

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

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

☎️ 07 4151 6666

Welcome to the Parish

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

4th/5th November 2023

## THANKS BE TO GOD

By Anne Sheehan

A new month. A new liturgical year is almost here! A new cycle of readings, a new slant on our Saviour, Jesus Christ, from the writings of St Mark, a new beginning. The paradox of newness is an ending of something old or that which has gone before. In our Christian tradition, death gives way to new life.

Personally, I'm not dying! but am giving way to a new face in the parish, Pauline Leahy. It is the end of an era and the start of something new. I will leave the parish office after thirty years and start the next phase of life.

Working for the Church is not an easy gig. My children would say I was never home (afternoon, night, and weekend work). My husband supported my decision when my wage was halved to begin pastoral work, and my siblings and friends often told me to "get a life!". For someone who loves their faith and parish, however, it is a way of life and an ideal career move. More incentives are needed for young people to pursue this vocation.

One of my favourite phrases learned early in my teaching career is "The Church has a mission. The mission has a Church" reiterated in the Synod report released this week: "Rather than say that the Church has a mission, we affirm that the Church is mission. "As the Father has sent me, I also send you" (Jn 20:21): the Church receives from Christ, the Lord of the Father, his mission,"<sup>1</sup> which is, to go, proclaim the good news, baptise in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God.

This has formed the basis of my work, my life, as the parish's Liturgy and Sacraments Coordinator. How can I, using the gifts and talents God has given me, go, proclaim and baptise others? How can I evangelise? Bring Christ to others? Pass on my faith? Affect my own children and other young parents in such a way that God's love is seen as real gift?

I have been blessed to be able to carry this out in an environment where my and others' gifts and talents have been brought out, recognised and valued. I have worked with five parish priests who saw the lay faithful as "increasingly present and active in service"<sup>2</sup> within the parish. Formation for ministry, resources to do the work of God, opportunities to serve the "poor", and encouragement to grow in leadership were ever-present.

The people whom I have met, ministered with, and worshipped with over the years are all memorable and, in this month of the Holy Souls, I remember with fondness the "pioneers" who made this parish great and who have gone before us. The Team members that I have worked with on a daily basis since 1994 have been unbelievable in their friendship, support, loyalty and dedication to this parish.

I have done my best as servant of the Church to nourish the faith of those I meet and pray that this parish will continue to bear much fruit through the work of human hands.

On Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 5.00-7.00pm, there will be an opportunity for me to thank you in person. I hope you can come. If not, I'm not leaving town, will still be found behind a keyboard somewhere and will still be with you on Sunday, thanks be to God!

1. Part 8(a): The Church is Mission, Summary Report of the First Session, Synod 2023.

2. Ibid, Part 8(e)



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 Preshy 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](mailto:sjbg@rok.catholic.edu.au)  
Ph: 4151 4771

**St Mary's Principal**  
**Mr Bill Goodwin**  
[smbg@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:smbg@rok.catholic.edu.au)  
Ph: 4152 2167

**St Patrick's Principal**  
**Mrs Kim O'Shea-Hard**  
[sphoffice@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sphoffice@rok.catholic.edu.au)  
Ph: 4152 1380

**Shalom College Principal**  
**Mr Dan McMahon**  
[shalomcollege.com](http://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



CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
OF ROCKHAMPTON

### Your help is needed

#### Why preserve our piece of history?

Upkeep and preservation of St Joseph's Cathedral is a costly expense. From 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023, the Diocese incurred costs of \$173,000. With insurance costs rising sharply and ongoing repairs and maintenance, annual costs are expected to exceed \$700,000 per annum.

Your contribution can help continue the tradition of the Catholic community to preserve the Cathedral for future generations, as a major historical landmark of one of the great cities of central Queensland. It has a special association with our identity for the Catholic Community of Central Queensland as our cathedral.



Envelopes are available at the churches for next week's 2nd collection.  
[www.rok.catholic.net.au/donate](http://www.rok.catholic.net.au/donate)



**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.

**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 continue sending these to Fr Peter through the Bishop's Office.

**FUNERAL NOTICE FOR FORTE GALEA:** A Requiem Mass will be held in Holy Rosary Church on Monday, November 6th at 1.00pm.



### GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the people affected by the conflict.



**DONATE NOW**  
[www.caritas.org.au/gaza](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza)  
1800 024 413

### CEMETERY WORKING BEE – THANK YOU

The three-hour working bee last Saturday saw a thorough tidying of the oldest part of our cemetery.

Our Grounds and Maintenance Team along with three other parishioners did a wonderful job. **Thank You.**

And thanks to our FOCC who provided a delightful cuppa at the midway mark.



