



4th

SUNDAY OF LENT

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. - Jn 3:20

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

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FOCUS by The Bundaberg Net Team

Hello, Bundaberg! Thank you for your warm welcome (*and I'm not referring to the heat which our two North American Team Members are slowly adjusting to!*). We are very excited to be serving in Bundaberg this year! Although we come from different parts of the world, we are united by our common goal: **to share the gospel of Jesus through personal witness of faith.** We are especially excited to share this in Bundaberg through visits to the Catholic Schools, leading Youth Groups, and involvement in Parish activities. We're looking forward to getting to know many of you this year, so please don't be shy in introducing yourselves!

In our own words:

"I'd never heard of Bundaberg before coming to Australia, but after a week here, I can't imagine being placed anywhere else. Thank you for being so welcoming!" - **Helen Kovach (USA)**

"Being in Bundaberg is better than I could've imagined. Despite being Australian, the difference between here and Sydney is remarkable. Everyone is so welcoming. It's an amazing feeling to be welcomed so freely in such a beautiful place." - **Peter Munns (Sydney)**

"I'm beyond overjoyed to be in Bundaberg, and although it's a 60-degree difference, I already feel at home! Thank you for welcoming us and don't be afraid to come say hi!" - **Alex Hoffman (Canada)**

"First time in Australia and I'm here in Bundaberg. I've got to say, everyone I've met so far has been so warm and welcoming. I'm really looking forward to this year and journeying with you all. I'm sure it's going to be a fun and joyful time!" - **Gabriel Fortune (New Zealand)**

"I'm so grateful to be in Bundaberg this year and serve the young people of Bundaberg, showing them Jesus' love in a relatable way." - **Sinead Fitzgerald (Brisbane)**



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

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Peter Tonti PP

Parish Priest

Rev Andrew Hogan

Associate Pastor

Mrs Anne Sheehan

Liturgy & Sacramental Coordinator

Mrs Denise Tuzes

Visitation & Bereavement Coordinator

Mrs Diana Pippia

Administration & Finance Coordinator

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 Barga

OTHER CONTACTS

Diocesan Safeguarding

Daniel Donnini: 4887 3080

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.



Evangeline is strengthening Aboriginal culture, while making a living for herself and creating opportunities for her community. Featured in Project Compassion 2016, Evangeline was employed by the Caritas Australia supported Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation and quickly rose to the role of Senior Artsworker.

Her work at Djilpin Arts has supported the organisation's growth from a multi-media project to a multi-level contemporary arts and culture centre. An example of excellence in Indigenous tourism, it's now a key employer for young people in the remote Northern Territory community of Beswick (Wugularr).

Evangeline's career has flourished and she has become an inspirational youth leader. Evangeline says that Caritas Australia's support for Djilpin Arts, through Project Compassion, is vital for all Wugularr's young people. Although their families do their best to pass on knowledge, Elders are dying and she is keen to spearhead the preservation of culture and lore for future generations. "It's good for them to learn and to keep their culture strong," Evangeline says.

LIVE THE LITURGY

If we continue to journey through life without genuine self-knowledge, without knowing how our relationships ought to be ordered and what truth is, the path we walk will always be only dimly lit. In fact, when we make the wrong choices or find ourselves forgetting who we are, we can easily find ourselves in darkness. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." Jesus is the light that came into the darkness. It is not enough for us to simply believe that Jesus is the Christ but we must live our lives in witness to this truth. The choices we make and the priorities we establish are going to either speak of someone who really does not care, someone who is confused, or someone who is wholeheartedly convinced of God's love. Which are you?

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

When I first saw each of my three children, I loved them with a love that I did not realize existed in me. These were flesh of my flesh, bone of my bone, and were the result of the love between their mother and me. This made them mine. But as I have continued to grow in this stewardship way of life, I realize that these three wonderful human beings are not really mine. They belong to God. They are entrusted to me in this world, but they belong truly to the One who loves them even more than I do.

