



# The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

## Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

Office Hours: 9:00 - 1:00 PM Monday to Friday  
Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra Street  
PO Box 79 Bundaberg QLD 4670  
Phone 07 4151 6666 [sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Welcome to the Parish*

26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> November 2022

## WAITING, WAITING, WAITING.

Anne Sheehan  
Liturgy & Sacramental  
Co-Ordinator

**W**e spend much of our life waiting. Waiting for the results of medical tests, academic results, a wedding, an impending birth, the workday to end, rain, wars to cease, the outcome of an Olympic race for which you have spent years in training. And in that waiting time we are preparing for an eventuality. It's how we prepare that determines the joy, hope or disappointment in the event.

Advent is that season of the Church's year that focuses on Waiting, being Prepared. The word Advent simply means "coming". If we can manage to meditate on any "coming" in December besides the comings and goings of school end-of-year concerts and graduations, Christmas shopping and cooking, it would be Christ's coming to Mary in a stable. Everyone loves the nativity story!

The Advent season is more about preparing for the second coming of Christ than the first. To prepare for his final coming is more about action than end-times speculation. The readings of the first three weeks of Advent speak of this coming.

From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to return. Many have claimed to recognise the signs of his imminent return and even have tried to predict the actual date. They've had some explaining to do when he failed to show up as forecast!

We should not be wasting our time theorising about dates or the final ordeal. This is a distraction. Rather, we are not just to look busy but actually be busy preparing the way for his return.

That means being prepared and ready, not utterly distracted by the cares of this world (Matthew 24: 38-44). It means to work to make greater progress in the life of holiness (1 Thess 3:11-13), by "putting on" the character of Christ. It also means preparing the way by calling others to faith in Christ, since all baptised Catholics are called to be evangelisers.

"The second coming of Christ, like the first, involves a birth. Only this time, it will be the birth of a new heaven and a new earth (2 Peter 3:13; Romans 8:19-23; CCC 1042). Birth is always preceded by labour and effort. In fact birth is a sort of crisis that puts everyone involved to the test. The labour pains to bring one baby to birth are intense enough. Imagine the labour pains prior to the birth of a whole new creation." (Dr M D'Ambrosio, 2016, "A Reason for the Season")

But let's not dampen the spirit of the holiday. Are parents any less excited about the birth of their first child because they may have to take childbirth classes or talk to the doctor about pain meds and C-sections? There is no birth without labour. As we rejoice in hope over the imminent new arrival, perhaps we ought to do everything possible to make sure that the labour goes successfully. That way there'll be something to rejoice about, both in the coming weeks and at the second coming. And we'd better not put it off until tomorrow!

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS:** Held each year on **Christmas Eve, 5.00pm**, in Holy Rosary Church. Selection and allocations of parts for the dramatization of the nativity gospel story will take place on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 3.30-4.00pm** in the Novakoski Centre. More information contact Anne at the parish office.

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 Peter Tonti 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

**Miss Elizabeth Kelly**

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

**Mrs Jan Aplin**

Safeguarding Representative &  
Bereavement Co-ordinator

**Mr Norm Whyte**

Property Officer

**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**

**Mrs Maryanne Taylor**

**Mr Michael Walker**

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

**St Joseph's Principal**

**Mrs Monica White**

[sjbgrok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sjbgrok.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**

**Mr Mark Fox**

[spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au)

Ph: 4152 1380

**Shalom College Principal**

**Mr Dan McMahon**

[shalomcollege.com](mailto: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

**ADULT FAITH - "The Mass"** : As we enter into the Mass, we become aware that we are entering into the presence of God and instinctively we become aware of our sinfulness in this presence of the Holy One. This is why the **Penitential Rite** follows immediately on the Priest's greeting at the very beginning of the celebration. Because we have never seen God and because we cannot begin to imagine God's infinite greatness, goodness and holiness as they really intrinsically exist, we can never really appreciate the seriousness of offending God. As Christians we must take sin seriously in order to take God and Christ seriously. Whatever others may say or do, we must see ourselves as different, *as a people set apart*, as St Peter reminds us. We must see ourselves as sinners seeking to be saints, always in need of forgiveness, reconciliation and purification. Hence the need of the **Penitential Rite** at the very beginning of Mass. This Rite does not take the place of the Sacrament of Reconciliation but reminds us of the need for that special encounter with Christ in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. (Notes from *The Mass in Close-Up*, Fr Antony Jones STL, PhL, Wales, March 2022)

**FRANCISCAN PRAYER GROUP:** is resuming monthly information and spiritual meetings in The Novakoski Centre every 3rd Sunday of the month from 10.00am to 12 noon. Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be provided. All age groups welcome.

**FINAL 2022 NOVEMBER PRAYERS AT THE CATHOLIC CEMETERY:** 9.30am followed by a "cuppa". **Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> EVERYONE** is welcome. Wear a Hat and bring a chair if you wish.

