



# 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

32<sup>nd</sup>

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Afterwards the other virgins came and said, ‘Lord, Lord, open the door for us!’ But he said in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.’” - Mt 25:11-12



## 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 The NET Team

Greetings from the NET team!

As our year in Bundaberg has now come to an end, we would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for everything. This year has been an amazing chance for us to grow and minister within this community and we have loved the chance that we have had to be a part of the Parish of Bundaberg.

Thank you so much for the way in which you all supported us through the whole year; through the encouraging comments, meals provided for us, willingness to help us in any way and by the way we have totally become a part of this community. We have been so overwhelmed by the way in which this community has welcomed us and we thank you for making us feel as though Bundaberg is our home. We see so much potential within this community and therefore feel very confident in the young people as the future of the Church here in Bundaberg.

The efforts this Parish goes to for the young people is inspiring to see. We will sorely miss being present within this community, but know that as we all head onto whatever God has in store for us, that you all are always in our prayers and hearts.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of such a loving community! God Bless, Bundaberg NET Team 2017 – Monica, Niall, Samantha, Liam & Kaelyn.

---

## LIVE THE LITURGY

Are we ready and prepared for what life will ask of us? The answers to life's challenges, especially those that involve purpose, meaning, and happiness are not found in material things or by searching the Internet. Many things in life require a journey of the heart and the acquisition of wisdom. When one acquires wisdom, one acquires priceless wealth. Sadly, pursuing wisdom is not valued by our world these days. Examining our lives, pondering the bigger questions, reflecting on where we have been and where we are going, are invaluable exercises that not only bring us wisdom but open our eyes to God's presence. Those who seek wisdom shall not be disappointed and will always be ready for whatever comes their way.

---

## STEWARDSHIP

For all of us there are things we put off until tomorrow. Sometimes, that tomorrow never comes. We act like we have all the time in the world. However, time on this earth is for certain one thing that does not exist in unlimited supply. Death is the primary way earthly time ends for us. Yet there will come a time when Jesus returns and if you and I are still living at that time, I hope he finds us ready.

Are you ready for such an event? Have you taken seriously your decision to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? Has that decision moved you to live a life of stewardship where all you have and are belongs to God? Or have you put all of that off to somewhere down the road? Chances are you will be reading next week's reflection and nothing too earth changing will have happened. But then, maybe, just maybe, this time is when we all lose that bet.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

---

## JUSTICE & SUSTAINABILITY

In every person the desire for peace...coincides with the desire for a full, happy and successful human life. (Pope Benedict XVI's "Blessed are the Peacemakers")

*Can we in our lives be peacemakers by being more tolerant towards others  
whose cultures or beliefs are different from ours?  
By speaking out against violence? By praying for peace in our world?*

## LITURGIES

32<sup>nd</sup> Week of Ordinary Time

**Monday 13 November**

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

**Tuesday 14 November**

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

**Wednesday 15 November**

8.00am Shalom - Mass  
5.30pm St Patrick's - LWC  
7.00pm Holy Rosary  
- Memorial Service

**Thursday 16 November**

6.30am St Mary's - Mass

**Friday 17 November**

**St Elizabeth of Hungary**  
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

**Saturday 18 November**

7.30am St Mary's - LWC  
9.00am Penance

## NEXT SUNDAY

19 November 2017

33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary  
Time Year A

Year A (I)

PSALTER WEEK 1

**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**

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

**Second Reading**

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

**Gospel**

Matthew 25:14-30

## NOTICES & EVENTS

**Ritual of Remembering Baptism:** this weekend we celebrate a Ritual of Remembering Baptism with the Children & Parents who are preparing for Confirmation & First Communion. This marks the beginning of the process of preparation. Please pray for these Children.

**Sacramental Programme Dates: Parent Session - Eucharist:** Parish Office - **10:30am Sunday**, 12 November 2017 OR **7.00pm Wednesday**, 15 November 2017.

**Memorial Service:** Family & friends of our recently deceased are invited to a **Memorial Service** which will be held at **7pm on Wednesday, 15 November 2017** in Holy Rosary Church. Please RSVP to the Parish Office if attending. All welcome.

**The Books of Remembrance:** have been 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 dead will be remembered in our Masses during the month of November.

