

Our Vision:

Nourished by
Word and Sacraments,
we go out,
empowered by the Holy Spirit,
to welcome and share
God's Love respectfully,
with all people.



The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

Office Hours: 9.00-3.00pm Monday to Friday

📍 Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St

📮 PO BOX 79 Bundaberg Qld 4670

✉️ sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au

🌐 www.bundabergcatholic.net.au

☎️ 07 4151 6666

Welcome to the Parish

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

21st/22nd October 2023

PRIESTS' RETREAT

by: *Fr Sijo George*
Associate Pastor

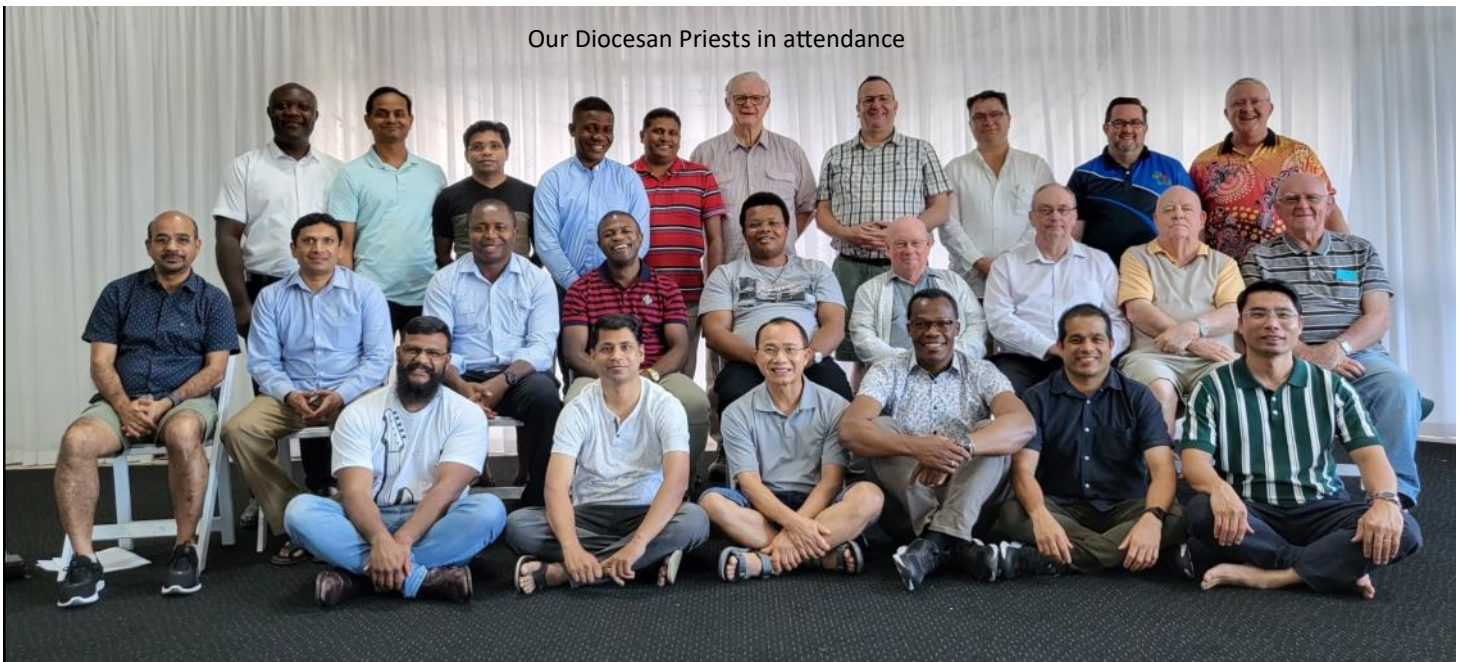
The priests of our diocese recently attended a retreat led by Father Gray, a Columban priest. The retreat took place from the 8th to the 13th of October and was an enlightening and spiritually invigorating experience. Throughout the five days, we explored various thought-provoking topics that deepened our understanding of the church's role in our increasingly globalised world.

On the first day of the retreat, Bishop Michael presided over the Mass, where we paid tribute to all the priests who had passed away from our diocese and the priests who were deceased among various dioceses and congregations working in our Diocese. This served as a solemn reminder of the sacrifices made by these individuals in service of God and His Church. The day's theme was the Global World and the Church, where we discussed the challenges the modern Church faces in a world that is becoming increasingly interconnected.

