



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



29th

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

- Mt 22:20-21

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
Administration & Finance Co-ord.

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 Denise Tuzes

One of the many strengths in our parish is that we have many people who give practical care to others in various ways. For example we have many faithful, dedicated parishioners who week after week take Holy Communion to those who are sick or unable to attend Mass. This is a ministry I coordinate; one that I love greatly.

To find meaning and purpose in providing pastoral care is a special thing, a gift which needs to be nurtured. To find meaning in any role is to utilize our God-given gifts. Caring for others is never completely done for "the other" as part of our motivation is to fulfil our need to be needed, to find a purpose, to find fulfilment. We need to limit the "amount" of ourselves we give to others. We need to allow them to take responsibility for their own well-being. We can offer time, energy, compassion, but ultimately the rest is up to them.

To hand the person we are visiting over to the Holy Spirit when we leave a visit reminds us of our limitations and the need to let go. It reminds us that someone greater holds them, as well as us, in their care. Visitation to the sick and aged in their own homes, or in aged care facilities and hospitals is a special ministry. Perhaps it might be something you might like to consider. It is very rewarding – a ministry where we both give and receive.

LIVE THE LITURGY

If the coin belongs to Caesar, then give it to him. Paying taxes is often unpleasant, but requires little self-investment. We know that a portion of our income must go back to the government, but what then, exactly, belongs to God? God does not seek our financial resources. What belongs to God is something that we sometimes want to keep to ourselves or divide in different places. What belongs to God is our hearts. We owe everything to God, even our very being. Without God we are nothing. God patiently continues to tell the world: "I am the LORD and there is no other, there is no God besides me." How do we unite the varied allegiances of our hearts into one under God?

STEWARDSHIP

Many years ago, during faith formation in my parish, one of the children wrote something that wasn't very nice on a textbook that belonged to someone else. Being the pastoral associate that oversaw the program, I began the investigation immediately. Slowly I began eliminating suspects until it became obvious who the perpetrator was. He denied he was the one, but after much pressure he broke down and confessed. My son didn't want to come clean because he naturally feared what I would say and do when I found out. He realized he let himself, others that loved him, and God down. It was a lesson learned that wasn't much fun to go through.

That was a long time ago and when I reflect on it, I think about how often we all do things we regret and then have to face the consequences. But that's what being accountable is all about. We are accountable to those we love, to our neighbour, and to our God. When we begin to slide into a worldview that focuses too much on ourselves, we can easily make decisions that hurt others. We must always seek to do what is good in the eyes of God and that respects others.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

JUSTICE & SUSTAINABILITY

As we recognise the dignity of every human being, which should not be compromised, we think of the many asylum seekers throughout the world particularly those in the detention centres off our Australian shores.

Let us reflect and act on Pope Francis' words that we are called to respond to the many challenges of today with generosity, promptness, wisdom and foresight according to our ability.

(Message for World Day of Migrants and Refugees)

LITURGIES

29th Week of Ordinary Time

Monday 23 October

8.00am Shalom - Mass
9.00am St Patrick's - Mass
11.30am Mater - Mass

Tuesday 24 October

9.00am St James - LWC
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Wednesday 25 October

8.00am Shalom - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Thursday 26 October

6.30am St Mary's - Mass
10.00am St Mary's
- Mass with Anointings

Friday 27 October

12.15pm Holy Rosary - LWC

Saturday 28 October

St Simon & St Jude
7.30am St Mary's - LWC
9.00am Penance - Cancelled

NEXT SUNDAY 29 October 2017

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Year A (I) PSALTER WEEK 2

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

Exodus 22:20-26

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

Gospel

Matthew 22:34-40

NOTICES & EVENTS

Saturday Morning Reconciliation: Due to all Priests attending the Deanery Assembly in Gladstone, Reconciliation will not be available on Saturday, 28 October 2017. Our apologies for any inconvenience.

Confirmation & First Communion: Please keep **Teresa Fitch & Aaron Tom** in your prayers. During the 6.00pm Mass with Bishop Michael presiding this weekend, Teresa will complete her initiation by being confirmed in the Spirit and receiving Holy Communion for the first time. Aaron will also be confirmed during the same Mass.

Life in the Spirit Seminar: Tuesday, 24 October 2017 at 7pm in the Novakoski Centre. For more information or to register, please contact Sr Mary Della at the Parish Office.

Creating A Dementia Friendly Church Seminar: Thursday, 26 October 2017 from 5.30pm - 7pm in the **Parish Office**. For more information or to register, please contact the Parish Office.

Catholic Mission World Mission Appeal: Next weekend our Parish will be holding the Annual Catholic Mission Appeal. This year we are invited to show our support for the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Nha Trang, Vietnam, as they work tirelessly to provide critical community resources such as clean drinking water and medical care to the country's 12 million forgotten farming families. To prepare for this Appeal, envelopes have been placed on the end of the pews for you to take home & bring back next weekend.

Children's Sacramental Dates: Parent/Child Session 1: Sunday, 29 October 2017 at 10.30am OR Wednesday, 1 November 2017 at 7.00pm in the Parish Office.

