

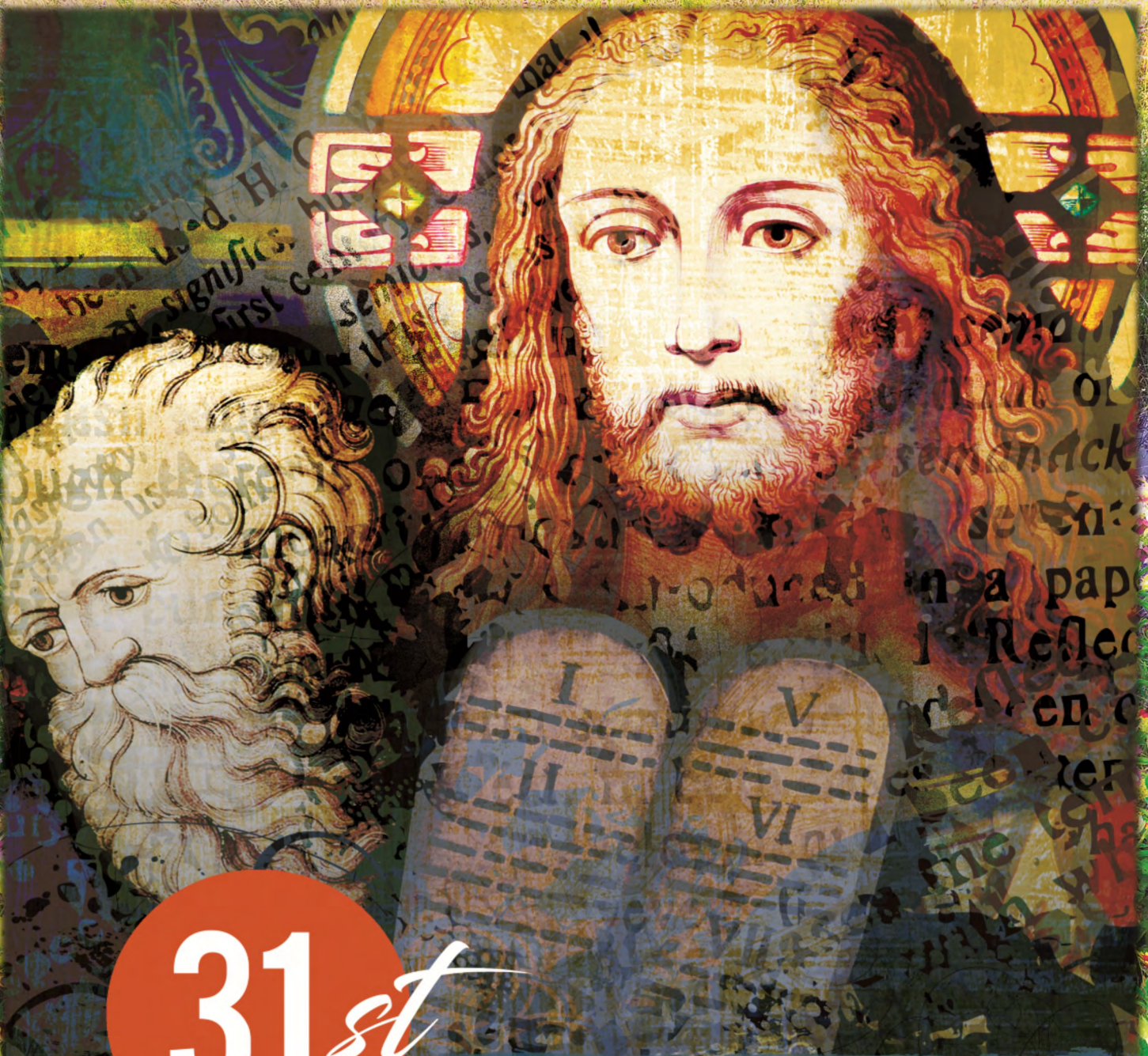


The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

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



31st

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example. For they preach but they do not practice.” - Mt 23:3

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 Pauline Merefield

(Chairman of Bundaberg Religious Instruction Cooperative)

This weekend is designated in our Diocese as *Catechist Sunday*. This year 18 of our Bundaberg Parishioners have been involved in sharing the Good News about our Christian faith with the Children across 13 out of the 24 State Schools. We thank them for their wonderful work in this area.

