

# 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)

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Welcome to the Parish*

28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## WORD of GOD Sunday – February 5<sup>th</sup>

**“He opened their minds to understand the scriptures.” (Luke 24:45)**

It is less than four years (October 2019) since Pope Francis wrote his apostolic letter *Aperuit Illis* instituting the Sunday of the Word of God. The scripture passage takes us to the road to Emmaus, walking with those disciples going away from Jerusalem in the aftermath of the death of Jesus. The disciples were defeated; their world had been shattered; they were incredulous; and they could not stay in the city which crucified the person in whom they had placed their hope.

The similarities between the disciples on the road to Emmaus and the Jews being carried off into exile are a lesson for us today. For the Jews in captivity, in exile in Babylon it is no wonder that they wept for a return to their homeland and home city. Jerusalem was the archetypal “city on a hill” – a place from which light emanates and a place which cannot be hidden.

We too have been in an exilic place. The light emanating from our worshipping gatherings was dimmed and diminished. We too may have sat and wept, hung up our harps unable to sing our songs of praise in a foreign atmosphere. The past few years have seen us walk away also, not necessarily by choice, from the regular Sunday liturgical celebrations. COVID may have kept us away from gatherings of the faithful, but the Word of God may have become more alive to us as we reflected in our isolation on the daily readings provided in our liturgical calendar.

Now we have returned and now is the time to reignite “a celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God”. There is an invitation to return to our home with God, gathered “as one” around the sacred Scripture (Neh 8:1) just as those returning after the Babylonian exile, and just as those disciples on the road to Emmaus who on hearing the scriptures and breaking the bread returned to Jerusalem (Luke 24:33).

When the covid cloud began to lift, we saw peoples’ thirst for reflection on God’s Word being satiated by faith formation gatherings and their like here in our Parish.

Pope Francis affirms this in writing: “The Bible is a book of the Lord’s people, who in listening to it, move from dispersion and division to unity. The word of God unites believers and makes them one people.” To reflect on the scriptures each Sunday brings hope, strength and resolve to the faithful. The opportunity is ours once again as we renew ourselves spiritually following the dispersion and separation caused through the pandemic restrictions.

May our celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God embrace the Spirit being so generously poured out over us. As Pope Francis says: “The Holy Spirit, then, makes sacred Scripture the living word of God, experienced and handed down in the faith of the people.”



by: *Br Ted Magee*  
Executive Officer

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

**Mr Norm Whyte**  
Property Officer

**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**

**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**  
**Mrs Kim O'Shea-Hard**  
[spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:spboffice@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

**ADULT FAITH - "The Mass":** – In the **Homily** the Heart of Christ speaks to the human heart – a beautiful happening with Priest and people using all their available talent for the glory of God. Vestments put the Priest in disguise, hiding the man and pointing to Christ, the One who is really preaching the homily and proclaiming the Gospel. As with his close disciples in explaining his parables in more detail Christ is, in the homily, sowing his word into the soil of our hearts – scattering and sowing the good seed of his word. Why: because we are destined for relationship with God now and for all eternity. Just to dream of Paradise though would be to risk leaving this world behind. To think of Paradise means to stay resolutely in this world, in the belief that the Word took flesh once in time and the Word, the real truth about the human being may be found in the Incarnation. This is why we really listen to the **Homily**, the revelations of Jesus Christ for our 'postmodern' world. What emerges in Christ is a magnificent vision of infinite possibility, and this translates into the human possibility to transcend a culture that sees sin and death as endemic to the human condition. So we approach the homily with expectation and recognise that Christ is speaking to his people and expect to be enlightened and challenged. (Notes from 'Words from the Wound', Archbishop Mark Coleridge, St Paul's Publications, 2014)

**CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:** The 2023 program begins on **Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February**, 5.30pm in the Parish Office. This session is for Parents only on the topic "Remembering Baptism".

Children must be baptised, 8+ years old, to prepare for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist. Registration forms are available through the parish office, 4151 6666.



## RECOGNISE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS - The Humble of the Earth

When I think of the Beatitudes, I think of collectible coffee mugs emblazoned with the words *Blessed are the peacemakers*, with little pastel flowers stenciled in the white spaces of the lettering. I think of greeting cards and decorative wall hangings.

Why? These are the Beatitudes, for heaven's sake — revolutionary and radical. An uncompromising impeachment of worldly values. They are the opposite of banal.

