



The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

Office Hours: 8.30am – 3.30pm Monday to Friday

Parish Office: Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St Ph: 07 4151 6666 Email: sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au PO Box 79 Bundaberg Q 4670



5th

SUNDAY OF EASTER

"In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?" - Jn 14:2

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 Carmen Wyatt
Stewardship Co-ordinator

Mrs Diana Pippia
Office Manager

Mrs Kaye Andersen
Receptionist

Bundaberg NET
Youth Ministry

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

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 Barga

AFTER HOURS

**Anointing of the Sick
for Medical Emergencies**

Phone 4151 6666
& follow the prompts.

FOCUS by Fr Andrew Hogan

This weekend we hear the very familiar Gospel of John 14: 1-6. Well it is at least familiar to priests and those of the community who regularly attend funerals. It is one of the most popular gospels chosen for funerals. It is so popular that a quick Google search will find you 3 900 000 results with the first one being, 'Another Funeral Homily'. Its popularity is borne out of the comfort and the hope that it brings to those who mourn for the future life of the one whom they mourn. This passage of scripture serves the same purpose for us today as it did 2000 years ago when Jesus spoke to his disciples. He wanted to offer them peace and hope for the future which would include his arrest, trial, and crucifixion. The popularity of this passage is both a blessing and a course for those of us who preach at such occasions. Preaching on the same gospel with such regularity makes it difficult for an original thought, however; the message of hope is clear and one that brings great comfort in a moment of sorrow and grief.

The comfort and hope that Christ offers is not only for the eternal life. It is a promise for here and now. It is the promise of God who loves us and journeys with us through life. Do not let your hearts be troubled.

LIVE THE LITURGY

"Let yourself be built into a spiritual house." These words are found in today's second reading. Are we willing to take up this challenge? Being built into a spiritual house means that I am willing to be shaped, constructed, stretched, changed, and designed. Growth involves many challenges and a lot of pain. It is not easy allowing my humanness to be transformed into the divine, and trusting God to do the work. Life's issues can easily cause us to try to control the uncontrollable and to become overly anxious when confronted with life and death issues. Yet Jesus tells his followers, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me." For those willing to be stretched and shaped into the spiritual dwelling they are meant to be, these words can be reassuring and lead to greater trust.

STEWARDSHIP

What do you think is the value of your stewardship? Do you believe that through your actions both great and small that God can touch people, heal them, and change their lives? Too often we can mistakenly assume that what we do, say, or offer can have little effect in the grand scheme of life. We are simply poor sinners in need of salvation so what could we do anyway?

Jesus speaks very powerfully to what can be done by those who believe in him and follow him. He says in John's Gospel, "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father." Greater ones than these? Think about all the miracles of Jesus recorded in sacred Scripture. You and I can do works greater than those?

Tracy Earl Welliver

JUSTICE & SUSTAINABILITY

As members of the church we are called to show 'the immense worth of each individual human life', to enrich and permeate society, to be attentive to the authentically human and humanizing aspects of social life.

We can each make a difference in our social sphere

- with our family, friends, work colleagues.

(The Social Doctrine of the Church #62)

LITURGIES

Monday 15 May

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 16 May

6.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 17 May

8.00am Shalom - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's - LWC

7.00pm Holy Rosary

- Memorial Service

Thursday 18 May

6.30am St Mary's - Mass

Friday 19 May

6.00pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 20 May

7.30am St Mary's - LWC

9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance

NEXT SUNDAY

21 May 2017

6th Sunday

Easter

Year A (I) Psalter Week 2

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

Acts 8: 5 - 8, 14 - 17

Second Reading

1 Peter 3: 15 - 18

Gospel

John 17: 1 - 11

NOTICES & EVENTS

Children's Sacramental Program: Confirmation & First Communion Preparation ~ 10.30am, Sunday 14 May 2017 or Wednesday 17 May 2017 at 7.00pm in the Parish Office.

Christian Meditation ~ Change of Venue: Every Tuesday from 10.00am - 10:30am & every Friday from 11.30am - 12noon in the Small Conference Room at the Parish Office.

Memorial Service: Family & friends of our recently dearly departed are invited to a **Memorial Service** on Wednesday 17 May 2017 at 7.00pm in Holy Rosary Catholic Church. Please RSVP to the Parish Office by **Tuesday, 16 May 2017.**

Maytime Morning Tea, Fashion Parade & Mini Cent Sale: held by the Friends of Carinity Kepnock Grove Auxiliary is on Tuesday, 23 May 2017 at 9.30am in the Kepnock Grove Community Centre. Admission: \$3. For Bookings contact Casimir ~ 4151 4888 or Carmel ~ 4152 5979.

Bundaberg Passionist Family MacKillop Group Lunch: Sunday, 21 May 2017. Contact Helen - 0490 361 406 for more information.

Baptismal Call to Service of the World Workshop: Wednesday 24 May 2017, 5.30pm - 7.30pm or Thursday 25 May 2017, 9.00am - 11.00am in the Parish Office. All members of the Parish Family, including Leaders in Schools, Parishes & Communities, Liturgy Groups, Teachers & Catechists will find much value in this Workshop. Please RSVP by either writing your Name on the **Workshop RSVP List** located at the front door of each Church or contact the Parish Office by Monday, 22 May 2017.