**PRIMARY GRADUATIONS** : During this week our three Primary schools will celebrate the graduation of the Year 6 students to High School in 2023. To all students and staff, we add our congratulations to the many that will be stated this coming week.

There may be some sadness in departing a familiar place but there is the opportunity for new beginnings, new experiences and forging new connections as the journey of school life continues. We pray that each graduate will be blessed in their future schooling and each staff member will be filled with gratitude for their contribution to the life of the graduates.

**CONGRATULATIONS on RETIREMENT:** **Mr Mark Fox** will complete his many years of service as teacher and Principal in our Diocese on Friday December 2. The Parish wishes to congratulate and thank Mark for his years as Principal of St Patrick's and for his dedication to the welfare of his students. Mark has been very active in the Parish community as well. We pray that he will enjoy retirement, further develop his hobbies and interests and be able to spend quality time with family.

**FAREWELL Social function for Fr Peter:** The Parish will farewell Fr Peter at a simple function to be held at the Novakoski Centre on **Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 5.00pm – 7.00pm.**

There will be a brief formality at 6.00pm led by the Chair of the Parish Stewardship Council. This is an opportunity for all to thank Fr Peter for his six years as our Leader and pastor. Light refreshments will be served, and we ask parishioners to bring a plate to assist with the catering. There is no need to RSVP. Simply come and show Fr Peter by your presence how grateful we are to have had such a dedicated and humble leader of our community.

Save  
the  
Date

**A WORKING BEE:** The Friends of the Catholic Cemetery are holding a Working Bee at the Cemetery on **Saturday, December 3.** There will be two shifts **6.30am – 8.00am** and **8.00am – 9.30am** hopefully to beat the heat of the day.

We will try to complete one section already started and move to the adjoining section if time and workers permit. Spades, rakes, garden tools and whipper/snippers are useful.

Any time you can give would be greatly appreciated. **ALL 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

**PARISH Thank you to all Ministers:** A wonderful event and a great attendance of parishioners from all sections and ministries of our Parish. Fr Peter was loud in his praise of the service of all and provided us with a challenge to go that little bit further in reaching out to all in our community. The CWL did a marvellous task in catering and serving all who attended. Thanks to all who assisted in any way to make the evening enjoyable and memorable.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** Get into the spirit of Christmas with the Pro Musica string orchestra as they present some beautiful Christmas classics in the rich acoustic of Holy Rosary Church. Works include the Corelli Christmas Concerto, Vaughan-Williams' Fantasia on Greensleeves and the Saint-Saens Christmas Oratorio for organ, strings and brass choir. The Orpheus vocal ensemble will delight us with a beautiful selection of songs as well as leading us in some community carol singing. What an uplifting way to celebrate Christmas than to raise our voices in song with the congregation as we sing the classics together. The concert is on **Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> commencing at 7pm.**

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS :** We invite all Parishioners along with their family and friends to join in an afternoon of Christmas singing at St James' Church, **Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup> commencing at 4.30pm.**

The afternoon will consist of singing your favourite Christmas Carols, Christmas Hamper Raffles and light refreshments.

**ROSTERS TERM 1, 2023:** These will need to be organised and sent before Christmas. If you have any dates that you know you will be away for, would like to come off the roster, or have changed your contact details, please contact Sarah on [wbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:wbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au) or 4151 6666, before Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:** Registrations are still being taken for the 2023 programme. Contact Anne at the parish office for information and registration forms. Registrations close February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**GOD'S WORD:** for sale for \$20.00 at the Parish Office.

**ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKLETS "Hearts of the Disciple",** Produced by the Brisbane Archdiocese. On sale for \$5.00. at the Parish Office and at the church doors from this weekend. **Limited Copies available**

**CHRISTMAS GIVING APPEAL: Catholic Care through School Savvy and St Vincent de Paul Society.** A list of goods for School Savvy was given last week (copies are available at the Parish Office) and there are envelopes for cash donations to St Vincent de Paul at the door of each Church. We will accept both at the Parish Office and at the Church doors each week until December 11<sup>th</sup>. All donations will be gratefully received by both groups. **Thank you for your generosity.**

### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

#### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December

5.00pm Holy Rosary (Children's Mass)

7.00pm St Patrick's

#### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December

Midnight Mass Holy Rosary

7.00am St James'

8.00am Holy Rosary

9.00am St Patrick's

## LITURGIES

### Monday 28 November 2022

9.00am St Patrick's-Mass

### Tuesday 29 November 2022

9.00am St James' Mass

Followed by Rosary and Adoration

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

### Wednesday 30 November 2022

**St Andrew**

**No Mass at St Patrick's**

6.00pm Holy Rosary

Graduation Mass St Joseph's

### Thursday 1 December 2022

6.30am St Patrick's- Mass

### Friday 2 December 2022

12.15pm Holy Rosary-Mass

### Saturday 3 December 2022

7.30am St Patrick's - Mass

9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance

6.00pm St Patrick's-Mass

## NEXT SUNDAY

### 4 December 2022 Year A(1)

7.00am St James'

