

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

Sunday of Lent

17th/18th February 2024

Our Lenten Journey with Jesus Begins....

It only seems a short time ago we were celebrating Advent and Christmas, and now the First Sunday of Lent is upon us. On Ash Wednesday, we begin our Lenten Pilgrimage with Jesus as we prepare to celebrate Easter. However, we have some way to go with Jesus and each other before we can experience the joy and new life of Easter.

Our Gospel this Sunday sees Jesus being led into the desert. The gospel puts it rather more seriously than Jesus *being* led into the desert! It opens with the words; ***The Spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness (desert) and remained with him for forty days.*** Why was Jesus led or driven into the desert?

The desert in Jewish history is very important. When God freed and saved the People of Israel from slavery in Egypt, they spent forty years in the desert. They wandered and sometimes got lost as they tried to find their way to the Promised Land. This was not an easy journey for them. At times they lost faith in each other and in God. They forgot the promise that God made with them; ***I will be your God and you will be my people.*** As they made their way through the desert, many would have stopped travelling and settled near the closest oasis or watering hole. Some others would have joined other tribes and religions that they met along the way. Famously, when they were at their lowest, they made a statue of a golden calf and began to worship it. They had forgotten where they had come from, what God had done for them and lost sight of where God was leading them.

It is no surprise that we begin Lent with Jesus in the desert. Like his ancestors, he too is tried, tested, and tempted. However, Jesus refused to give up or give in so quickly or so easily. Although our Gospel for this Sunday is written by St. Mark, the gospel of St. Matthew gives us more information about what might have happened to Jesus. He is tempted with the false gifts of power, prestige, and wealth. His power and identity come from God. Jesus knows who he is, where he comes from and where he is going on his own journey. He leaves the desert with these powerful words which he offers us today; ***The time has come; the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.*** What is this Good News that Jesus asks us to hear and believe? It is the good news that each of us is created, loved, and forgiven by God.

As we begin our own Lenten journey today, we need to recall and remember that we are not setting out on this journey on our own. God is with us walking by our side very step of way. When we are tempted, we need to follow the example of Jesus. He did not rely on his own strength. He turned to God and asked for help which he received. We will not be able to walk the Lenten journey on our own. We need to realise that like Jesus, we too need God's help, support, guidance, and protection. Whenever we feel tired or ready to give up or give in, we need to turn to God for encouragement. We know that God will be with us during Lent as God was with Jesus when he was in the desert. God will never leave us alone. (Reference: Oblates of Mary Immaculate)

Bill Goodwin, Principal,

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Bundaberg.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE HELD EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

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

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 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
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 22nd 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 - <https://www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton>

ORDINATION BUS: Shalom College Bus taking Parishioners and students to the Ordination. For those parishioners who have given their names to the Parish Office. The Bus will depart from Shalom College Thursday 22nd February at 5.00am. (Please note this will be a day trip only).

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I feel down, I sometimes watch the famous "Double Rainbow" video on YouTube to feel better. It's hilarious. A young man camping in Yosemite Park sees two rainbows stretching across the sky. He bursts into a kind of ecstasy. "Double rainbow, all the way! Oh my God!" he announces. Then he starts to weep. He cries out, "What does it mean?" Beneath the humor of his glorious overreaction is the deep intuition we all have, I think, when we see the colorful bow in the sky. This Sunday, God sends a rainbow to Noah, and to us. What does it mean?

Long before YouTube had the double rainbow, Dante's medieval poem *The Divine Comedy* featured one in his image of paradise. Seeing two rainbows, he muses that one is born of the other. The bow is God's promise of peace. For Dante, it's even more: nature's encrypted image of the Trinitarian God. One visible rainbow (God the Son) is begotten of another usually invisible one (God the Father) united by invisible light between them (God the Spirit). Like invisible light, Trinitarian glory surrounds us in every moment — but Jesus has made it visible in his glorious body.

Lenten challenge: This might seem silly, but this Lent I invite you to find a rainbow and meditate on it. You might have to make one yourself, like this current desert-dweller will. Gaze on it. See there a natural gift from the Creator, saying to you, "Here I am! I will love and protect you, surrounding you in My glory." This Lent let's embrace that with confidence, rain, or shine.

— Father John Muir ©LPi



Project Compassion Sunday
17th & 18th February



This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. While from three different corners of the world and facing vastly different challenges, they are all united by one dream: to create a better world for all future generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish,



by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, by calling 1800 024 413 or using this QR code.



Ronita



Leaia



Memory

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 GROUPS : 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). Due to the limited numbers registered at the Parish Office, there will now only be two Lenten discussion groups held in the Parish Office. The Monday group has been cancelled.

Tuesday 20th from **3.30pm-4.30pm** led by Joe McCorley,

Wednesday February 21st at **10am** led by Pauline Leahy and Fr. Don (when available).

Please contact the parish office if you would like to join a Lenten Discussion group or purchase a Lenten Booklet for those wishing to have private group or individual reflections at home.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: Our first Parent Sessions commenced last Wednesday 14th February with the second Parent Session coming up on 21st February at 5.30pm in the Parish Office.