**SAVE THE DATE:** The CWL Christmas dinner will be held on **Tuesday November 21st** at the **Brothers Club (Leprechaun Room)**. Doors will open at 6.00pm for a **6.30pm** start. If you are attending, please bring along a gift for Kris Kringle (something you would like to receive to the value of \$20.00). Tickets will be **\$30.00 for a Two course meal** and are available at the next CWL meeting or through the Parish office from **Wednesday November 1st ALL ARE WELCOME**

**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

## MEMORIAL SERVICE – HOLY ROSARY CHURCH : Wednesday November 15<sup>th</sup> commencing 7.00 pm

Over the past years in our Catholic Parish of Bundaberg, it has been a wonderful custom to hold a Memorial Service twice a year for family and friends who have lost a loved one in the six (6) months prior to the service.

**“We have loved them in life, let us not forget them in death” - St Ambrose**

On **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 7 pm** in Holy Rosary Church we will gather to pray with our families and friends. Invitations have been posted, but we also extend an invitation to other members of the Parish, who would like to remember their loved ones. You are all very welcome. A light supper will be served after the service in Novakoski Hall. Please register your attendance by contacting the Parish Office (in person) or call 4151 6666. **By Bereavement Coordinator Jan Aplin**

**CATHOLIC MISSIONS APPEAL – THANK YOU.** Your generous donations to support Catholic Missions totalled \$11,662.80 which includes one parishioner’s donation of \$5,000. Thank you once again for reaching out to our near neighbours in their need.

**CEMETERY PRAYERS:** During this month, there will be weekly prayers at the cemetery, each **Tuesday**. You are welcome to attend at **9.30am**.

**PAGEANT OF LIGHTS:** Regrettably, the Parish will **not** take part in the Pageant of Lights this year. Attendance at two meetings does not indicate a great interest from parishioners.

**FRANCISCAN PRAYER GROUP MEETING:** Celebrating the Commemoration of the death of St Francis of Assisi. **Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup>** St Patrick’s Hall commencing **10.00am**, followed by lunch. To register your attendance, contact the Parish Office. All are welcome.

**THE PARISH LADIES DINNER THANK YOU:** It was a great night with 55 ladies enjoying delicious food and friendship. A huge thank you to all those who donated prizes for the raffle. Monies raised enabled donations to The Missions and Blanket Buddies. Our wonderful guest speaker Anne Sheehan shared memories of her years in the Parish and her darling sister Terry, we thank her for her inspirational and humorous tales.

**PRAYER VIGIL FOR WORLD PEACE:** Thanks to those who gave their time from 6.00pm Tuesday to 6.00am Wednesday. Numbers were good and we are grateful to those who arranged the vigil. *“Where two or three are gathered in my name....”* Matt 18:20

**AIR CONDITIONING HOLY ROSARY:** Please note the air conditioning will be turned on during the warmer months. Keeping doors closed but ajar will become necessary.

**DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER:** The October edition is now available at all churches or on the Diocesan website.

**YOUNG ADULTS’ CONVERSATIONS GROUP :** will meet every Sunday evening, after 5.30pm Mass at the Novakoski Centre

**SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY:** During masses on the weekend of **18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> November 10.30am –11.15am** and **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 11.00am-11.45am**. Please come 30 minutes early for a cuppa.

## WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED IN PRAYER

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Forte Galea, Joyce Chalmers, Felice Feltr (Italy), Pamela Eichmann, Ron Sexton, Marlene Demestre (Brisbane), Sr Josie Logan (Carseldine), Alannah Churchward, Christine Launchbury, James Kiernan.

**MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES:** Cesarina Della Vedova 26.11.2009, Renzo Crappa 6.11.2012, Bill Della Vedova 12.11.2015, Margaret Cagney 4.11.2007, 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, Marion Wilson 20.09, Christopher Moss 13.09.2014, Sebastiano Lituri 09.06, Susan Bromwich 11.04.2013, Paul Formosa 5.03.2021.

**MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST:** Ramon D Andres, Rosa A Andres, 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 6 November 2023

9.00am St Patrick’s -Mass

### Tuesday 7 November 2023

8.30am St James’ -Penance

9.00am St James - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick’s - Mass

### Wednesday 8 November 2023

8.00am Shalom– Mass

10.00am Mater -Mass

### Catherine McAuley Day

11.45am Holy Rosary -Penance

12.15pm Holy Rosary – Mass

### Thursday 9 November 2023

#### The Dedication of the

#### Lateran Basilica

7.00am St Patrick’s - Mass

### Friday 10 November 2023

#### St Leo the Great

11.00 am Holy Rosary– Exposition

11.30 am Holy Rosary– Penance

12.15 pm Holy Rosary– Mass

### Saturday 11 November 2023

7.30am St Patrick’s –Mass

9.00am Holy Rosary– Penance

6.00pm St Patrick’s –Mass

## NEXT SUNDAY

### 12 November 2023 Year A(1)

7.00am St James’

8.00am Holy Rosary

9.00am St Patrick’s

5.30pm Holy Rosary

## SCRIPTURES

### First Readings

Wisdom 6:12-16

### Second Reading

Thessalonians: 4:13-18

### Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

**DONATE TO  
WOORABINDA  
MISSION!**

#### ITEMS TO DONATE:

- CUTLERY SETS
- SUMMER CLOTHES
- BOARD SHORTS
- T-SHIRTS
- TABLE CLOTHS
- SHEETS
- TOWELS
- DRESSUPS
- CHILDREN’S FOOTBALL BOOTS

DONATE BY  
WEDNESDAY 15TH  
NOVEMBER!