**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.

**St Joseph's Cathedral Conservation Appeal:** next weekend during all Masses there will be a 2nd Collection for the Conservation of the Rockhampton Cathedral. To prepare for this Appeal, envelopes have been placed on the end of the pews for you to take home & bring back next weekend. Thank you.

**Cherish Life Qld Inc (Bundaberg Branch):** presents the film **Euthanasia Deception**, Monday, 20 November 2017 at 1.15pm in the Novakoski Centre. Tea & coffee provided. Please bring a plate of finger food to share. All welcome.

**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.

**Community Christmas Carols in Bargara:** 6.30pm Thursday, 30 November 2017 at the Uniting Church, Bargara. For more information, please see the Church Noticeboards. Practice for this event will be held on Thursday 9; 16 & 23 November 2017 from 4pm - 5pm at the Uniting Church, corner Hughes Road & Blain Street Bargara. Everyone welcome.

**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.

**Word Among Us:** the December Edition of the Word Among Us is now available for collection from the Parish Office.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Newly Baptised:** Madden Jax Anderson & Cavalli Jach Anderson.

**Recently Deceased:** Irene Hansen, Patrick Dalton; Leslie Kirkham; & Doreen Sperling.





## SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

### Matthew 25:1-13

The parable of the ten virgins forewarns believers to be prepared for the return of Christ.

How do you think this is best accomplished?

### Wisdom 6:12-16

The virtue of wisdom is personified in today's reading.

What do you think our author means by saying wisdom is "the perfection of prudence"?

### 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

According to Paul, what is the sequence of events that will occur at the second coming of Christ?



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

## SCRIPTURAL REFLECTION

The last section of Matthew's gospel, before the narrative of the passion and resurrection, is a collection of Jesus' teachings urging readiness for death and judgment. The gospel readings for the liturgies of today and next Sunday (the last Sundays of the year's cycle) are from this section. Today we hear the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. The stern tone of the parable should not obscure for us the festive background this story would have called to mind for the original audience. The wedding customs of Palestine – different from our own – have not changed much over the centuries. They come to a climax with the arrival of the bridegroom and his friends at the home of the bride. Upon his arrival, the friends of the bride, who have been waiting with her, go out to join the groom's party for a ceremonial entrance. Those who heard the parable would have recalled that in the Old Testament, Israel's God was called the bridegroom of Israel. The rabbis used the espousal imagery of the Song of Songs in recalling this theme. The members of Matthew's community would have recalled that Jesus referred to himself as 'the bridegroom' (cf. Mt 9:35). The whole emphasis of the parable story, it is clear, is readiness for the coming of the Bridegroom. The 'cry' that goes up when he arrives, capturing the festive joy of the occasion, tells us of the eagerness with which the first Christians looked forward to the Lord's return. All the bride's friends are asleep – the Saviour's return, whether in the moment of death or at the end of the world's history - will come as a surprise to all. Though they are asleep, the wise bridesmaids are ready. Like the lover in the Song of Songs, they can say, 'I sleep, but my heart is awake'. We should not be distracted by their abrupt refusal to share their oil. Remember, in their original form the parables have one point to make. The foolish bridesmaids are removed from the scene to emphasize the point that only those who are ready will join in the festivities.

The first reading, from the book of Wisdom, is well chosen. In his story, Jesus calls the maidens who are ready 'wise'. Wisdom is greatly prized by the traditions of the world; it is a knowledge that helps us understand the things that really matter. Wisdom belongs to a set of Old Testament writings that give expression to a spirituality nourished by an outlook that comes from living one's life in harmony with the ways of God. As the parable invites us to ask ourselves whether we are ready to meet our Lord, and to review the loyalties and values that shape our lives, we may well ponder what is offered to us by God's Word in the first reading: the joy and peace that come from being in tune with God is there to be 'found by those who look'.

The first Christians looked forward eagerly to the Lord's return. With the passing of time, it became clear then to their period of waiting would be long. With the Saviour's resurrection, the last moment of God's plan has come; but as the second letter of Peter reminded those concerned about this delay, 'With the Lord, a day is like a thousand years' (3:8). These developments are echoed in the reading from 1 Thessalonians. It seems that when they embraced the faith and rejoiced in the union with Christ brought by baptism this community thought that they would not see death before the Lord's return. Some have died, however, and Paul is instructing them to remove their confusion. With them we can look forward to festivities in store for us. 'The Spirit and the Bride say, Come!...Come, Lord Jesus' (Rev 22, 17, 20).