I would like to invite you to consider giving some thought to becoming a Catechist & here are the 10 top reasons why:

- You will grow in your own faith, learn the teachings of the Church, and deepen your relationship with Jesus.
- Your Baptism calls you to share in Jesus' ministry.
- Children in today's world, more than ever, need to hear the Good News of Jesus.
- Today's Children need to encounter good role models of faith.
- You have much to share with those you'll teach, and you'll have opportunities to share faith with other Catechists.
- Today's religious instruction resources offer outstanding support. (All you have to do is to choose which activities and worksheets you will do. So easy!)
- You'll be challenged, you'll have fun, and you'll make new friends.
- You'll be helping people deepen their relationship with Jesus. You'll be evangelising!
- You'll be handing on a 2000-year-old Tradition that changes lives.
- It's our job: Jesus sent us to "*go and teach all nations.*"

The commitment is usually a weekly half hour lesson during the school term, needing about one hour of preparation time. The classroom teacher is present always & this means behaviour management is generally minimal.

As Pope Francis said: "*Who are Catechists? They are people who keep the memory of God alive; they keep it alive in themselves and they are able to revive it in others. This is something beautiful.*"

I don't normally mention people individually, but I would like to thank Sr Mary Stallard (Year 6s at East State School) & Cathryn King (Year 1s at Norville State School) who after many years of faithfully serving this Ministry are retiring this year.

If you would like to become a Catechist, please contact the Parish Office.

LIVE THE LITURGY

November Devotion: The Holy Souls in Purgatory: Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. As a reminder of our duty to pray for the souls in Purgatory, the Church has dedicated the month of November to the Holy Souls. It is our great privilege that we can shorten their time of separation from God by our prayers, good works, and, especially, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

JUSTICE & SUSTAINABILITY

This is the International Week for Science and Peace which renews the commitment to science for peace and development, for the benefit of society. Pope Francis says in *Laudato Si* when science is well directed it can 'produce important means of improving the quality of life'.

It is our responsibility to speak out when this is not so.

LITURGIES

31st Week of Ordinary Time

Monday 6 November

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 7 November

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

Wednesday 8 November

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

Thursday 9 November

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
6.30am St Mary's - Mass

Friday 10 November

St Leo the Great
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 11 November

St Martin of Tours
7.30am St Mary's - LWC
9.00am Penance

NEXT SUNDAY

12 November 2017

32nd 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
11:00am Carinity
5.30pm Holy Rosary

SCRIPTURES

First Reading

Wisdom 6:12-16

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

NOTICES & EVENTS

Farewell: This weekend the NET Team's ministry comes to an end. We have been gifted with 5 talented and committed men and women of God who have invigorated the young people, and the young at heart in our parish. We give thanks to God and to them for the gift they have been for us and wish them every blessing as they go from this place. Kaelyn, Niall, Liam, Samantha and Monica, thank you and God bless.

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

Sacramental Programme Dates: Parent Session - Eucharist: 10.30am Sunday, 12 November 2017 OR Wednesday, 15 November 2017 at 7.00pm in the Parish Office.

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.

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.

Pageant of Lights ~ Thursday, 7 December 2017: The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg will be again entering a float in the Christmas Parade. If you have a child who would like to participate in the parade, or if you, yourself would like to walk as part of the Parish Community, please contact the Parish Office.

Christmas Carols at St James': from 4:30pm the afternoon of Sunday, 17 December 2017 at St James' Catholic Church, Bargara followed by a Cuppa & some Christmas Goodies. Everyone welcome.

Save the Date: Bethlehem Live ~ 19 - 22 December 2017 from 5.30pm to 8.30pm. Please contact Carmen at the Parish Office to register your interest.