The Divine Dance of Trinity: "There's a Party Going On & You're All Invited" presented by Joe McCorley, Friday 23 June 2017 in the Parish Office. Beginning with a cuppa at 10am for a 10:30am start. Please RSVP to the Parish Office by Wednesday, 21 June 2017. For more information, please contact Denise Tuzes - 4151 6666.

2017 Mayoral School Chaplaincy Breakfast: Join fellow Parishioners at a Table to support the Bundaberg Regional Council's Annual *Mayoral School Chaplaincy Support Breakfast* with Guest Speaker Shane Webcke, Friday, 23 June 2017 from 6.30am - 8.30am, Bundaberg Civic Centre. Tickets \$35/person & available from the Parish Office. Contact Kaye Andersen at the Parish Office for more information.

15th Bundaberg Ecumenical Luncheon (Helping the Homeless): Saturday, 26 August 2017 at Shalom College from 11am - 3pm. Honoured Guest Speaker: Moira Kelly (*International Humanitarian & Global Peacemaker*). Tickets available at the Parish Office & Bundaberg Broadcasters or via www.bundabergtickets.com.au. Cost: \$55/person (or \$35 for Aged Pensioners & Students). For more information please contact the Parish Office - 4151 6666 or Cristel - 0408 228 187.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those Received into Full Communion: Tanya O'Shea, Gail Bock, Zane Groves, Jed Morley and her daughters Alani & Kiele.

Newly Baptised: Estelle Greensill; Castor Souvlis; Scarlett Barker; Frankie Connellan & Cruz Smith .

Recently Deceased: Don Ferguson; Martin McGrane; Sr Mercia Hawken; Sr Carmel O'Dwyer; Teresa Busuttin (Proserpine); Gloria Auer; Jack McGlynn; Mavis Simons. & Anthony "Tony" Galea.

SCRIPTURAL REFLECTION



During the Easter Season, the Church seeks a greater appreciation of all that the Saviour's Resurrection means for the human family. Christ's Resurrection is far more than his coming back to life. It is nothing less than the final achievement of God's work of creation. It is God's intention that, ultimately, the whole human family, together with creation itself, shall be caught up in this great event. To help us find a fuller understanding of this truth, the gospel reading of the Easter liturgies have been taken from the treasures of John's gospel. Today's reading takes us to the heart of this gospel's understanding of the Saviour and what he came to give the world.

SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

John 14:1-12

Jesus tells his disciples, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places." What do you think this reveals about heaven?

Acts 6:1-7

In today's reading, Luke details how the growing Jerusalem church needed to restructure its duties in the service of others. How does your faith community serve others?

1 Peter 2:4-9

According to Peter, how is the idea of Christ as the "cornerstone" a stumbling block to non-believers?

The second reading, from the letter of Peter, serves as a splendid complement to our gospel reading. Peter describes the achievement of the Saviour in biblical terms - his words echo, no doubt, the first Christian preaching, as it presented the Risen Lord as the fulfilment of Old Testament hopes. Peter refers to a verse of the processional psalm we met last week (Ps 118:22): 'The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men, but chosen by God', to become the 'keystone' of God's work. This stone is proving a 'stumbling block' to unbelievers; but it is precious to God; and those who are believers recognise in him the realisation of Israel's hopes. Peter sums up these hopes in a series of biblical allusions. The Lord's promise to Moses on Sinai - 'Out of all peoples, you shall be my personal possession. For me you shall be a kingdom of priests, a holy nation' (Exod 19) - has now been fulfilled. United in the Risen Lord, believers are 'a chosen race, a royal priesthood' offering 'the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God'.

It is good to nourish our faith and hope in this way, from the long biblical tradition of God's dealings with his people. The gospel of John, however, brings us a presentation of what the Saviour can mean for us in a different key. The great disciple of Jesus who inspired the deep meditations of this gospel appeals to themes that speak to the common experience of humanity. In today's gospel we meet several of such themes. As we ponder them, we should recall that the Saviour is portrayed in the fourth gospel, bathed, as it were, in a subtle light that is the expression of his risen glory.

What 'way' should our personal journey take us, if we are to avoid life's frustrations and disappointments? - Jesus assures us that 'in him' our journey will lead to authentic life - 'I am the Way'. In a world filled with the voices of false hope and self-indulgence, where are we to find 'truth', a truth that we can 'see for ourselves'? - 'I am the Truth. To have seen me is to have seen the Father'. Where shall we find the 'place' where a truly loving welcome brings an end to our seemingly endless wandering? - 'I shall take you to my Father's house'. And, in the end, what manner of 'life' may we look forward to? - Something that is beyond the imagining of the human heart, nothing less than sharing all things with God - 'I am in the Father and the Father is in me'.

In all your actions seek
in the first place the
Kingdom of God
& his glory

-ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA

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

John Thornhill sm

Copyright © The Emmaus Series 2017