Are you a Past Pupil of St Mary's School?: St Mary's Catholic Primary School is looking for volunteers who are willing to talk with small groups of Students & answer their questions about what School was like 'way back when' at their **Year 2 History Morning** on Wednesday, 8 November 2017 from 9am in the School Library. Photos, Report Cards, Slates or other bits & pieces to bring along would be appreciated. If you or someone you know may be able to help, contact Liz O'Sullivan on 4152 2167 or via email elizabeth_osullivan@rok.catholic.edu.au. All support no matter how small is appreciated.

Bundaberg Catholic Women League's Christmas Dinner: will be held on **Tuesday, 21 November 2017** in the **Leprechaun Room, Brothers Club**. Time: 6.00pm (for 6.30pm start). Cost: \$25 & payable at the Parish Office or at the November CWLA Meeting. Tickets available from Monday, 6 November 2017 to 12noon, Friday 17 November 2017. Remember a Gift for Secret Santa (*something that you'd like to receive*). Everyone welcome. For more information contact Maureen - 4152 1263.

Christmas Mass Ministries: Would all Liturgical Ministers who are here this Christmas please write your name on the lists at the doors of the church. Rosters for the Christmas Masses need to be compiled now. Thank you.

Rosters for January, February & March: will be started soon because of School Holidays. Will you be away for 4 weeks or longer, or perhaps have changes to your Mass Ministry or contact details? If so, please contact the Parish Office before 17 November 2017. Changes to the Rosters will not be able to be made after this date.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Michael Wyvill (Nanango); Monica Rayner (Terrigal); Dennis New; Moira Alfier (Italy); Russell & Janet McDonald; Carmela Fava (Home Hill).



SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

Matthew 22:15-21

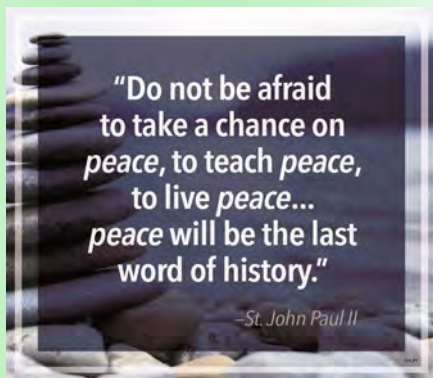
How do you react to others who try to challenge you or trick you for your beliefs?

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Cyrus was the king of Persia, who God "anointed" to defeat the Babylonians and to release Israel from captivity in Babylon. Why do you think God chose a foreign king to rescue Israel?

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Today's reading is the opening words to the earliest of Paul's letters, First Thessalonians, written in AD 50. How does Paul speak of the Trinity--Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?



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

SCRIPTURAL REFLECTION

In these final weeks of the Church's year, our readings from Matthew's gospel point towards what lies ahead. Today's gospel and that of next Sunday tell of the growing confrontation with the nation's leaders that will lead to Jesus' death. And in our last three readings from Matthew's gospel Jesus warns his hearers that the end is approaching.

The exchange recorded in today's gospel is well known. Matthew's brief account tells us a great deal about the situation that was developing in the last days of Jesus' life. The Jewish people bitterly resented the Roman occupation of their country; now, those who have turned against Jesus exploit this explosive situation to discredit him. The dilemma that Jesus is placed in by the question put to him about the paying of the Roman tax is brought out in Matthew's account by the composition of the group putting the question – Pharisees and Herodians. The Pharisees represent Jews who have a real problem of conscience paying the tax. Strict Pharisees would have considered the inscription on the denarius handed to Jesus – which almost certainly read, 'Tiberius Caesar, son of the divine Augustus, great high priest' – to be blasphemous. This influential group, dedicated to upholding the traditions of God's people, would have asked themselves whether they were compromising their principles by paying their tax with this coin. If Jesus encouraged the paying of the tax, he would not only offend the Pharisees, but also antagonise the common people who so resented the Roman rule. The Herodians, followers of Herod - the puppet ruler in league with the Romans - had no scruples concerning the tax. If Jesus condemned the paying of the tax, he could be denounced for subversion.

The famous reply of Jesus, 'To Caesar what belongs to Caesar; and to God what belongs to God' is not a clever evasion, as we may be led to think. With this reply, he turns the question back on his interrogators - taking the discussion beyond the level of the partisanship they are trying to exploit, he tells them that they are faced by a decision of conscience. As is so often the case – think of our own times – involvement in the political life of the nation is not a straightforward matter. The Romans had originally occupied Palestine at the invitation of Jewish leaders, bringing a relative stability, that replaced a situation of continuing anarchy. The contemporaries of Jesus must ask themselves whether the presence the Romans was the lesser of two evils. Today's first reading from the later Isaian writings is well chosen. Cyrus – who 'does not know' the God of Israel – is called by the prophet, God's 'anointed', as he fulfills God's designs, sending the Jewish exiles back from captivity after his defeat of the Babylonians. God is Lord of all, certainly, Jesus is telling his listeners; but Jewish conscience must judge whether the Roman presence is providential, preventing a worse situation. We should note that Jesus invites the people to make their own judgment of conscience; he does not make it for them. We would misunderstand the reply of Jesus if we thought it was meant to instruct us about the relationship that should exist between Church and State. His reply concerns, not the order of politics, but the order of moral responsibility - the individual's duty to participate in the life of the nation in a way that best promotes the common good of justice and peace. At a later date, when the Roman state became a demonic force intent on destroying the Church, defiance of the authorities was called for, and produced the martyrs who were the glory of the early Church.