



The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

Office Hours: 8.30am – 3.30pm Monday to Friday

Parish Office: Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St Ph: 07 4151 6666 Email: sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au PO Box 79 Bundaberg Q 4670



19th

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. - Mt 14:28-29

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Peter Tonti PP
Parish Priest

Rev Andrew Hogan
Associate Pastor

Mrs Anne Sheehan
Liturgy & Sacramental

Mrs Denise Tuzes
Visitation & Bereavement

Mrs Carmen Wyatt
Stewardship Co-ordinator

Mrs Diana Pippia
Office Manager

Mrs Kaye Andersen
Receptionist

Bundaberg NET
Youth Ministry

SCHOOLS

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Principal: Mrs Kaye Beston
sjbgrok.catholic.edu.au
Ph: 4151 4771

St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Principal: Ms Madonna Davitt
stmarysbundaberg.qld.edu.au
Ph: 4152 2167

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School
Principal: Mr Mark Fox
saintpatricks.qld.edu.au
Ph: 4152 1380

Shalom College
Principal: Mr Dan McMahon
shalomcollege.com
Ph: 4155 8111

CHURCHES

Holy Rosary Church
Cnr Barolin & Woongarra Sts

St Patrick's Church
16 Powers St

St Mary's Church
Cnr Barolin & Boston Sts

St James' Church
38 See St Bargara

OTHER CONTACTS

Diocesan Safeguarding
Daniel Donnini: 4931 3632

The Diocese of Rockhampton
Response Line: 1800 830 113

Centacare: 1300 523 985

St Vincent de Paul: 4151 5455

Ozcare: 1800 692 273

Towards Healing: 1800 337 928

AFTER HOURS

Anointing of the Sick
for Medical Emergencies

Phone 4151 6666
& follow the prompts.

FOCUS by Fr Peter Tonti

THINKING SILENTLY

"Hello darkness my old friend ..." (Simon and Garfunkel)
Silence can be defined as 'The total absence of sound: stillness; peace'.
But is it? Take some time to reflect on the following images:

In the face of fear or horror;
The persistent image and reliving of an event;
Confronted with injustice;
Keeping a secret;
Protecting yourself or another;
The use of censorship;
Ignoring someone and failing to keep in touch;
When someone stops breathing;
Above or below human hearing;
When a noisy motor suddenly stops;
Yes! Silence can be loud!

So listen you who have ears of the heart. Depth the place where you truly dwell. It is in this stillness that the Peace of God is experienced.

'In quietness we often notice things we would rather not notice or feel. Pockets of sadness or anger or loneliness or impatience begin to surface. Our own outer agenda looms larger than our desire to be with God in silence. And as the silence settles in and nothing seems to be happening, we often struggle with the feeling we are wasting time. Everything we notice in this struggle can become an invitation to prayer. Like a can opener the silence opens up the contents of our heart, allowing us deeper access to God'.
(Adele Ahlberg-Calhoun)

'The noblest attainment in this life is to be silent and let God work and speak within' (Meister Eckhart).

'The Father spoke one Word, which was his Son, and the Word he speaks always in eternal silence, and in silence must it be heard by the soul'.
(John of the Cross)

'God far exceeds all words that we can here express. In silence he is heard, in silence worshipped best'.
(Angelus Silesius)

Yes. Depth the sacred space deep within and be still. Then feel The Grace of God slowly, silently rise and grow and flow throughout your being raising you beyond imaginings.

STEWARDSHIP

I remember when all three of my children were learning to swim. In the beginning, it seemed like no matter how much assurance I gave them, they were certain they would drown. Even after watching me float in the water, they were pretty sure their bodies were created to sink. In time, they grew more comfortable in the water. Eventually, they could even swim the length of the pool. But this did not happen overnight. They had to grow in their faith that swimming was possible, not just for others, but for them as well. Too many of us who are Christians believe that holiness is for someone else. We believe that the stories of the saints are about super humans who had something in greater supply than us. When our faith is weak, we assume that we can never have the faith of these holy men and women. On the contrary, faith and holiness are not things only possible for a few. But we must practice our faith to grow in our faith. We must strive for holiness if we are to become holy.

Like a child fears the water before learning to swim, we often fear the path that leads to greater faith or holiness. Except for Mary, the Immaculate Conception, every saint was a sinner. God called every saint to exit the boat and walk toward Jesus on the water. In time, with practice and trust in God, they found they did not sink either.
--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

JUSTICE & SUSTAINABILITY

"God gave the earth to the whole human race for the sustenance of all its members, without excluding or favouring anyone." ('Laudato Si' 93)

We can all do something to care for creation, this may mean making a change in our daily life. What can you do?