If you are able to donate any of the items above, or money to purchase them, please deliver them to the Parish Office or Shalom College.

SHALOM  
COLLEGE

## PRAYER GROUPS

### United Hearts Catholic Charismatic Group

Next gathering will be held on Tuesday 7th November commencing at 7.00pm in Novakoski Centre.  
**All are welcome!**

**ROSARY GROUP:** The Rosary Group meets every Tuesday at St Patrick's 5.00pm and Thursday at Holy Rosary Church 5.30pm.

## 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](mailto: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](http://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.



### Summary Report of the First Session

### XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops

4 - 29 October 2023

Synod 2023

(The report is forty-two pages in length and the section below is the final exhortatory section. The report is divided into three parts – “The Face of the Synodal Church”, “All disciples, all missionaries”, and “Weaving bonds, building communities”. Each part has a number of sections; part 1 (1 – 7), part 2 (8 – 13) and part 3 (14 – 20). Each section is written under three headings: **Convergences, Issues to be addressed and Proposals.** We as “all the baptised” have one year to read, contemplate, and respond before the final Synod Session in October 2024.)

#### THROUGH THE CONTINUATION OF THE JOURNEY

*“To what can we compare the kingdom of God, or by what parable can we describe it?” (Mt 4.30)*

The word of the Lord comes before every word of the Church. The words of the disciples, even those of a Synod, are only an echo of what he himself says.

To proclaim the Kingdom, Jesus chose to speak in parables. He found in the fundamental experiences of man's life – in the signs of nature, in the gestures of work, in the facts of everyday life – images to reveal the mystery of God. So, he told us that the Kingdom transcends us, but it is no stranger to us. We either see it in the things of the world or we will never see it.

In a seed falling into the earth Jesus saw his destiny represented. Apparently, nothing destined to rot, yet inhabited by a dynamism of unstoppable, unpredictable, Easter life. A dynamism destined to give life, to become bread for many. Destined to become Eucharist.

Today, in a culture of the struggle for supremacy and the obsession with visibility, the Church is called to repeat the words of Jesus, to revive them in all their strength.

“To what can we compare the kingdom of God, or with what parable can we describe it?” This question of the Lord illuminates the work that awaits us now. It is not a question of being dispersed on many fronts, chasing an efficient and procedural logic. Rather, it is a question of grasping, among the many words and proposals of this Report, what presents itself as a small seed, but full of future, and imagining how to deliver it to the land that will mature it for the lives of many.

“How will this happen?” asked Mary in Nazareth (Lk 1:34), after hearing the Word. The answer is only one: to remain in the shadow of the Spirit and let itself be enveloped by its power.

In turning our gaze to the time that separates us from the Second Session we thank the Lord for the journey so far and for the graces with which he blessed him. Let us entrust the next phase to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a sign of sure hope and consolation on the journey of the faithful people of God, and of the Holy Apostles Simon and Jude, whose feast is celebrated today.

*Adsumus Sancte Spiritus!*

Rome, October 28, 2023, Feast of SS. Simon and Jude, Apostles

Last Easter season a new convert to Catholicism at my parish asked me with a grave tone in her voice: “Why do we call priests ‘father’ if Jesus says, ‘Call no man on earth your father, for you have one Father, who is in heaven?’” Thinking myself clever, I asked, “Do you think it’s okay to call someone your ‘teacher’ or ‘mister’ or ‘dad?’” She said, “Yes, I do.” I responded, “Well, Jesus seems to forbid that, too. So, it’s obviously hyperbole that he’s using.” She thought for a moment and declared, “Then I will stop using those words, too!” And she walked away. Not the outcome I was seeking.

We shouldn’t be too hasty in dismissing this complaint voiced by many non-Catholics. The expression “father” for ordained priests is not honorary for the individual man. The priest’s fatherhood doesn’t begin or end in him at all. Rather, the title “father” indicates that he is a sacramental sign of God’s Fatherhood revealed in Jesus. I can tell you, as a very unworthy bearer of that title, we should give and receive that title with some trepidation (because of God’s awesomeness) and with a little sense of humor (because of the lowliness of the men with the title).

The longer I’m a priest, the more I’m comfortable with people not using the title “father” and just calling me “John.” After all, only God is Father in the truest sense. At the same time, Jesus has brought the Father close to us, very close. We honor this closeness in some men with the title “father.” Who are the priests in your life whom Christ has sent to you? How wonderful that Christ has surrounded us with humble signs of his Father’s love. It’s good to celebrate that love with gratitude for the priests in our lives.

Fr John Muir (c)LP1

GOSPEL MEDITATION  
Encourage Deeper Understanding  
of Scripture