The second day focused on synodality, discernment, power, and coping with power. Father Gray guided us through these topics, emphasising the need for collaborative decision-making within the Church and the responsible use of power. We reflected on our individual roles within the Church and the importance of seeking God's guidance in our discernment processes.

Throughout the retreat, Father Gray encouraged us to interpret our lives and experiences in the light of the Bible, allowing us to approach the challenges of the modern world with faith and clarity. These days were a transformative journey that allowed the priests to reflect on their place within the global Church, highlighting the importance of embracing diversity, engaging in collaborative decision-making, and addressing the pressing global issues of our time. As we left the retreat, we were reminded of our calling as Christians to be the light in the darkness and to actively work towards creating a better world for all.

Our Diocesan Priests in attendance



The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg respectfully acknowledges the Taribelang Bunda, Gooreng Gooreng, Gurang, and Bailai Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the country in which we live. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Don White PP
Parish Priest

Rev Sijo George
Associate Pastor

Br Ted Magee
Executive Officer/Stewardship

Mrs Anne Sheehan
Liturgy & Sacramental Co-Ordinator

Mr Jeffrey Caluag
Finance & Marketing Officer

Mrs Marcia Sharp
Visitation Co-ordinator

Mrs Jan Aplin
Safeguarding Representative &
Bereavement Co-ordinator

Mrs Sandra Fox
Receptionist

Property- Interim
Jeffrey & Br Ted

PARISH STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Dr Presly Varghese
Chair

Mrs Kaye Beston
Deputy-Chair

Ms Nadene Pettett
Secretary

Members:

Mr David Batt

Mr John Begea

Ms Madonna Davitt

Mr Michael Walker

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St Joseph's Principal
Mrs Monica White
sjbg@rok.catholic.edu.au
Ph: 4151 4771

St Mary's Principal
Mr Bill Goodwin
smbg@rok.catholic.edu.au
Ph: 4152 2167

St Patrick's Principal
Mrs Kim O'Shea-Hard
spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au
Ph: 4152 1380

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

CHURCHES

Holy Rosary Church
Corner Barolin & Woongarra Streets

St Patrick's Church
14 Powers Street

St James' Church
38 See Street Bargara

Parish News and Announcements

PRAYER for the SYNOD

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.

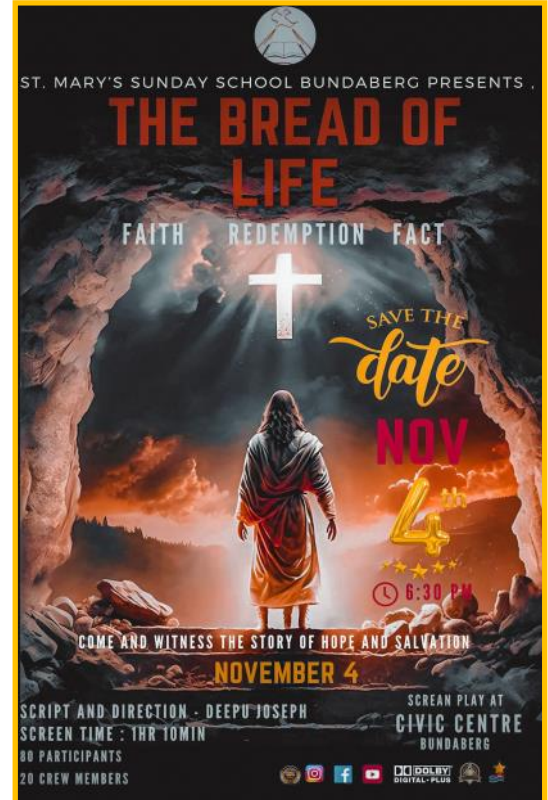
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong
path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.

All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever.

Amen



THE VIGIL OF ALL SAINTS DAY: Tuesday 31st October, Holy Rosary Church commencing **6.00pm** until **Wednesday 1st November 6.00am**. Please join in our prayers to the intercessions of the Saints of the Church for World Peace, especially for peace in the Holy Land, and to lift up the vulnerable who have been so greatly afflicted.

CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER GROUP: Tuesday, October 24th at the Holy Rosary Catholic Church **10.00am**. All are welcome.