8.00am Holy Rosary

9.00am St Patrick's

12 Noon Baffle Creek

5.30pm Holy Rosary

## SCRIPTURES

### For next Sunday

#### First Readings

Isaiah 11:1-10

#### Second Reading

Romans: 15:4-9

#### Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

### Funerals This Week

Lethorieo Nielsen  
Holy Rosary Church  
Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November  
9.30am

**Recently Baptised:** Evaliah Jean Huth and Braxton Dale Huth.

**Recently Confirmed:** Jade Gordon Richards.

**Recently Deceased:** Robyn Bayliss, Lethorieo Angelo Nielsen, Sr M. St Pius, Petronella Meerman, Sue Boisen, Ben Clutterbuck, Patricia Norcott, Riccardo Bianchin, Leah Dray, Doreen Fox, Edward "Ted" Carey, Maureen Lines, Vincent "Bill" Smith.



## PRAYER GROUPS

**ROSARY GROUP:** The Rosary Group meets every Tuesday and Thursday at Holy Rosary Church 5.30pm.

**ADORATION IN ST PATRICK'S CHURCH:** Every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, 2.00pm - 5.00pm and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 3.00pm - 5.00pm. All are welcome!

**CCR UNITED HEARTS PRAYER GROUP:** Takes place every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month 7.00pm in the Novakoski Centre.

## The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton

abides by the principles of the **National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (2013)**, 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.au](mailto:pssoadmin@rok.catholic.net.au)

**Diocesan website for more information:**

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

To view the **Diocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults commitment statement and policy:**

[www.rockhampton.catholic.net.au/safeguarding-policies.html](http://www.rockhampton.catholic.net.au/safeguarding-policies.html)

## OTHER CONTACTS

**Mrs Judy Pidcock:** 4887 3080  
Diocesan Safeguarding

**Catholic Care:** 1300 523 985  
**St Vincent de Paul:** 4151 5455  
**Ozcare:** 1800 692 273

**Mater Hospital:** 4153 9539  
**Towards Healing:** 1800 337 928

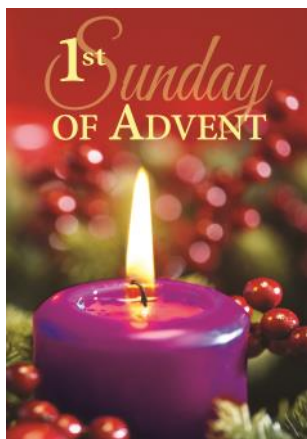
## AFTER HOURS

**Anointing of the Sick  
for Medical Emergencies**  
Phone 4151 6666  
& follow the prompts

## HOLY ROSARY CHURCH OPEN HOURS

Sunday to Friday from 7.00am until 5.00pm approx. Saturday, open for Reconciliation from 9.00am -10.00am.

## Live the Liturgy



A few days ago, my iphone gave me a weekly message: "Last week, your total screen time was down 17%." I thought, good for me! But the message continued: "You averaged 5 hours and 23 minutes of screen time." Yikes.

Where do we place our attention? The Prophet Isaiah says, **"For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem."** God wants us to be His learners, people who grow through a steady stream of divine instruction. But if you're like me, you spend way too much time at the feet of the wrong teachers.

Our phones can help fruitfully re-direct our attention. It's amazing how many great Catholic Bible studies, classes, podcasts, and soul-forming material is accessible there. This coming new year let's use our phones to be a little "Zion" or "Jerusalem" — a place we go for wisdom and instruction, and not just endless data and entertainment.

**New year challenge:** Grab your phone. Start consuming some source of Catholic instruction each week to help you become a better student of Jesus. Keep it going into 2023. If our screen time helps us learn true wisdom, it will be a great use of time. — Father John Muir ©LPI

## Thank you from Woorabinda

A huge thank you from Sr Cecilia Prest from the Woorabinda Mission to everyone who donated to our call for linen, dress ups and football boots. Woorabinda is an Aboriginal Community in our Diocese and Sr Cecilia is alone in her ministry and was so very appreciative of all the donations she received.

Sister Cecilia has been in Woorabinda for approximately 18 years, as she says, being a 'presence' in the community. She has built up a store in her time there and provides secondhand items which are donated by various people and groups, sometimes bought by her if there are items in need that she is unable to source through donations. The shop is open on Thursdays and people of the community can then buy what they need. As Frederic Ozanam who founded St Vincent de Paul Society says, 'This is not a handout, it is a hand up' and they pride themselves in being able to support themselves.

Shalom and the Catholic Parish of Bundaberg will continue to support Woorabinda Mission and are planning two trips a year to deliver needed goods.

Thank you once again for your very generous donations. Wishing you all Blessings for a very Happy and Holy Christmas.

**Cheryl Petersen**



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