

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

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🌐 www.bundabergcatholic.net.au

☎️ 07 4151 6666

Welcome to the Parish

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

11th/12th November 2023

I/ME (INDIVIDUALITY) and WE/US (COMMUNION).

by: *Br Ted Magee*
Executive Officer

Probably the I/Me syndrome came into prominence in Australia in the 1970's. The Australian culture of "mateship" started its decline with this new syndrome. Historians might point more accurately to event/s which brought this about.

Be that as it may, the culture of I/Me gained momentum and infiltrated all communities including the Christian community. The main impact in our Catholic community was evident in the sudden diminution of men and women answering God's call to priesthood and Religious Life. Simultaneously, there was a record number of departures from both the Priesthood and Religious Life. Leaders and members of the Presbyterate and Religious Orders did not see it coming as they built bigger seminaries and houses of training. Most of these today have either been sold or have taken on a different use as Spirituality Centres, University Campuses, Conference Centres or the like.

Today, our population in its 60s and 70s and all decades below did not experience the depression, World War II, rationing and want. Parents of the older age groups had first-hand experience and vowed to make the life of their children better. They did and inadvertently brought to life "It is all about ME – my good, my success, my wealth and my life."

An exaggeration? Certainly. "Mateship" still exists but it is such that it receives publicity due to its limited occurrence.

The Australian virtue of mateship (We/Us) never required notoriety. It was done without pomp and ceremony. It was done because it was the right thing to do. It was done without seeking reward. It was done with good intention. And, perhaps, it was done with a Christian motive of Loving God, by Loving God present in one's neighbour.

Charity – real charity – has been a hallmark of Christianity. Putting others before oneself and ensuring others were treated with dignity as Children of God and therefore brothers and sisters underpinned Christian charity.

Although our society has become increasingly materialistic, and although the prevailing I/Me syndrome is highly evident, there exists pockets of Christians who retain and develop a We/Us culture of living.

One of these pockets is the parishioners of the Catholic Parish of Bundaberg. The outreach of our parishioners goes beyond taking all things for oneself and reaches out to those in need in so many ways. Its vibrancy can be felt in the number who respond in giving of their time, talents, and treasure to support their brothers and sisters. Theirs could well be the Prayer of St Ignatius of Loyola:

Lord, teach me to be generous.



**Teach me to serve you as you deserve to be served;
to give without counting the cost,
to fight without heeding the wounds,
to toil without seeking rest,
to labour without asking for reward,
except that of knowing that I do your Holy will.**

Amen

Let us celebrate that GIVING, SERVING, GENEROSITY, TOILING, UNSELFISHNESS (It is all about WE/US) by coming together to say thanks.

Fr. Don invites you to this celebration of gratefulness on November 22nd. We trust you can be there as we celebrate all parishioners who have been counter-cultural in giving in accordance with the words of Jesus "Truly I tell **you**, whatever **you did** for one of the **least** of **these** brothers and sisters of mine, **you did** for me. (Matthew 25: 40)

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 Begeda

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

CHURCH MICROPHONES: The microphones used at the ambo are very expensive. Recently we had to replace the Ambo Microphone at St Patrick's Church. The microphones at Holy Rosary and St Patrick's Churches' are multi directional and therefore do not need any adjustment to pick up one's voice. This is a gentle reminder to all, please do not touch the microphones as adjustment could damage them and therefore cost a considerable amount to replace. Thank you for your understanding. Fr Don.

THE 2023 ST JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL CONSERVATION APPEAL, NOVEMBER 11th & 12th: The Diocese needs your support to conserve St Joseph's Cathedral for future generations as one of Queensland's major historical landmarks. We ask you to assist us to ensure St Joseph's Cathedral continues to serve as a vibrant and visible symbol of the Catholic faith in central Queensland.

Please place envelopes and donations in the second collection.

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.

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

BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE: are available in all of our churches, for the names of deceased loved ones to be recorded and remembered. November is a special time to pray for the dead.



CHRISTMAS HAS ARRIVED IN OUR BOOKSTORE

Please call into the Parish Office bookstore to see the gift ideas that have



GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

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



DONATE NOW
www.caritas.org.au/gaza
1800 024 413

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

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

WELCOME – Seminarian Grant Sutherland: We join in welcoming Grant who will arrive next weekend and be with us until Christmas. Grant will take an active part in all aspects of our parish as part of his journey to priesthood. He will accompany our priests and ministers in their various ministries and will meet many of you. We are privileged to have Grant among us and assure him of our prayerful support in this phase of his journey.

CALLING ALL ALIVE MEN! YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR ANNUAL RETREAT: Saturday, November 25th at Shalom College. We offer our thanks to Fr John Daly who will again lead our retreat. It will begin at 7.00am with a cooked breakfast, morning tea will also be served and finish at 11.30am. Cost will be \$15.00pp. Please contact the Parish Office on 4151 6666 to provide numbers for catering purposes.

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.

LAUDATO SI TASK FORCE: Next meeting is Tuesday, November 14 at 3.30pm. You are invited to attend

CWL NOVEMBER MEETING: The final meeting for 2023 will be held on Tuesday, November 14th at the St Mary's Community Centre, Commencing with morning tea at 9.30am. Tickets to the Christmas dinner will be available. For more information contact the Parish Office.