But I cringed from my head to my toes when I read my first draft of this reflection, a retelling of a time in my life when I decided to embrace humility and meekness. I realized that the Beatitudes aren't something I can tell you about. Poverty of spirit, the hunger for righteousness, the gladness God gives to the downtrodden — these are concepts that must be animated within us. They must be lived. So instead of telling you my story, I want you to tell yours.

I invite you to think of a time when you were vulnerable. When you were discouraged or humbled or felt like a failure. A time when you were cut low. The loss of a job, perhaps, or the rejection of a loved one. The abrupt end of some road that you felt sure would be long and prosperous.

Resentment, envy, and vengefulness flourish in moments like this. Did you experience those feelings? Did you embrace them? Did you want to?

What did the world tell you this moment should mean?

What does Christ tell you it should mean? Have you figured it out, or are you still working on it?

*God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise, and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong. — 1 Corinthians 1:27*

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ©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

**R.C.I.A HAPPENINGS:** As well as our four catechumens, there are others in our midst who are seeking the Church's sacraments. We have Rhonda wanting to be received into the Catholic Church, two who wish to be Confirmed, Eli completing her initiation and Steven who is wanting to be baptised in our faith, maybe next Easter. Let's not forget all the children who will soon begin their journey to Confirmation and First Communion. For these and all who seek the Lord, please pray.

**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION SESSIONS for 2023:** Twice weekly sessions **Tuesday** and **Friday** at **10.00am -10.30am** followed by Morning Tea. Sessions are held in the Chapel in the Parish Office. New members who would like to learn about Meditation are very welcome. Contact: Joe McCorley (0418727845) or just turn up.

**EXPOSITION – FIRST FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3rd :** Exposition will begin at 11.00am on the First Friday and conclude before Mass at 12.15pm. All are welcome to attend this hour of prayer and reflection in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

**CHURCH LINEN ST. PATRICK'S :** We are urgently seeking assistance with the washing and ironing of Church Linen at St Patrick's. We are grateful to our volunteers who have carried out this task in the past, particularly Lyn Williamson who has given years of dedication. If you can help, on a roster basis, please contact the office and inform Sandy who will arrange the roster. Thanks.

**CHAPLAIN'S MEETING :** A meeting will be held in the Parish Office on Monday February 6<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm .

**VISITATION MEETING:** A Visitation meeting will be held in the Parish Office Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am. All currently in this ministry and those wishing to know more are welcome.

## Saint Vs. Blessed

### Question:

What is the difference between a "Saint" and a "Blessed"?

### Answer:

The process of proclaiming someone as a saint in the Catholic Church has evolved over the course of many centuries. In the beginning, those honored as saints were almost exclusively biblical figures or martyrs. However, after the legalization of Christianity in the fourth century, new holy women and men came to be honoured as saints, and this was often done by popular acclaim or by the local bishop or abbot.

It was Pope Gregory IX (who was pope from 1227 to 1241) who officially proclaimed that only the pope had the authority to add someone to the official list (the "canon") of saints. This is the meaning of the word "canonization."

Today, the saint-making process includes several steps, including detailed studies of the person's life and a recognition that they died as a martyr or lived a life of "heroic virtue." Once someone is recognized as a martyr or if a miracle is attributed to their intercession, they will be beatified and honored as "Blessed." This means that they can be celebrated by Catholics in a particular country or region or by the members of certain religious community. If another miracle occurs and is approved, then the "Blessed" is canonized and honoured with the title "Saint," meaning that they are now officially recognized as a universal model of holiness and an intercessor. ©LPi

## Recently Baptized:

Vennie Rose Little and Mia Maivia Wright.



## WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Joe Attard, Vaughan Johnson, Lisa Helen Zorzan, Shirley Ryan, Cardinal George Pell, Colleen Mary Brown, Antoinette Bromwich, Fred Galea, Gerard King, Althea Brotto.

**FOR WHOM MASS HAS BEEN REQUESTED:** Margaret Morris, Ron Cook, Mick and Mary Galea, deceased relatives of Galea & Zahra Families, Leisa Dick, Mario Coco, Kevin and Doris Whalley, Mary Galea, Olivia, Tamara, Brad and Rankin Family Holy Souls.