LITURGIES

19th Week of Ordinary Time

Monday 14 August
St Maximilian Mary Kolbe
9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 15 August
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
6.30am St Mary's - Mass
9.00am St James - Mass
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 16 August
8.00am Shalom - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Thursday 17 August
6.30am St Mary's - Mass

Friday 18 August
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 19 August
7.30am St Mary's - LWC
9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance

NEXT SUNDAY
20 August 2017

20th Sunday in Ordinary
Time Year A

Year A (I)
PSALTER WEEK 4

Saturday
6.00pm St Patrick's

Sunday
7.00am St James'
8.00am Holy Rosary
9.00am St Mary's
5.30pm Holy Rosary

SCRIPTURES

First Reading
Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

Second Reading
Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Gospel
Matthew 15:21-28

NOTICES & EVENTS

Rite of Commissioning: of all Liturgical Ministers will be held during all Masses the weekend of the **12/13 August 2017**.

Youth Rally: All High School Students and Young Adults are invited to the Bundaberg NET Team's upcoming Youth Rally on **Friday, 18 August 2017** from **7.00pm - 9.00pm** in the **Holy Rosary Catholic Church**. The Rally will be a chance to sing songs in praise and worship while also being offered the chance to adore the Blessed Sacrament within Adoration. An invitation is also extended to all Parishioners who would like to come along.

Christian Meditation Workshop - Living in the Present Moment!: Gabby Nelson (Qld Coordinator of Christian Meditation) will hold a workshop on Christian Meditation on **Saturday, 19 August 2017** from 10.00am - 12.30pm in the Parish Office. For more information or to rsvp contact Joe Mc Corley on 0418 727 845 or the Parish Office.

After Mass BBQ: The Bundaberg NET Team will be having a BBQ on Sunday, 20 August 2017 after 8am Mass at Holy Rosary Catholic Church to raise money for our Youth to attend the September Ignite Conference.

Ladies Dinner: The Bundaberg Passionist Family Group Annual Ladies Dinner is on **Monday, 21 August 2017** at **6pm** in the **Panache Restaurant, Shalom College**. Tickets: \$26 / person & available from the Parish Office. Payment at the time of booking is appreciated. (*Please Note: Tickets available until Wednesday, 16 August 2017.*)

Last Chance to Buy Tickets: to the **15th Bundaberg Ecumenical Luncheon (Helping the Homeless)** on **Saturday, 26 August 2017** at **Shalom College** from **11am - 3pm**. Guest Speaker: Moira Kelly (*International Humanitarian & Global Peacemaker*). Tickets available via www.bundabergtickets.com.au or from the Parish Office until Friday, 18 August 2017. Cost: \$55/person (or \$35 for Aged Pensioners & Students). Contact Parish Office or Cristel - 0408 228 187 for more information.

Rosters: are being prepared for October, November & December. As these Rosters need to be completed & distributed before the September School Holidays, it is important that you advise the Parish Office of any changes to your Mass ministry &/or contact details by **Thursday, 31 August 2017**.

Have A Movie Experience Like No Other!: The Bundaberg Passionist Family Group invite all Parishioners to Morning Tea & a Movie at the Childers Paragon Theatre on **Saturday, 9 September 2017** at **9.30am**. Guest Speaker Merissa Craft will divulge the history of the Theatre that once belonged to her Grandparents. Cost: \$15. RSVP: Friday, 1 September 2017. Contact Helen (0490 361 406) or Colleen (4152 8497 / 0478 043 643).

Youth Retreat: The Bundaberg NET Team will be holding a Youth Retreat at Chaverim on **Friday, 15 September** to **Sunday 17 September 2017**. This weekend is aimed at building a Community where our young people can journey together to discuss and make decisions about life choices. Open to Year 11 to those out of High School. For more information please contact the Bundaberg NET Team or Parish Office.

Workshop on Enactment of a Spirituality of Justice: The Rockhampton Diocesan Justice Group invite you to attend a workshop to enhance your skills in relation to a Gospel Spirituality of Justice in whatever context you live and work, on **Wednesday, 20 September 2017** from **9.30am - 3.30pm** in the Parish Office. For more information or to register, please contact Carmen at the Parish Office by Friday, 18 September 2017. (*Please note: Registrations are essential for catering purposes.*)

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Newly Baptised: Lewis George David Nielsen; Olivia Anne Carter; and Olivia Jules Shaw.

