

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: 9.00-2.00pm Monday to Friday

📍 Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St

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✉ sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au

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☎ 07 4151 6666

Welcome to the Parish

The Ascension of the Lord

31st May/1st June 2025

Hope, Peace and Joy of the *Ascension*

by: Pauline Leahy

When we reflect on the hope and joy especially brought to us on holy days we may think firstly of Christmas and Easter. Jesus' birth and his Resurrection are two powerful events that are the foundation of our faith and give us great hope.

However, the Ascension of the Lord is a solemnity which is also filled with joy, peace and hope. His ascension was the culmination of all he taught us, and what he did for us and for our salvation. Though Jesus ascended into heaven, he gave us hope and peace with the promise that we would receive the Holy Spirit, and that he would come back again to take us to himself.

The ascension brings us the paradox of Christ both ascending to the Father yet also remaining with us until the end of time. What we celebrate this weekend is Jesus' exaltation and the end of his time with us in human form, as a prelude to the gift of the Spirit. In Saint Peter's Square in 2013, Pope Francis spoke *"Dear brothers and sisters, the Ascension does not point to Jesus' absence, but tells us that he is alive in our midst in a new way. He is no longer in a specific place in the world as he was before the Ascension. He is now in the lordship of God, present in every space and time, close to each one of us. In our life we are never alone: we have this Advocate who awaits us, who defends us. We are never alone: the Crucified and Risen Lord guides us."*

Thirty years before that address, St. John Paul II shared his thoughts about this holy mystery. In the first part of his homily, he spoke about the instructions that Jesus gave to his Apostles before ascending into heaven. *"The instructions indicated, above all, that the Apostles were to wait for the Holy Spirit, who was the gift of the Father. From the beginning, it had to be crystal-clear that the source of the Apostles' strength is the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who guides the Church in the way of truth; the Gospel is to spread through the power of God, and not by means of human wisdom or strength,"* said St. John Paul II.

So, what is our response to this glorious presence within us and amongst us? We are called to be good witnesses to the

Good News of Jesus' life, death and resurrection; which brings hope and reconciliation with God. How are we to share this message with others? The words that come to me a lot when I'm quietly reflecting are "Preach the Gospel at all times and if necessary use words", which are often attributed to St Francis of Assisi. In a world of television and social media often providing mixed and challenging messages I am asked to show my belief and faith in God by how I live. To let my actions speak loudly.

This weekend, as we celebrate the Lord's return to His Father in heaven (his Ascension) let us each reflect on how we can continue to bring Jesus' message of hope, peace and love to those we encounter in our daily lives. How our ordinary actions throughout our day show others that we are a people of a loving and compassionate God. That we look at ways we can be involved in our parish life and our community. That we are accepting and welcoming of others, care for the poor and sick, and seek justice for those who are oppressed and suffering.

But we are not expected to do this alone. It is with the strength of the Holy Spirit that we are able to carry out our mission. Since our Faith is essentially the hope for the future of humans promised by the resurrected Christ, the ascension is an attitude of expectancy that underlies our faith.

In his homily St. John Paul II later added "...be imbued with the hope that is so much a part of the mystery of the Ascension of Jesus. Be deeply conscious of Christ's victory and triumph over sin and death. Realize that the strength of Christ is greater than our weakness, greater than the weakness of the whole world.... And renew your faith today in the promise of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has gone to prepare a place for us, so that he can come back again and take us to himself."

We are surrounded by God's love, and we are called to share God's love with others. Through Jesus' ascension joy, peace and hope are present to us even more deeply and profoundly.

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

Grant Sutherland
Seminarian

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

Parish News and Announcements

PENTECOST SUNDAY: We invite you to all wear red to our Pentecost Masses next weekend, as we celebrate the birth of the Church. The red reminds us of fire, a symbol for the Holy Spirit that descended on the apostles, and entered the hearts of believers. It is symbolic of the burning fire of God's love; the red Spirit's flames warming, illuminating, fuelling the work of the Church in the world; the work the Holy Spirit calls us to do.

CHURCH CRAWL-Pentecost Sunday: 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 Uniting Church. Walkers are encouraged to wear something red! At each church there will be a short prayer service. Following the prayers at the Uniting Church, all will be invited to afternoon tea. If the distance to walk is a concern, it is quite acceptable to drive to the churches.



CALENDAR APOLOGY: There will not be a Calendar insert for June. We are still collecting dates going forward. We apologise for any inconvenience.

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.

CWL MEETING : The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday June 3rd**. The morning tea will commence at **9.30am** followed by the meeting at 10.00am. Just a reminder to bring a prize for the raffle. New members are always welcome.

CHANGE TO PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS: Please note the new Parish Office opening hours will be from **9.00am-2.00pm Monday to Friday**. The Parish Office can still be contacted by phone until 3.00pm. Thank you for your understanding.

PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP 25 YEAR CELEBRATION: The Passionist Family Group would like to thank those parishioners who attended the celebration last Sunday. 25 years is certainly a great milestone and we wish to congratulate them for their dedication to the Parish. We look forward to their continuing presence in our Parish community.

Congratulations!



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

BECOMING A CATHOLIC

Do you know anyone interested in becoming a Catholic?

Explore and Discover

A wonderful journey to discover the richness of our faith

For more information, please contact Pauline at 07 4151 6666

A celebration for the life of

ANNE DARLISON
MON 02 JUNE 2025 1.30PM
St Patrick's Catholic Church

LIZ SALZMANN
TUE 03 JUNE 2025 9.30AM
St Patrick's Catholic Church

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



Parish News and Announcements

Fully Alive Youth Camp

This weekend camp will be run by our diocesan NET team and is an opportunity for young people across the diocese to come together and journey in faith through fellowship, talks, small groups, games, the sacraments, and fun!