## LITURGIES

**Monday 30 January 2023**

9.00am St Patrick's-

**Tuesday 31 January 2023**

**St John Bosco**

9.00am St James' Mass

Followed by Rosary and Adoration

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

**Wednesday 1 February 2023**

8.00am Shalom College Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

**Thursday 2 February 2023**

**The Presentation of the Lord**

6.30am St Patrick's

**Friday 3 February 2023**

**St Blaise & St Ansgar**

11.00am Exposition

Holy Rosary

12.15pm Holy Rosary- Mass

**Saturday 4 February 2023**

7.30am St Patrick's- Mass

9.00am Holy Rosary- Penance

6.00pm St Patrick's -Mass

## NEXT SUNDAY

**5 February 2023**

**Year A(1)**

7.00am St James'

8.00am Holy Rosary

9.00am St Patrick's

12.00pm Baffle Ck - Mass

5.30pm Holy Rosary

## SCRIPTURES

### For next Sunday

#### First Readings

Isaiah 58: 7-10

#### Second Reading

Corinthians: 2:1-5

#### Gospel

Matthew 5:13-16

### What's On!

Mark the date in your Calendar

#### February

11 St Mary's 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

22 Ash Wednesday

23 Anointing Mass

## 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:** Meeting every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7.00pm in 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](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 Vulnerable Adults commitment statement and policy:**

[www.rock.catholic.net.au/safeguarding-policies.html](http://www.rock.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**

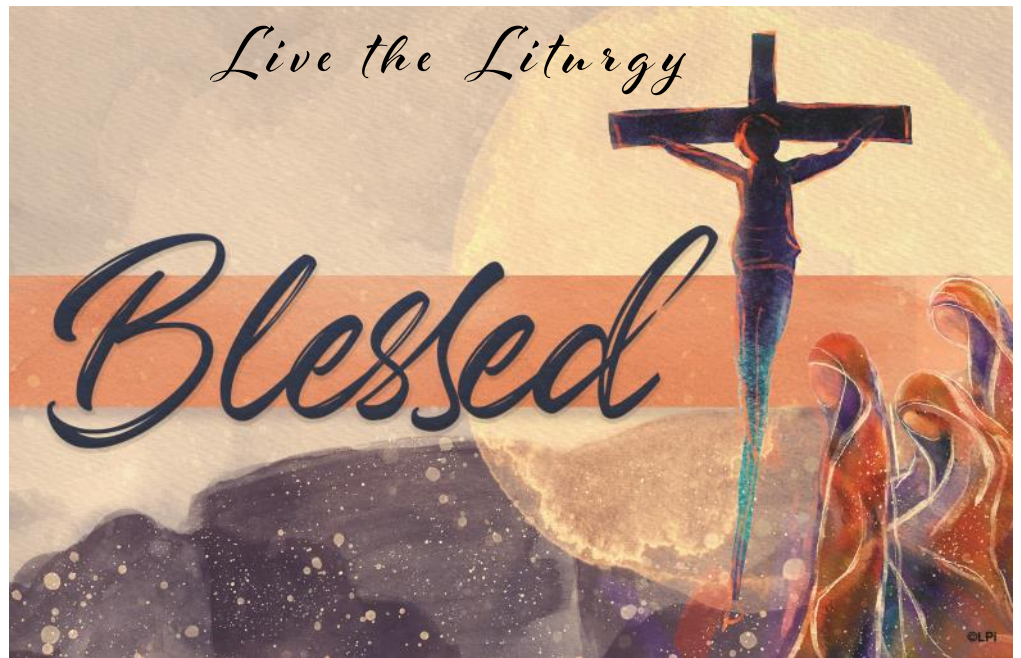
Phone 4151 6666

& 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.



In my parents' bedroom there were on the wall two photos of my mom and dad from their early adulthoods. The photo of my mother entranced me when I was a boy. I loved looking at it, even though I saw her in daily life. Something about that picture captured her perfectly. It was an image of the joy, wisdom, beauty, and strength that enveloped me from the start of my life. It was an icon of the woman who fed, taught, and encouraged me. I felt a deep pride that I came from such beauty.

The beatitudes of Jesus are a kind of self-portrait. But it is a strange picture. At first, the blessings of being poor, mourning, and hungering and thirsting for righteousness may seem bizarre or, worse, a religious delusion. Who wants to look like *that*? But if we look again, we begin to see the characteristics of Jesus' form. He becomes poor and fills it with his riches for us, he weeps and mourns for us, and fills it with his joy, he hungers and thirsts for us to be righteous, and so satisfies us. And so on. It's the way he appears on the cross.

Perhaps we should put on our bedroom room walls the words of the beatitudes next to a crucifix of the Lord Jesus. Then we can do what the beatitudes are designed for, to gaze at the joy, wisdom, beauty, and strength of the one who is our origin, and who is with us every day. And little by little, we'll start to look like him.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

## ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES

7.00am	Holy Rosary
8.00am	Shalom College
9.00am	Bargara
12.15pm	Holy Rosary
5.30pm	St Patrick's



**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

Time Talent Treasure

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