

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

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Welcome to the Parish

6th Sunday of *Easter*

24th/25th May 2025

The Council of Nicaea 325-2025AD

On the 20th of May the Christian world celebrated an important anniversary: 1700 years since the opening of the Council of Nicaea in 325.

The Council of Nicaea was one of the most significant moments in the development of Christianity. Not only did it gather all the bishops of the world together for the first time, but it also produced the enduring and universal Christian statement of faith which we know as the “Nicene Creed.”

Christianity is unique in the history of human organisation because it focuses primarily on belief. A Christian is not defined by who they are or what they do, but by what they believe. We are essentially “believers.” God has revealed himself in history to all people and has acted in history to save us through his Son and the Holy Spirit. To inherit this salvation which God has won for us we must, as Saint Paul writes to the Romans, “believe with our hearts,” and “confess with our mouths” who God is and what he has done to save us. (Rom 10:9-10)

In its history, Catholic Christianity has developed a few ways to formulate what it believes about who God is and what he has done. These formulations we call the “creeds,” which comes from the Latin *CREDIT*: to believe. The earliest of these creeds were formulas which accompanied the celebration of Baptism. Before receiving Christian Baptism, catechumens had to publicly confess their belief in the Christian God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and what God has done in salvation history. The best known of these early formulations, which is still used for baptisms today, is the “Apostle’s Creed.”

But while these early creeds covered the basics of Christian belief, they left some important details unsettled. And so, by the 3rd century errors in the details of Christian belief had gained popularity and had started to divide the Church. The followers of the priest Arius in particular, who taught that Jesus was not God, had started to win many to his erroneous teaching. It was in this context and for this reason that the Council of Nicaea was convened in the year 325AD.

At the council a suggested solution to division in belief in the Church was to more clearly define what the Christian church truly taught about who God is and what he has done. And thus, a much more detailed creed was produced for the universal belief of the Christian faithful. That Creed, called the “Nicene Creed,” after being slightly revised at the Council of Constantinople in 381, persists as the premier universal statement of Christian faith to this day, 1700 years later.

The Nicene Creed has two effects for Christians: it unites us with God, and with each other. The Creed unites us with God by presenting in clear and precise terms what God has revealed about himself and what he has done to save us. We can believe *with our hearts* in God as he truly is. And the Creed has united Christians with each other by presenting a universal formula to profess our belief in God. All Christians profess *with our mouths* the same God in the same way.

The Council of Nicaea and the Creed which it produced are therefore no less significant today than 1700 years ago and rather may be more important than ever. In a secularised world which does not know God, through the Nicene Creed Christians can confidently proclaim what God has revealed about himself and what he has done for us. And in a time where Christianity stands divided, in the Nicene Creed we can see the shining symbol of Christian unity, and a foundation for genuine ecumenism.

by: **Grant Sutherland**
Seminararian

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.

Parish News and Announcements

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Don White PP
Parish Priest

Rev Sijo George
Associate Pastor

Grant Sutherland
Seminararian

Mr Jeffrey Caluag
Finance, Marketing & Property Officer

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

Mrs Jan Aplin
Safeguarding Representative &
Bereavement Co-ordinator

Ms Judy Pidcock
Pastoral Care Practitioner

Mrs Sandra Fox
Receptionist

PARISH STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Mrs Kaye Beston
Chair

Ms Madonna Davitt
Deputy Chair

Ms Nadene Pettett
Secretary

Members:

Dr Ken Avenell

Mr Steve Jenés

Miss Clare O'Rourke

Mrs Helen Stanley

Dr Presly Varghese

Mr Matthias Visona

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

Ten years of Laudato Si'



First published by Pope Francis on 24th May 2015, *Laudato Si'* focuses on caring for our Common Home. It is the Church's response to the ecological crisis that is present in our world in this age, and it brings together evidence from ecology, guidance from Christian theology and ethics, and promotes concern for creation through the lens of economic, political, and spiritual wisdom. Named after St. Francis of Assisi's famous hymn, is a document with a big vision in the way it

addresses critical global challenges, such as, pollution and climate change; biodiversity loss; the water crisis; the decline in human life quality; and weak international responses to these problems. In the encyclical, Pope Francis highlighted how these issues are traced back to excessive consumption and a disregard for the environment as the life-giving structure that supports all life on our planet. Pope Francis tried to offer the world a message of hope that in caring for God's gift of creation we in turn care for all of us, especially those who live in poor and vulnerable nations and communities.