MEMORIAL SERVICE – HOLY ROSARY CHURCH : Wednesday November 15th 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 15th 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**

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.**

Recently Baptised: Violette Dawn Waterbury.



WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED IN PRAYER

RECENTLY DECEASED: Baby Siobhan Jasmine Louise Kerr, daughter of Katarina Penningh-Kerr and Hayden Kerr (Bendigo), Eva Dorrian (Ireland), Fort Galea, Joyce Chalmers, Felice Feltr (Italy), Pamela Eichmann, Ron Sexton, Marlene de Mestre (Brisbane), Alannah Churchward, Christine Launchbury, James Kiernan.

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Susan Boisen 10.11.2022, Len Potter 23.11.2019, Dulcie Schafer, 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, 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: Peters and Harte Families, Eileen Egan, Mary Doud, Charles Doud, Elsie Kingsbury, Kathleen Burton, Ted Burton, Colleen Raines, Maglicco Family, Cafolla Family, Crawford Family, Bennett Family, Borza Family, Aprila Family, Forte Family, Baxter Family 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 13 November 2023

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 14 November 2023

8.30am St James' - Penance

9.00am St James - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 15 November 2023

St Albert the Great

8.00am Shalom- Mass

11.45am Holy Rosary -Penance

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

7.00pm Holy Rosary

Memorial Service

Thursday 16 November 2023

St Margaret of Scotland

St Gertrude

7.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Friday 17 November 2023

St Elizabeth of Hungary

11.00 am Holy Rosary- Exposition

11.30 am Holy Rosary- Penance

12.15 pm Holy Rosary- Mass

Saturday 18 November 2023

7.30am St Patrick's -Mass

9.00am Holy Rosary- Penance

6.00pm St Patrick's -Mass

NEXT SUNDAY

19 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

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

Second Reading

Thessalonians: 5:1- 6

Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

NOW ON SALE AT THE PARISH OFFICE

God's Word 2024

\$22.00

Columban Calendars

\$12.00

**Please get in early as
there are limited
stocks available.**

PRAYER GROUPS

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

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.rockhampton.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

(Below is an outline of the three sections of the report. The breadth of topics is evident. There is a call for all, in true synodality, to reflect, to listen, to share and to become involved in ongoing conversations and discernment.)

Part 1. The Face of the Synodal Church.

- 1.1 Synodality: Experience and Understanding.
- 1.2 Gathered and sent by the Trinity.
- 1.3 Joining a community of faith: Christian initiation.
- 1.4 The poor, protagonists of the Church's journey.
- 1.5 A Church from "every tribe, language, people and nation".
- 1.6 Traditions of the Eastern Churches and Latin Church.
- 1.7 On the road to Christian Unity.

Part 2. All Disciples, All Missionaries.

- 2.8 The Church is Mission.
- 2.9 Women in the life and mission of the Church.
- 2.10 Consecrated life and lay aggregations: a charismatic sign.
- 2.11 Deacons and Priests in a Synodal Church.
- 2.12 The Bishop in Ecclesial Communion.
- 2.13 The Bishop of Rome in the College of Bishops.

Part 3. Weaving bonds, building communities.

- 3.14 A synodal approach to training.
- 3.15 Ecclesial Discernment and Open Questions.
- 3.16 For a Church that listens and accompanies.
- 3.17 Missionaries in the digital environment.
- 3.18 Participation Organisations.
- 3.19 The Grouping of Churches in the Communion of the Church.
- 3.20 Synod of Bishops and the Church.

(The above twenty sections give a good indication of the business of the Synod. The English translation of the original document (used here) is not official but it serves to inform us of the "walking together" we will be asked to do leading up to the next Synod gathering in 2024.)

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Lately I've been enjoying the deep meaning of Eastern icons. I love how they express a tapestry of meaning in a way that can surpass the written or spoken word. Today's parable of the ten virgins from Jesus is a good example. Try googling "wise and foolish virgins icon" and you'll see an image of how our Christ meets our heart's deepest needs if we attend to him with the proper attitude.

I'm serious. Take a moment to google and look at it. See how it depicts the risen Jesus behind a closed door with the five wise virgins with lighted lamps. He gazes with them toward the five foolish and lamp-less virgins, symbolizing the outward looking of divine love for the lost. Moreover, the wedding feast is no ordinary one. It takes place in a walled city and garden, indicating it's a new Jerusalem and a return to Eden. The table isn't typical, either. It's a Eucharistic feast. Now we see that the door in Jesus' parable is the way into the church, where Christ is the new light burning amidst the dark midnight of this world.

The richness continues. We notice, too, that the foolish virgins look exactly the same as the wise ones in their clothes, hair, and expressions. The only difference is they departed to buy oil and now they are sadly excluded. We often act like consumers in the marketplace to fulfill our need for love and mercy. We'll always end up disappointed if we shop around. Jesus sums up the moral of the story this way: "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." Watch, remain, don't spiritually shop. It is always better to quietly remain close to the Eucharistic community of the Church, even if we feel like our oil has run out. This week let's consider placing the icon of the wise and foolish virgins on our phone lock screen or computer desktop to help us remember to stay close to him, especially when life