ANointing MASS: Thursday, October 26th in Holy Rosary Church.

MEETINGS IN THE PARISH OFFICE: Friday 27th
Friends of the Catholic Cemetery- **10.15am**.
Bereavement Group- **11.15am**

GET WELL WISHES FOR FR PETER: At each Mass this weekend there are sheets prepared for you to sign or add a brief message of prayerful support. We will ensure they reach Fr Peter through the Bishop's Office. The first of these will be sent on Monday.

THE BREAD OF LIFE: Witness the story of Hope and Salvation. This is an invitation to all in the Community to join with our Indian Families as the St Mary's Sunday School presents this dramatisation of Faith, Redemption and Fact. **Bundaberg Civic Centre, Sunday November 4th** commencing at **6.30pm**. Cost (Payable at the door) will include a meal, **under 5 years free, under 15 years \$10.00** and **adults \$15.00**. **RSVP** your name by phoning the Parish Office **4151 6666** by **Friday, October 27th**.

NOVEMBER MASSES for the HOLY SOULS: November is dedicated to praying for those who have died. Our belief in eternal life and resurrection leads us to this special devotion. We are connected and always will be with those who have gone before us. We are One Body – the Mystical Body of Christ.

Mass request envelopes are at the door of each church and can be completed and returned to the office or through the normal collection at mass.

The requests will be distributed to missionary priests as a support for them and an assurance that our loved departed will be remembered.

WORKING BEE – CATHOLIC CEMETERY: There will be a working bee from **6.00am – 7.20am** and **7.40am – 9.00am** on **Saturday, October 28th**. Between 7.20am and 7.40am light refreshments will be served. Our aim is to ensure that the burial places of our relatives, friends and former parishioners are cleaned and tidied as we celebrate the month dedicated to their memory, November. (whipper-snippers, rakes, brooms, blowers, spades, garden hand-tools, and the like would be helpful.) Any time you could spare would be welcome.

SAVE THE DATE: The CWL Christmas dinner will be held on **Tuesday, November 21st** at the **Brothers Club (Leprechaun Room) 6.30pm**. **More information in next weeks bulletin.**

DIRECT DEBIT GIVING: If you wish to make a donation to the Parish by direct debit, please scan the QR code and follow the prompts. **Thank You.**



Parish News and Announcements



Thank you for your generous partnership with life-changing mission programs, like supporting Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters and their work through the Maria Auxiliadora Clinic in Venilale, Timor-Leste.

Your gift is helping the Sr Carolina continue to provide life-saving treatment and access to resources on health and well-being. Your gift also supports mission programs around the world that reach out and give life to those in most need.

To learn more about the impact of your support, visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work, where you can also sign-up for our regular newsletter.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at catholicmission.org.au/timor. Your action will make a real, lasting impact.

SECOND COLLECTION – CATHOLIC MISSIONS (today): Please place the envelopes previously circulated in this collection or you may wish to make a cash contribution. THANK YOU.

ALPHA : We have begun, but it's not too late to come and find out what an Alpha session looks like. It may be just what you're looking for. Alpha will be held each Thursday, 5.30pm, in the Waterford Building, Shalom College from now until the end of November. For more information or to register, contact the parish office.

PAGEANT OF LIGHTS: Thursday, November 30th sees the return of the Pageant of Lights. It coincides with the turning on of the Christmas lights, entertainment and parade in Bourbong St between Targo and Maryborough Streets. In years past, our Parish has entered a Float in the parade. If you are willing to support and assist with an entry by the Parish, please **attend a preliminary meeting on Tuesday, October 24th at 5.00pm** or contact the office to indicate your interest.

MINISTRY TRAINING AND FORMATION: All Readers and Children's Liturgy of the Word leaders and assistants are asked to attend this year's training session at the Parish Office.

Ministers of the Word: Wednesday October 25th, 10.30am and 5.30pm

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Thursday October 26th, 4.30pm.

“UNDERSTANDING SYNODALITY AND SYNODALITY IN THE LOCAL CHURCH.”

The input from Fr Neil Muir has been recorded. If you wish to view this, please contact the office, and we can arrange a time for you to view it here, or we can lend you a USB **overnight** for personal viewing at home. The input provides an easy introduction to “synodality”.

YOUNG ADULTS' CONVERSATIONS GROUP : will meet this Sunday evening, after 5.30pm Mass in Novakoski Centre.

SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY: During masses on the weekend of 18th-19th November we will include our intentions for the upholding of the sanctity of life here in Australia and the world. To highlight this weekend, Fr Don will present a talk, “The Underlying Reason for the Core Catholic Teaching of the Dignity of Life” in the Parish office. **Monday 13th November 10.30am –11.15am** and **Saturday 18th November 11.00am-11.45am. Please come 30 minutes early for a cuppa.**

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED IN PRAYER

RECENTLY DECEASED: Sr Josie Logan (Carseldine), Alannah Churchward, Christine Launchbury, James Kiernan, Susan Larsen (Brisbane), Marcia Ilott (Rockhampton), George Zanaga, John Conheady, Sennie Masian (Sydney), Norma May, Lew Peterson NZ, Maria Lucia Cavanagh, Wendy Hayes, Michael McBride.

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Sheelagh Magee 23.10.1995, Antonio De Zotti 20.10.2020, Margaret Sheelah Cagney 20.10.1995, Sam Camilleri 27.10, Wenzu Formosa 31.10, Carmen Grima 4.11.1971, Sheelah Cagney 20.10.1995, Lawrence Doyle 27.09.2018, Mary Doyle 13.10.2020, Frank Ewan 23.10.1971, Theresa Galea 28.09.1998, Clem Healey 19.09, Gena M Bennett 16.10.1980, Alisandrina Maglicco 22.10.2002, Frank Cafolla 29.10.2004, Bridget Baxter 20.10.1988, 22.09.1993, Marion Wilson 20.09, Christopher Moss 13.09.2014, Sebastiano Litori 09.06, Susan Bromwich 11.04.2013, Paul Formosa 5.03.2021.

MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST: Terrence James and Margaret Mary Cagney, Deceased members of the Cagney, Cross, Collins and Martin Families, Joe De Florian, Stan Bryant, Joyce Galea, Ron Cook, Amber Cooper, Margaret Morris, Leisa Dick, Mario Coco, Mary Galea, Holy Souls, Paul and Laurence Galea, Mick and Mary Galea deceased relatives of the Galea & Zahra Families. Kevin and Doris Whalley.

LITURGIES

Monday 23 October 2023

St John of Capistrano

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 24 October 2023

St Anthony Claret

8.30am St James' - Penance

9.00am St James - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 25 October 2023

8.00am Shalom- Mass

11.45am Holy Rosary - Penance

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Thursday 26 October 2023

7.00am St Patrick's - Mass

10.00.00am Holy Rosary

Anointing Mass

Friday 27 October 2023

11.00 am Holy Rosary- Exposition

11.30 am Holy Rosary- Penance

12.15 pm Holy Rosary- Mass

6.30 pm Holy Rosary

Malayalam Mass

Saturday 28 October 2023

7.30am St Patrick's -Mass

9.00am Holy Rosary- Penance

6.00pm St Patrick's -Mass

NEXT SUNDAY

29 October 2023 Year A(1)

7.00am St James'

8.00am Holy Rosary

9.00am St Patrick's

5.30pm Holy Rosary

SCRIPTURES

First Readings

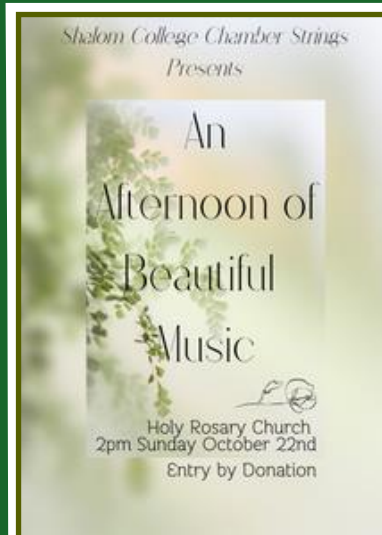
Exodus 22:20-26

Second Reading

Thessalonians: 1:5-10

Gospel

Matthew 22:34-40



PRAYER GROUPS

ADORATION & EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

St Patrick's Church

1st Sunday 2.00pm-5.00pm

3rd Sunday 3.00pm-5.00pm

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Twice weekly sessions

Tuesday: 10.00am-10.30am

Friday: 11.30am—12.00nn

Sessions are held in the Chapel in the Parish Office.

