a Religious Instructor? For more information contact Pauline on 4159 3272 A/Hrs or via email [pauline@cqsat.net](mailto:pauline@cqsat.net).

**Church Cleaners Wanted:** St Mary's Church Cleaners Group are looking for people who would be willing to help clean St Mary's Church once every 6 weeks for approximately 30 - 45 minutes. For more information contact Maureen Ewing on 4152 1263.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Newly Baptised:** Stella Jane Rolloque.

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Karl & Katrina Sullivan celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on 14 February 2017.

**Recently Deceased:** Fr Dan Moore (Ireland); Gina Murasut (Sydney); Br. John Wright (Nudgee); Joyce Dale (Maryborough); Traude Lohner (Austria); Ronnie Griffiths (Brisbane); Christian Gunter (Sydney); Allen Dowley; Vittorio 'Vic' Marano; Marian Palu; John Faircloth.



## SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

### **Matthew 5:38-48**

In today's section from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus warns his disciples against retaliation and encourages love of enemies. What is the lure of retaliation?

### **Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18**

God called Moses and the Israelites to be "holy." In today's reading, what are some actions that lead to holiness?

### **1 Corinthians 3:16-23**

How does Paul connect holiness and wisdom for the Corinthian Christians?



In relationship with Christ,  
empowered by the Holy Spirit,  
we serve joyfully as a people  
beloved and called by God.

## SCRIPTURAL REFLECTION

The teachings of Jesus in this gospel are those most people remember from the 'Sermon on the Mount'. Understanding them can help us better appreciate Jesus' charter of the Kingdom.

Jesus quotes the law of retribution common in ancient societies: 'an eye for an eye'. This law of commensurate retribution was a distinct advance on the endless feuding of barbarian societies. The New Law of Jesus does not do away with the human laws which are essential to human society; it adds a new dimension to the enactment of their provisions – a dimension that will foster a society that is more life-giving. Jesus teaches that the provisions of strict justice are not enough to foster the healthy human community of God's designs for the human family. We see this verified when those in authority rely on more and more legislation to create a good society – without good will such laws only bring resentment.

When Jesus says, 'Offer the wicked man no resistance', he is not saying that we should never defend ourselves and seek justice when we are wronged. Matthew is applying these words to persecutions suffered by the Jewish converts of his community; but they have far wider implications. If hatred is contagious, so too is good will. Jesus forgave his enemies; Stephen, the first martyr, followed his example; the attitudes of the early Christian martyrs embarrassed and challenged the imperial authorities. The selfless response of the followers of Jesus has released a new force in the world's history. It was the teaching of Jesus that inspired Ghandi's program of non-violent resistance, and the heroic leadership of Martin Luther King.

However it must be understood that Jesus does not outlaw organised resistance to injustice; he is pointing to what will often prove a better way. It has been suggested that the examples provided by Jesus, bringing us back to our common experience, were recommendations concerning the attitude God's people should have under the Roman occupation – they should give up their hopes of an earthly triumph; and if they put aside their resentment and antagonism and witnessed to the ways to God by showing good will and cooperation to the occupying power, they would fulfil their call to be 'a light to the nations'. Certainly, as the last section of today's gospel shows, the charter of Jesus is a call to learn and identify with the generous and merciful ways of God, the Father in Heaven who cares for 'bad men as well as good'.

John Thornhill sm