Throughout the weekend we will be journeying with the theme of 'Fully Alive' focusing on the fullness of life and hope that the love of Jesus brings to us!

Cost: \$130.00 (See discount for multiple family members)

To register or for more details please scan the QR code.



LITURGIES

Monday 2 Jun 2025

St Marcellinus & St Peter
9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 3 Jun 2025

Charles Lwanga & Companions
9.00am St James' - LWC
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 4 Jun 2025

8.00am Shalom—LWC
12.15pm Holy Rosary—Mass
6.00pm Holy Rosary
Adoration

Thursday 5 Jun 2025

St Boniface
7.00am St Patrick's - LWC

Friday 6 Jun 2025

St Norbert & St Marcellin
11.00am Holy Rosary—Exposition
11.30am Holy Rosary—Penance
12.15pm Holy Rosary—Mass

Saturday 7 Jun 2025

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

Sunday 8 June 2025

7.00am St James' - Mass
8.00am Holy Rosary—
Solemn Mass
5.30pm Holy Rosary—Mass

SCRIPTURES

First Reading

Genesis 11:1-9

Second Reading

Exodus 19:3-8, 16-20

Gospel

John 7: 37-39

YOUNG ADULTS' CONVERSATIONS GROUP

The Parish Young Adults Conversations group is a forum for young people in Bundaberg to investigate and more deeply discover the Catholic tradition.

Every meeting the group shares food, fellowship, and a conversation about the Catholic Faith. Typically, this conversation involves some presented content (catechesis, spirituality, theology, Church history/news, etc.) and an open discussion on the content. The aim is for us all to learn about the Catholic Faith and culture together by sharing our own thoughts, knowledge, and experiences.

The group recently finished reading and discussing the spectacular catechetical resource: "Evangelium: Sharing the Riches of the Catholic Faith."

Following this, in a few weeks, the group will begin a video series on some important figures in the Catholic intellectual and spiritual tradition in: "Catholicism: The Pivotal Players."

Whether you are brand new to the Faith, have questions about the Church, or simply want to more deeply investigate what it teaches, you are welcome at this group.

The group meets every week on **Sunday evening at 6:30pm** in the Parish office Centre.

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED IN PRAYER

RECENTLY DECEASED: Liz Salzmann, Anne Darlison, Elvena Bycroft (Ayr), Guenter Gunter, Terry Gultzow, 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, Jessie James 7.05.1996, Rosamma Joseph 7.05.2003, Sunny Joseph 13.05.2011, Norma Brosnan 5.05.2022.

MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST: Bernadette Halpin, Lawrence Gales, Paul Galea, Joseph Attard, Jem & Bill Ireland, Kate & Bob Ireland, Darryl Lambertson, Lily & Jim Ballinger, Bruno De Paoli, Robyn De Paoli, Brenda De Paoli, Morena Basicchia, Vial Family, Fr Terence Punzel, John Boniface Edwards, Br Ted Magee, Ron and Bernadette Gadischkie, Sue Boisen, Zillah Geiger and all deceased Mothers, Pilar Pananganan, Pedro Marinas, Zusima Teves, Joseph Galea, 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.

Please turn your mobile phone to silent.



Thank you.

St Mary's Sunday School

When: Each Sunday after
9.00am Mass.

Where: St Patrick's Hall.

For children and youth 3yrs old
—16years.

Contact: Dr Presly Vaughese
(Principal) and Josmy Jithin
(Vice Principal).

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/](https://rok.catholic.net.au/our-diocese/safeguarding/)

To view the **Diocesan Safeguarding
Children and Adults at Risk
commitment statement and policy:**
[www.rock.catholic.net.au/safeguarding
-policies.html](http://www.rock.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.



The famous 20th century St. Padre Pio said once that he would wait outside the gates of heaven until the people in his life had entered. I'm not sure that I, or frankly many people I know, would say that and mean it. Yet that is precisely the kind of attitude we see in Jesus as he prays for us in the Gospel today. Having celebrated the Ascension of the Lord just a few days ago, we now hear the Son of God at the Last Supper pray to his Father "that they may be brought to perfection as one" (John 17:23). What does this mean for us?

I'd wager that we are not surprised that Jesus wants to make us perfect — that is, happy, whole, and healed. The shocker is that he desires this for us collectively and not just individually. Perfection is a team sport. We need each other to be perfect. Jesus is like a mother longing for her adult children to learn how to be in loving support of one another. He wants the perfection of his disciples to be not some individualistic plan of moral uprightness, but a loving communion of brothers and sisters.

Let's apply this practically. Do I see my participation at Mass as something I do merely for my own peace and edification, or as something I do with and for the people around me? Do I see my ongoing need for forgiveness as something that simply makes me feel better, or as a task that heals those around me, too? Is my dearest hope to individually get to heaven when I die, or is it to be part of the great procession of souls, together marching towards the heavenly Jerusalem? Do I want to be in heaven with people I currently find difficult? How would my life change if I did?

©LPi

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

PARISH OFFICE BOOK SALE will continue to Friday June 6th :The Parish Office has numerous books that are not suitable for our library. We have limited space and some have multiple copies. (Eg Bibles, Missals, 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 Regional Seminary Appeal.

