

Your Lenten Journey

By: Fr Gijo George Associate Pastor

As we enter the season of Lent, His Holiness Pope Francis reminds us that God's message is always one of freedom. In the past, God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and gave them a set of rules to follow, known as the Ten Commandments, which helped them achieve freedom. However, the journey to freedom is not straightforward, and it requires time and patience. During this time, we may feel hopeless and lost, not knowing where our journey will lead us.

Lent is an opportunity to rediscover our love for God and to reflect on our actions. We must be mindful of those in need, break free from indifference, and work towards a better future. Lent is a time of renewal, reflection, and action. To benefit from this period, we should take some time to pause, pray, give to charity, and fast. We should treat our neighbours as we do ourselves, make decisions that benefit others, and improve society. If we use Lent as a time of conversion, we can find hope and creativity in our lives. By doing so, we can inspire others to live their lives in a way that is joyful and free. Faith and charity take hope by the hand and teach us to walk.

It's important to remember that Lent is a season of joy, not suffering. We should not make a show of our fasting or look like we are suffering. Instead, we should show others that we are happy and free.

Wishing you all a blessed Lenten journey!



Project Compassion Sunday 10th & 11th February



Please take home a set of Project Compassion envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations.** With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to help vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations**.

Donations can be made through Project compassion envelopes (available at all churches), by visiting caritas.org.au/projectcompassion, by calling 1800 024 413 or using this QR code.



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** E.O/ Visitation, Property & Stewardship

**Ms Pauline Leahy** Lit, Mus, Sac & RCIA Co-ordinator

**Mr Jeffrey Caluag** Finance ,Marketing & Property Officer

> Mrs Jan Aplin Safeguarding Representative & Bereavement Co-ordinator

Mrs Sandra Fox Receptionist

#### PARISH STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Dr Preshy 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** <u>spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au</u> Ph: 4152 1380

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

## **CHURCHES**

Holy Rosary Church Cnr Barolin & Woongarra Streets

**St Patrick's Church** 14 Powers Street

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



Most Reverend Michael McCarthy DD Bishop of Rockhampton invites the people of the Diocese of Rockhampton to the Presbyteral Ordination of

## **Rev** Peter Duncan Doherty

10.00am, Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 St Joseph's Cathedral

Rev Peter's Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated the following day, Friday 23rd February at 9.00am, St Joseph's Cathedral

Both celebrations can be watched on the St Joseph's Cathedral, Rockhampton YouTube channel - <u>https://www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton</u>

**ORDINATION BUS:** Shalom College has offered seats on their bus for parishioners who wish to go to the Ordination. Please contact the Parish Office by **February 16<sup>th</sup>** to confirm your seat on the bus. The Bus will depart from Shalom College **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** at **5.00am**. (Please note this will be a day trip only).

**ORDINATION LIVE STREAM:** The Ordination will be live streamed and can be viewed at the Parish Office.

**CELEBRATION OF MASS IN BUNDABERG AFTER THE ORDINATION:** The newly ordained, Fr. Peter Doherty, will celebrate Mass in Bundaberg on the weekend of **March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.** Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> St Patrick's at 6.00pm

Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> St Patrick's at 9.00am followed by morning tea.

Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> Holy Rosary at 5.30pm

All are invited and welcome to join in any of the above.

# **GOSPEL MEDITATION**

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Recently I had a skin rash, and it was awful. (Please don't tell anyone.) I am embarrassed to admit that I didn't handle it well. Complaining, whining, begging for sympathy, and crying were my responses to the merciless itching and burning. In the aftermath, a silver lining emerged. I feel a new heartfelt sympathy for all those vexed with chronic skin problems. If you've ever had a seemingly unending skin problem, you know how that sympathy flows up from deep inside.