Not only did God offer his Son to the world, the offering was done with full knowledge that the Son would die a brutal death. God loves us so deeply he placed Himself in the very position that any parent dreads the most. So this Lent I will look at my children and I reflect on the depth of love a parent has for a child and the even more profound love God has for us.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS -

LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

Thursday 15th is Close the Gap Day a national day to pledge support for achieving indigenous health equality by 2030. Health equality is a fundamental right for all yet many of our First Peoples are denied the same access to healthcare that non-indigenous Australians take for granted.

We can become more aware of this inequality and share this information.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Fr Peter McGrath; Nelle Puie; Maria Coco; Roy Smith and Sr Mary Stallard; Joshua Lawfer (Brisbane).

NOTICES

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

From 12.15pm (Mass) Friday, 16 March 2018 to 11.45am (Benediction) Saturday, 17 March 2018 in Holy Rosary Church. Every Parishioner & Prayer Group is asked to spend an hour with the Lord in prayer & adoration. Please write your name on the sheets at the front of all Churches.

The Bundaberg CWLA Younger Group: will meet for dinner, Tuesday 13 March 2018 at 6.30pm at Sabrosa Steakhouse. If you would like to join us you would be most welcome. If you are attending, or for more information, contact Maureen - Ph: 4252 1263.

Sacramental Program (Primary School Students): preparation for the **Sacrament of Confirmation:** 10.30am Sunday, 11 March 2018 or Wednesday, 14 March 2018 at 7.00pm in the Parish Office.

CWLA Annual St Patrick's Celebration: Thursday, 15 March 2018 at 9.00am in the Shamrock Room at the Brothers Sports Club. Devonshire Tea, Irish Theme Variety Concert; Lucky Shamrock; Lucky Spots; Raffles & Continuous Cent Sale. Tickets: \$5.00. Proceeds to local & Australian charities. For bookings, please contact: Olga - Ph: 4151 3397 or Denise - Ph: 4159 2829.

Chrism Mass (Mass of Oils): Bishops Michael McCarthy invites you to join our Priests for the very special & solemn celebration of Chrism Mass, which will be celebrated on Wednesday, 21 March 2018 at 11.00am in St Joseph's Cathedral, Rockhampton. A Bus will be organised to travel to Rockhampton for this Mass if sufficient numbers respond. Cost: TBA. Please contact the Parish Office if you're interested.

Working Bee: volunteers are needed to help make *Palm Crosses* on Friday 23 March 2018 at the Novakoski Centre from 9am - 12noon. Please contact the Parish Office if you're available to help.

Easter Liturgy Rehearsals: for Holy Thursday: 5.00pm - 6.00pm, Monday 26 March 2018 in Holy Rosary Church; **for Good Friday:** both Holy Rosary & St Patrick's Churches are Tuesday, 27 March 2018 from 5.30pm; **for Easter Vigil:** Monday, 26 March 2018 from 6.00pm in Holy Rosary Church.

Easter Tridum Working Bee: volunteers are needed to help prepare vessels & objects (used during the Easter Triduum liturgies) on Wednesday, 28 March 2018 from 9am in the Novakoski Centre. Please contact the Parish Office if you're available to help.

Penitential Rite: an opportunity to celebrate Reconciliation in preparation to celebrate the Easter Triduum will be on Wednesday, 28 March 2018 following Mass at 5.30pm in Holy Rosary Catholic Church.

Easter Ministers Required: all Ministers who are available for ministry at any or all of the Easter Liturgies & Masses, please write your name on the list provided at the front door of the Church.

Word Among Us: the Easter Edition of the *Word Among Us* is now available for collection.

Date Claimer: the 16th Annual Ecumenical Luncheon will be held from 11.00am on Saturday, 25 August 2018 at the Bundaberg RSL. More details will be available at a later date.

The Cool Church Committee: is being formed to establish the best & most appropriate ways to cool our Churches. If you are interested in participating as a member of the Committee, please contact the Parish Office by **Thursday, 15 March 2018** and leave your name & contact details. The Committee will be open to all relevant suggestions to cool our Churches.