The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton

abides by the principles of the **National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (2022)**, and is committed to safeguarding, with a specific focus on protecting children and vulnerable adults. For further information or support please contact the **Diocesan Professional Standards and Safeguarding Office:**

Response Line: 1800 830 113
(free call)

Email: pssoadmin@rok.catholic.net

Diocesan website for more information:

<https://rok.catholic.net.au/our-diocese/safeguarding/>

To view the **Diocesan Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk commitment statement and policy:**
www.rock.catholic.net.au/safeguarding-policies.html

OTHER CONTACTS

Ms Judy Pidcock: 4887 3080
Diocesan Safeguarding

Catholic Care: 1300 523 985

St Vincent de Paul: 4339 3700

Ozcare: 1800 692 273

Mater Hospital: 4153 9539

Towards Healing: 1800 337 928

AFTER HOURS

**Anointing of the Sick
for Medical Emergencies**

Phone 4151 6666

& follow the prompts

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH OPEN HOURS

Some security has been put in place.

Holy Rosary Church will be open **weekdays from 9.00am - 3.00pm.**

On weekends and Public Holidays, it will be open a short time before and closed soon after any liturgies or rituals in the Church.



XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. October 2023

(Source *Instrumentum Laboris* for the First Session October 2023)

B3 Participation, governance and authority. (What processes, structures and institutions are needed in a missionary synodal Church?)

B3.1 How can we renew the service of authority and the exercise of responsibility in a missionary synodal Church?

Information from the Continental Assemblies.

- Authority, responsibility and governance roles – sometimes succinctly referred to by the English term leadership – take a variety of forms within the Church.
- In particular, they all share the call to be configured to the example of the Master, who said of himself “I am among you as one who serves” (Lk 22:27). “For the disciples of Jesus, yesterday, today and always, the only authority is the authority of service”. (Pope Francis. Address at the ceremony commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the institution of the Synod of Bishops. 17th October, 2015.)
- The documents of this first phase express some characteristics of the exercise of authority and responsibility in a missionary synodal Church: an attitude of service and not of power or control; transparency, encouragement and the flourishing of the person; a capacity for and competence of vision, discernment, inclusion, collaboration and delegation. Above all, the ability and willingness to listen.... more participatory selection procedures (for those in leadership).
- A transparent and accountable approach is fundamental to an authentically evangelical exercise of authority and responsibility.
- The Continental Assemblies point to experiences in which power and decision-making processes have been appropriated to some in positions of authority and responsibility. They link these experiences to the culture of clericalism and the different forms of abuse (sexual, financial, spiritual and of power), which erode the credibility of the church.

QUESTION FOR REFLECTION/DISCERNMENT

How can authority and responsibility be understood and exercised such that it serves the participation of the whole People of God? What renewal of vision, and forms of concrete exercise of authority, responsibility and governance, are needed in order to grow as a missionary synodal Church?

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

With little more than a year until the United States' national elections, I find myself feeling, like many Catholics, both dread and energized. Dread, because our democratic republic can be a messy endeavor and campaigns a long, nasty, and unedifying slog; energized, because hope for positive societal change can be enticing and engaging. As a pastor, I see similar conflicting attitudes in those whom I serve. How can Catholics best engage our political arena in a way which is truly helpful and worthwhile?

This week's gospel reading offers wisdom in this regard. Jesus says, "Render therefore to Caesar the things are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." This riddle forces us to answer for ourselves a hidden question: what is the relationship between political and divine authority? Two common but false answers lead to mischief. If we answer that the two are equivalent, politics becomes our absolute authority. This happens whenever religion is slave to the state, as in the travesty of the pro-Nazi German Christian movement in the 1930s and 40s. It also usually occurs when there is an official state religion. If we answer that the two are totally unrelated, we end up with an unchecked aggressive secularist state as we often experience now. Thus, religion becomes a weak and private pastime.

What's a better alternative? At our best, Christians hold that political authority does indeed have its own legitimate autonomy but is nested within God's all-encompassing authority. Think, for example, of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s respect for politics while also being able to criticize unjust human laws because he recognized a higher heavenly law. In other words, Caesar owns politics – and God owns Caesar. So, we should allow Jesus' words to lead us to have a deep respect and willingness to peacefully engage in politics without making that engagement our religion. We bring our faith to bear on our politics knowing confidently that Caesar isn't God – but he is indeed God's.

Father John Muir ©LPI