This gut-level compassion is something like what the Gospel describes in Jesus when the sore-covered leper says, **"If you will it, you can make me clean."** At this, just before the healing, Jesus was **"moved with compassion."** The Greek word used here is strong and earthy, closer to "his bowels and guts trembled with the deepest emotions of sadness, pity, and love." In Jesus, God heals our infirmities not from a divine distance but by learning what it *feels like* to be us. He acquires first-hand experience of what it costs us to be afflicted and still be faithful to God. He sympathizes with the burning, itching, and blistering of human existence in the deepest, first-hand way. To discover that is to touch Jesus' heart.

What in your life, right now, is breaking out like diseased skin? What is getting worse the more you try to soothe it? Perhaps only you feel it. Or maybe it's exposed to all. A bad habit, broken relationship, loneliness, fear of failure, self-hatred? Name it, and then find a way to bring it confidently to Jesus who will *feel what we are feeling*, and thereby heal us. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi

**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

**LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUP :** Will be held at the Rossolini Centre (upstairs parish office). The season of Lent is a good opportunity for faith discussion and this year the parish is recommending the resource prepared by the Archdiocese of Brisbane called A *Resurrected Life*. (The book is available from the Parish Office for \$5.00). There will also be three Lenten discussion groups held in the Parish Office commencing **Monday 19<sup>th</sup>** at **10.30am** led by Judy Vollmerhause and Irene Hills and **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>** from **3.30pm-4.30pm** led by Joe McCorley, and a discussion group commencing on **Wednesday February 21<sup>st</sup>** at **10am.** Fr. Don will attend and support the discussion where available for some of the Wednesdays. Please contact the parish office if you would like to join a Lenten Discussion group. The Lenten Booklets will also be available for purchase for those wishing to have private group or individual reflections at home.

**FINAL CHANCE TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR THIS YEAR'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:** It's not too late. We are offering another *Parent Information Night* . (**Monday 12**<sup>th</sup> **February at 5.30pm.** In the Parish Office) for those unable to attend the one held on 31<sup>st</sup> January. This will allow the children to receive their Sacraments this year. If you have a child who is 8 years or older, and haven't yet enrolled, register them this weekend so they can still join this year's group. All Parents will then start The 1st Parent Sessions commencing on **Wednesday 14th February**.

YOUNG ADULTS' CONVERSATIONS GROUP meets every Sunday evening, after 5.30pm Mass.

**STATE SCHOOL RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION :** Are you are interested in spreading the Good News with the children in our state primary schools? This is a truly Inspiring ministry where your faith grows along with the children's. All necessary resources and training are provided. You will need a current blue card.

ANNUAL TRAINING DAY DETAILS for new and existing instructors: Date: Thursday February 15<sup>th.</sup>

Time: Registration 9-9.30am until 2.30pm.

Venue: Apostolic Church, Ashfield Road.

Morning Tea and Lunch are provided.

For all enquiries, please contact the Parish Office 4151 6666.

**SISTERS OF MARY MORNING STAR VISIT AND LENTEN ADORATION : Holy Rosary, February18**<sup>th</sup> at **10.30am.** You are invited to join the contemplative Sisters of Mary Morning Star (visiting from Brisbane) for a special time of animated Adoration. The Sisters will sing and read meditations from scripture and the saints to lead us into deeper prayer with the Blessed Sacrament.

Also, **after the 8am** Mass at Holy Rosary, there will be an opportunity to purchase crafts from the Sisters, who live by Divine Providence. Craftwork is an occasion to witness to God through art, beauty and creativity in today's world. Among other things, they make candles, rosaries, and icons. Selling craftwork allows the sisters to earn their living. Please come prepared if you would like to purchase any items. **Sales will be cash only**, as there will **not** be eftpos facility available.

Recently Baptised: Oliver Lee Saggers	R
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#### WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED IN PRAYER

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** David Potter, Alison Dixon (Adelaide), Lino De Lucchi (Carseldine), Br Peter Clinch (Rome), Roy Smith, James "Denis" ST. Ledger, Maurice Scott (Melbourne), Mary Dalton, Robert Woods (Brisbane), Rev Fr Edward (Don) Murray (Toowoomba), Joe Mullins (Gladstone), David Rosset (Tasmania).