Recently Deceased: Robert 'Bob' Gallagher; Geoff Bullpitt; Merv Williamson; Fr Chris Schick (Rockhampton); Emmet Patrick 'Tony' Fogarty.



SCRIPTURAL REFLECTION

The people who gave us the scriptures had a very different outlook from ours. Because they had no doubt that miracles frequently occur, their traditions in the scriptures often make use of miracle stories to express their faith that God has been active in their history. Elijah was a 9th century prophet who profoundly influenced the faith of old Israel, teaching the incomparable greatness of the divine mystery. He is remembered through stories like that in today's first reading. This story describes Elijah meeting the Lord at Mount Horeb (Sinai). Whereas God's presence was shown to Moses at Sinai, through earthquake and fire, Elijah's meeting was very different - in 'the sound of a gentle breeze'. Clearly, such things as the wind's shattering of rocks are contrived, to show how Elijah's teaching about God went even beyond that of Moses. Historically, there is no doubt that Jesus worked miracles – raising people to life, and healing them in a manner that defied explanation. A very limited number of such events are recalled in the gospel narratives. Studies made of these narratives show that do not have the form of 'wonder stories' – the wonder is not emphasised; Jesus even discourages the awakening of popular enthusiasm, wanting those involved to recognise in faith that what has happened is a sign of the coming of the Kingdom he is proclaiming. The fact that this common pattern is not found in this narrative has led many interpreters to see the miraculous events of today's gospel reading as a symbolic creation of early Christian teachers, expressing the lessons of Jesus for his disciples. This reading, we should recall, belongs to a narrative section of Matthew's gospel describing the formation Jesus is giving to his disciples. Perhaps it is related to the story of the calming of the storm by Jesus, that Matthew has included in an earlier chapter (8:23-27).

Sudden storms are frequent on the Sea of Galilee. For the people of the Middle East, the waters of the sea were a mysterious and menacing element of creation, kept in place by divine power. They provided a ready symbol of forces hostile to God's designs. This narrative is also found in the gospels of Mark and John. Neither of them, however, mentions the astonishing experience of Peter. In Matthew's gospel, on the other hand, this incident is one of three that single out Peter's place among the disciples (Mt 16:17-19; 17:24-27). Let us not be distracted by the question of the origin of this unusual narrative. As a symbolic account of the formation Jesus was giving it has great value for the Church of every generation.

Sending his disciples on their way, Jesus gives himself to prayer. Only his living relation with his Father explains the authority and serene courage that were so evident in his life. He invites us to learn from his example. The symbol of the Church as 'the bark of Peter' has long been part of Catholic awareness. Those in the boat are sustained by the words of Jesus, promising that, in the end, he will rejoin them, when they reach the shore to which he has directed them. More than that, they are assured that, despite the hostile forces of the sea and the deepest darkness of the night, they will experience the Saviour's mysterious presence assisting them. His words, 'It's me! Don't be afraid', are the turning point in all three gospel accounts. In Matthew's account, it is the inimitable Peter – the one who is to 'strengthen his brothers' in their doubts (Lk 22:31) - who leads the others to recognise the Lord's presence, and make their confession of faith, 'Truly, you are the Son of God'.

SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

Matthew 14:22-33

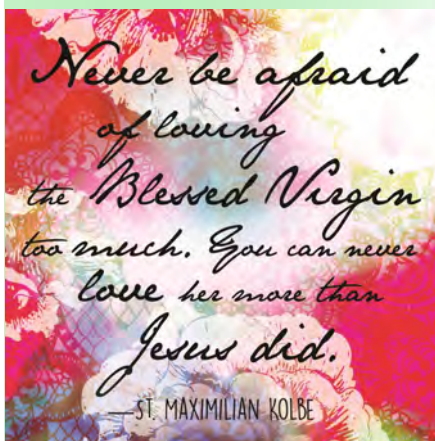
Jesus' walking on water convinced Peter and the other disciples that he was "truly ... the Son of God." What convinces YOU of Jesus' divinity?

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a

The prophet Elijah did not encounter the Lord in the strong wind, the earthquake, or the fire. Instead, Elijah meets the Lord in "a tiny whispering sound." Where do you hear God's voice in your life?

Romans 9:1-5

Paul expresses grief to the Christians in Rome over the reality that many of his fellow Jews do not believe in Jesus. What is your reaction to friends and family who have no faith in Jesus?



In relationship with Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we serve joyfully as a people beloved and called by God.