LITURGIES

4th Week of Lent

Monday 12 March 2018
9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 13 March 2018
9.00am St James - LWC
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Wednesday 14 March 2018
8.00am Shalom - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Thursday 15 March 2018
6.30am St Mary's - Mass

Friday 16 March 2018
9.00am St Patrick's School
- Mass with Children
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 17 March 2018
St Patrick - Solemnity
7.30am St Mary's - LWC
9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance
12.00pm Holy Rosary - Benediction

NEXT SUNDAY 18 March 2018

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year B (II) 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
Jeremiah 31:31-34

Second Reading
Hebrews 5:7-9

Gospel
John 1:20-23



SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

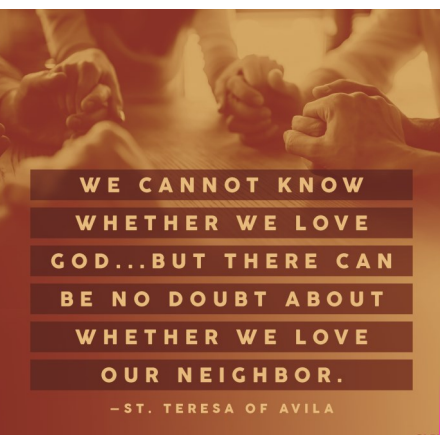
In today's reading the Chronicler details events leading to Israel's exile into Babylon in 597 BC and eventual release from captivity under King Cyrus of Persia in 538 BC. Why do you think God used foreign powers to rescue his people?

Ephesians 2:4-10

Paul speaks of faith as a "gift from God." Is this how you experience faith in your life?

John 3:14-21

John tells us, "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world." Why do you think some people believed that Jesus came to condemn the world?



WE CANNOT KNOW
WHETHER WE LOVE
GOD...BUT THERE CAN
BE NO DOUBT ABOUT
WHETHER WE LOVE
OUR NEIGHBOR.

—ST. TERESA OF AVILA

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Why is the world the way it is? We all wonder that from time to time. Each successive generation projects rose-hued longing on the past and casts furtive glances at the impending future. We see forces beyond our control in nature and in the newspaper. The world is changing and we're being pulled out with the tide.

In the face of this confusion, today's Gospel features one of the most oft-quoted Scripture verses of all time: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." But if Christ has come, why is the world so challenging? Why is the world still -- to our eyes -- being carried off in a proverbial hand basket? Jesus' response is a deeply personal one. "This is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light." Patterns arise, habits are formed, and systems become engrained, but each is the result of an interconnected web of human choices.

Where do we stand? Our answers, perhaps, vary from week to week, hour to hour, missed traffic light to spilled coffee to teenage child's rebellion. The world isn't perfect because we aren't perfect. Our parish is flawed because we're flawed. Our families need work because every one of us needs to be converted. Christianity is a process, not a destination!

This Sunday, Jesus invites us to consider our own lives. Where in our own lives do we prefer darkness to light? What flaws are we trying to hide? Humbly acknowledge those places today. Ask God for the grace to be transformed. Share with your spouse or a friend where you'd like to improve this week. "Whoever loves truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God."

John Thornhill sm
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EASTER LITURGY TIMES

Mass of the Lord's Supper
Holy Thursday - 29 March 2018
7.00pm ~ Holy Rosary Church

Stations of the Cross
Good Friday - 30 March 2018
10.00am ~ Holy Rosary Church

Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Good Friday - 30 March 2018
3.00pm ~ Holy Rosary, St James' & St Patrick's Churches

Easter Vigil
Holy Saturday - 31 March 2018
7.00pm ~ Holy Rosary Church

Resurrection Sunday
Easter Sunday - 1 April 2018
7.00am St James' Church; 8.00am Holy Rosary Church
& 9.00am St Mary's Church.