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Robert Potter 25.02.1983, Mary Horwood 09/02/2023, Sylvia Jendra 10.02.2000, Anne Andrewartha 17.02.2020, Tony Mooney 26.01.2023, Rev Fr Pedro A Sombilon (Philippines) 22.01.2023, M'Angelo Theuma 16.01.2020, Jem Ireland 2/09, Bill Ireland 17/10, Darryl Lamberton 17/01, Joe Attard 25.01.2023, Lionel Magee 31.01.1979, Len Potter 23.11.2019, Susan Bromwich 11.04.2013, Paul Formosa 5.03.2021.

**MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST:** Jim, Margareta & Claire Fitzgerald, Ron Cook, Mary Dalton, George and Zillah Geiger and Georgey, Joseph Formosa, Josephine Formosa, Zeppa Formosa and families, Liza Camilleri, William Moss, Dorothy Swiatczyk, Mary Galea, Charles Galea and Forts Galea, Edward Krah, Leonie Makiol, Susan Boisen, Phil Marano, Joe Attard, Frank Attard, M'Angelo Theuma, Mary Jane Theuma, Joyce Galea, Mick and Mary Galea deceased relatives of the Galea & Zahra Families. Kevin and Doris Whalley.

# LITURGIES

Monday 12 February 2024 9.00am St Patrick's -Mass

**Tuesday 13 February 2024** 8.30am St James' - Penance 9.00am St James' - Mass 5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 14 February 2024 Ash Wednesday

7.00am St James'– Mass 8.00am Shalom– Mass 11.45am Holy Rosary – Penance 12.15pm Holy Rosary – Mass 5.45pm St Patrick's - Mass

#### Thursday 15 February 2024

7.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Friday 16 February 2024 11.00 am Holy Rosary– Exposition 11.30am Holy Rosary– Penance 12.15pm Holy Rosary– Mass

Saturday 17 February 2024

7.30am St Patrick's –Mass 9.00am Holy Rosary– Penance 6.00pm St Patrick's –Mass

#### Sunday 18 February 2024

7.00am St James' - Mass 8.00am Holy Rosary - Mass 9.00am St Patrick's- Mass 5.30pm Holy Rosary- Mass

> SCRIPTURES First Reading Genesis 9:8-15

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:18 –22 Gospel Mark 1:12-15

## ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES

7.00am St James' 8.00am Shalom College 12.15pm Holy Rosary 5.45pm St Patrick's

LENTEN BOOKLETS HAVE ARRIVED Available through the Parish Office \$5.00 Please contact the Parish Office if you would like your copy to be delivered to your home church for collection and cash payment.

#### **PRAYER GROUPS**

## United Hearts Catholic Charismatic Group

Next gathering will be held on Tuesday 20th February 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.

Diocesan website for more information:

https://rok.catholic.net.au/ourdiocese/safeguarding/

To view the Diocesan Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk commitment statement and policy: www.rok.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.

#### RE-VISITING THE SUMMIT February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 9.00am – 2.30pm YOU

Are invited To join the Parish Community As we Revisit the Summit



On Saturday, February 24 From 9.00am – 2.30pm At Shalom College

For organisational and catering please reply asap (no later than Feb 19) by phone 4151 6666 email: <u>bundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au</u>

To help with your reflection on the two documents – Big Rocks, the Charter, and the Executive Officer's Role – the following questions might be a guide.

- 1. What difference has the stewardship plan (Big Rocks) made?
- 2. What does our parish need to focus on to further bring the parish Vision Statement to life?
- 3. What impact has the role of Executive Officer brought to the Parish?
- 4. Has the Stewardship Council fulfilled its role as was envisaged from the previous Summits?

It may be that you are unable to attend the Summit. If you wish to submit a written response to the above questions, you can email them to <u>bundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au</u> or to our facilitator

stephen\_dale@rok.catholic.edu.au who will include them in the process.



#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE HELD EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

St James' Holy Rosary St Patrick's 5.30pm 6.00pm (Malayalam) TBC 5.30pm