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

WELCOME Sisters of Mary Morning Star: A warm welcome to our visiting Sisters from Brisbane.

We thank you for sharing your ministry with us.

We pray for you and your community as you pray for all creation.

After the 8.00am Mass at Holy Rosary, there will be an opportunity to purchase crafts from the Sisters, who live by Divine Providence. **Sales will be cash only no EFTPOS**

ST JAMES' : Thanks to the ten people who came to the working bee last Saturday. Besides hanging curtains in the Church, the band of workers cleared the garden and readied it for the contractor. They completed the work on Tuesday. It was a great effort, and we are grateful to all ten of you. Thanks also to Frank Gambly who assisted with catering in his usual generous style. There remains an overhaul of the remaining garden bed which will be accomplished shortly.

VISITATION MINISTRY TEAM MEETING: The first meeting of this year will take place on **Wednesday, February 21st** at **10.30am**. We hope all can attend as we put in place the new structure for our ministry. Newcomers who wish to be part of the Visitation ministry or are thinking of joining us are most welcome.

INVITATION TO ALL: St Mary's Sunday School Catechists have extended an invitation to all to join them for a formation experience conducted by Fr Don on **Thursday, February 29th** at **6.30pm** in the Parish Office. Fr Don will lead the group in formation around the topic: **Core Catholic Values – Sanctity of Life**. You will be most welcome.

FRIENDS OF THE CATHOLIC CEMETERY: A meeting will be held in the Parish Office on **Friday, February 23rd** at **10.15am** anyone is welcome to attend.

BEREAVEMENT TEAM MEETING: Will be held in the Parish Office on **Friday, February 23rd** at **11.15am**.

CWL-YOUNGER SET: Will gather for dinner on **Tuesday, February 20th** at the Melbourne Hotel, **6.30pm**. For further information or if you would like to join us please contact the Parish Office by Monday, February 19th.

PLEASE PRAY: For all the people who are celebrating their *Rite of Election* this weekend. May we all pray for them on this special day, and as they journey towards their initiation at Easter this year.

FUNERAL:DAVID POTTER, Funeral Prayers, Branyan Gardens 11.00am

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED IN PRAYER

RECENTLY DECEASED: Robert Vitchie (Mackay), David Potter, Alison Dixon (Adelaide), Lino De Lucchi (Carseldine), Br Peter Clinch (Rome), Roy Smith, James "Denis" ST. Ledger, Maurice Scott (Melbourne), Mary Dalton, David Rosset (Tasmania).

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Virginio Zorzan 21.02.2013, Shane Hockings 23.11.2018, 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, 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: Norma May, Lisa Zorzan, Sylvia Maynard, Fr Pat Mooney, William Moss, Dorothy Swiatczyk, 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 19 February 2024
9.00am St Patrick's -Mass

Tuesday 20 February 2024
8.30am St James' - Penance
9.00am St James' - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 21 February 2024
St Peter Damian
8.00am Shalom- LWC
9.00am Holy Rosary - Mass

Thursday 22 February 2024
The Chair of St Peter
7.00am St Patrick's - LWC

Friday 23 February 2024
St Polycarp
11.00 am Holy Rosary- Exposition
11.30am Holy Rosary- Penance
12.15pm Holy Rosary- Mass
6.30pm Holy Rosary-Mass
(Malayalam)

Saturday 24 February 2024
7.30am St Patrick's -Mass
9.00am Holy Rosary- Penance
6.00pm St Patrick's -Mass

Sunday 25 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

A Time for Silence – During Lent you will notice we don't have a Song of Mission at the end of our Masses. Instead, we recognise the importance of reverent silence as we leave the church; nourished in our mission to "welcome and share God's Love" with those we encounter during the coming week.

PRAYER GROUPS

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.
New members welcomed

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Where: St Patrick's Church

When: First Sunday 2.00pm-5.00pm

Third Sunday 3.00pm-5.00pm

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.

RE-VISITING THE SUMMIT February 24th, 2024, 9.00am – 2.30pm **LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER and MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

YOU

are invited

to join the Parish Community
as we Revisit the Summit



On

Saturday, February 24

From 9.00am – 2.00pm

At Shalom College

RSVP (no later than Feb 19)

by phone 4151 6666

email: bundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au

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 to you as a parishioner?
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?

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 bundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au or to our facilitator stephen_dale@rok.catholic.edu.au who will include them in the process.

By this time next week, you would have had your opportunity to listen to others, reflect on your and their experience and speak your own thoughts. The opportunity is yours for the taking and it would be wonderful to have you with us.



All are invited to our first menALIVE Breakfast for 2024,

Saturday, 2nd March, 7.am- 8.30am.

Tea and Coffee will be available from 6.30am.

Our Special GUEST SPEAKER will be our newly ordained priest,

Fr Peter Doherty!

Any guests will be warmly welcomed. To assist with catering please contact the Parish office (41516666) by **Monday 26th February.**