Through *Laudato Si'* Pope Francis aimed for the Catholic Church to influence the world at the level of international politics but there is much in the encyclical that encourages us to act locally. Let our faith communities respond to the message of *Laudato Si'* by being champions of care for God's creation and add our voice to support the well-being of the planet and humanity. By simply highlighting the tenth anniversary of *Laudato Si'* this Saturday, May 24th we do can do that and emphasise that its message is a priority for us.

BUNDABERG PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP 25th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION. (REMINDER)

The Passionist Family groups would like to invite all parishioners to an Afternoon Tea in St Patrick's Hall this **Sunday 25th May** between **1.00pm- 4.00pm**. Birthday cake, tea and coffee will be provided. If you could bring a plate to share, that would be greatly appreciated.

CHURCH CRAWL-Pentecost Sunday 8th June: Once again we will join the Anglican and Uniting communities in this Annual event of prayer and unity.

The CRAWL will begin at the Anglican Church at **2.00pm** and walk to Holy Rosary Church, ending at the Unity Church. On conclusion of the short prayer service in the Uniting Church, afternoon tea will be provided. **We will provide more details next weekend.**

MINISTRIES ROSTER FOR JULY-SEPTEMBER: If you are unavailable during the next quarter please advise the Parish Office **By Monday 9th June**. This will allow sufficient time for completion and checking. If you wish to volunteer for a ministry please contact the Parish Office. We appreciate the time that is dedicated to ensuring we can continue with all our ministries which enhance so many peoples lives.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE: Please note **Thursday 29th May** the Parish Office will be closed for the Bundaberg Show holiday.

DIRECT DEBIT GIVING: If you wish to make a donation, please scan the QR code and follow the prompts. **Thank you for your support.**



Save
the
Date

Parish News and Announcements

DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH:

The Diocesan Social Justice Group draws your attention to Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month being marked in Queensland during May. For reflection, they have prepared a document drawn from the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement from 2022-2023, titled **"Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse."**

The document acknowledges the suffering of those subject to Domestic Violence and reflects this issue in the light of the Gospel value of upholding human dignity. We invite you to delve deeper into this through the Bishops' statement itself, available online, and our excerpt document.

The full Social Justice Statement **"Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse."** can be found online at - <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2022/08/02/sjs2022-23/>



FINAL WOORABINDA MISSION DELIVERY:

This will be the last opportunity to donate to Woorabinda Mission, as unfortunately Sr Cecilia is retiring, and there is no one to take her place.

We will have one last trip out to Woorabinda to deliver Blankets, Doona's and Towels for the winter.

If you don't have a surplus of any of these items, please consider a monetary donation so we are able to purchase whatever is needed. Donations may be left at either the Parish Office or at Shalom College before **Thursday 12th June**. Thank you for your generosity and support over the years. Sr Cecilia will certainly be a huge loss in their community.

Thank you Sr Cecilia



BOOK SALE from Monday 26th-Friday 30th: The Parish Office has numerous books that are not suitable for our library. We have limited space and some have multiple copies. (Eg Study bibles, Devotional and Prayer books) The books will be displayed in the reception area of the Parish Office, a donation would be appreciated for any books you would like. All monies raised will go to the Seminary Appeal.

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED IN PRAYER

RECENTLY DECEASED: Bernadette Gick (Formerly Sr Mary Theresa), John Giovannoni, June Beckhouse, Joel Morales (NSW), Janette Knott, Br Lionel "Ted" Magee, Catherine Harding, Ignaz (Ian) Hollauf, Jim Roberts.

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Damian Gambley 27.05.2024, Alexander K.K 20.05.2016, Norman Dutton 23.05.2023, Jessy James 7.05.1996, Rosamma Joseph 7.05.2003, Sunny Joseph 13.05.2011, Norma Brosnan 5.05.2022, Len Schneider 8.04.2021, Jack McGlynn & Mavis Simons 25.04.2017.

MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST: John Boniface Edwards, Br Ted Magee, Ron and Bernadette Gadischkie, Lawrence Galea, Sue Boisen, Zillah Geiger and all deceased Mothers, Pilar Pananganan, Pedro Marinas, Zusima Teves, Joseph Galea, Antonia Cutas, Emiliano Cabatuan, Sofera Alesna, Deceased members of the Formosa Family including Paul and Lawrence Formosa, Carmen Grima, Giseppa Formosa, Terence James Cagney, Sheelah Margaret Cagney, Margaret Mary Cagney, Gloria May Collins, Deceased members of the Cagney, Cross, Collins & Martins Family, Giuseppe Matteo Marin, Paul Galea, Joseph Attard, Lavene Bailey, Forte & Theresa Galea, Mick and Mary Galea deceased relatives of the Galea & Zahra Families. Kevin and Doris Whalley.

LITURGIES

Monday 26 May 2025

St Philip Neri

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 27 May 2025

St Augustine of Canterbury

8.30 St James' - Penance

9.00am St James' - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's -LWC

Wednesday 28 May 2025

8.00am Shalom—Mass

12.15pm Holy Rosary-Mass

6.00pm Holy Rosary

Adoration

Thursday 29 May 2025

St Paul VI

9.00am Holy Rosary - Mass

Friday 30 May 2025

11.00am Holy Rosary- Exposition

11.30am Holy Rosary-Penance

12.15pm Holy Rosary- Mass

Saturday 31 May 2025

7.30am St Patrick's- Mass

9.00am Holy Rosary- Penance

6.00pm St Patrick's -Mass

Sunday 1 June 2025

7.00am St James' - Mass

8.00am Holy Rosary-

Solemn Mass

9.00am St Patrick's -Mass

12 noon Baffle Creek-Mass

5.30pm Holy Rosary- Mass

SCRIPTURES

First Reading

Acts 1:124-28; 10:19-23

Gospel

Luke 24:46-53

Please turn your mobile phone to silent.



Thank you.

FR JOHN MAIN CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Weekly Session

Tuesday:

10.00am-10.30am

Sessions are held in the
Chapel in the Parish Office.

New members welcomed

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.au

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

Graham White: 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

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.



Jonathan Haidt's 2024 book entitled "The Anxious Generation" argues that today's kids are marked by significant increases in anxiety, as the title suggests. Smartphones, social media, economic uncertainty, the chaos of a global pandemic, fear regarding climate change, and the so-called "meaning crisis" all contribute to strikingly high levels of anxiety in young people today. I'm a bit older than this generation, but I feel it, too. The world can be too much to handle.

The Gospel this week offers a stunning solution for troubled souls. To his overwhelmed and anxious disciples, the risen Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you" (John 14:27). His peace is that of the one who was overwhelmed on the cross and then conquered death by the power of his divinity, his bond of love with the Father. He offers us this unshakeable peace.

Of course, mental illness does not magically disappear because of the risen Jesus. But he does walk with us and offer us his peace in the midst of our suffering. The peace the world gives is not like his because it is weak, uncertain, and self-generated. Jesus' peace is strong, sure, and given as a gift from God. He gives it to us amid our anxiety. Will you receive it as a gift? I hope so. He wants to fill the hearts of this generation with his peace.

— Father John Muir
©LPi



National Reconciliation Week (NRW), held annually from 27th May to 3rd June, is a time for all Australians to reflect on our shared histories, cultures, and achievements—and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. These dates commemorate two significant milestones: the 1967 referendum and the 1992 Mabo decision.

The 2025 theme, "Bridging Now to Next," invites us to consider how our actions today can shape a more inclusive and respectful future. It's a call to build on the progress made, acknowledge the work still to be done, and create enduring partnerships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the wider Australian community.

Monday, 26th May, is National Sorry Day in Australia, a day of remembrance and reflection. It honours the Stolen Generations—Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children forcibly removed from their families—and recognizes their resilience amid grief, trauma, and loss. First observed in 1998, a year after the Bringing Them Home report highlighted these injustices and called for an official apology. Sorry Day serves as a reminder of past wrongs, a call for reconciliation, healing, and a commitment to prevent such policies from recurring.