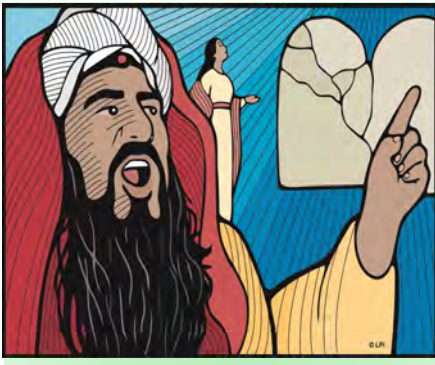
Catholic Mission World Mission Appeal: thank you for supporting the Catholic Mission World Mission Appeal - for reaching out to those in need in Vietnam and around the world through your kind gifts and prayers.

The Books of Remembrance: will be placed in all Churches this weekend for you to record the name/s of your loved one/s who have died. These and all the departed will be remembered in our Masses during the month of November.

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Doreen Sperling; Michael Wyvill (Nanango); Monica Rayner (Terrigal); Dennis New; Moira Alfier (Italy).



SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

Matthew 23:1-12

Jesus is very critical of the scribes and Pharisees, warning the crowds and his disciples to listen to them, "but do not follow their example." How does Jesus instruct his followers to behave in contrast?

Malachi 1:14b--2:2b, 8-10

The prophet Malachi reveals the sins of the priests, the Levites, and the people -- all fall short of God's expectations. How can Christians today avoid the trap of sin?

1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9, 13

How does Paul see himself modeling right behavior for the believers in the Thessalonian community?

*Be sure that
you first
preach
by the way
you live.*

— St. Charles Borromeo

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

SCRIPTURAL REFLECTION

Good leadership is essential, if human associations are to achieve their goals. God's ultimate designs for the human family are carried forward by the human communities called to be God's collaborators – first, the people of old Israel, and now the Church, the New Israel. The readings of today's liturgy remind us that many problems in the history of God's people have been caused by flawed leadership. The corrupt rule of the kings of old Israel and their disregard of God's covenant are notorious in Old Testament history. In our first reading, the 5th century B.C. prophet, Malachi reproaches the priests of the temple for the scandal they are giving the people – showing partiality; offering 'stolen, lame and diseased animals' in sacrifice (Malachi, 1:13). The conflict that will lead to the rejection and execution of Jesus is provoked by leaders who are blind to the truth he brings. Paul's concern to leave an example of selfless leadership in his ministry to the Thessalonians was motivated by his knowledge that the Church would suffer if its leaders did not exercise a leadership that was inspired by the Saviour's example.

Today's gospel reading tells us how the community for whom Matthew wrote recalled the Saviour's teaching concerning leadership of God's people. The leadership Jesus criticised was the outcome of a complex development. There was no single authority that interpreted the faith of old Israel. The Law of Moses, the 'torah', was handed down in the biblical traditions as the expression of God's authority. The priests of the temple were the traditional custodians of the rituals that gave expression to the people's covenant obligations. The teaching of the prophets was a spontaneous expression of guidance, like a conscience of the nation. The scribes were students of the Law who interpreted its contents. The Pharisees formed a popular movement, seeking to revive the nation's religious practice. Jesus acknowledged that it is these various groups who 'occupy the chair of Moses' – if the Law is to be interpreted faithfully, it is only these various authorities who can provide this interpretation. He criticised them, however, because they 'do not practice what they preach'. His criticism echoed the age-old teaching of the prophet. If they had the true spirit of the covenant (that should have been the very soul of Israel's faith) they would not interpret what the covenant required of God's people in a way that made it next to impossible for the common people to give faithful observance. Though they should have helped the nation to be one family under their 'one Father in heaven', they interpreted the Law in such a way that their elaborate observance gave them an elite status - which they celebrated by wearing the trappings self-importance and seeing themselves as deserving the admiration of the common people they despised.

In the stern words of Jesus we have another example of a peculiarity of the Aramaic idiom that is puzzling to our ears – its lack of a manner of expressing a qualified negative. Clearly, Jesus is not denying the role of 'fathers' and 'teachers' in our human life. He is condemning the elitist pretensions currently being associated with such terms by the scribes and the Pharisees. Heeding the teaching of Christ, God's people will recognise their fundamental equality before their common Father. Those called to positions of leadership among them will make themselves 'the last of all and the servants of all' (Mk 9:35); and all those who claim to be committed followers of the Lord must be on their guard against the spirit of self-importance that can be so damaging to the life of the Christian community