

19th

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"This is the bread that comes down from heaven so that one may eat it and not die." - Jn 6:50

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Have you ever approached a hushed group and were certain they were talking about you? It's an uncomfortable feeling to catch people murmuring about what you did, said, or didn't do. It breeds division and exclusion. In today's Gospel, Jesus invites us to just the opposite.

The reading opens with the crowds "murmuring" their doubts about Jesus after he has proclaimed himself the Bread of Life. *"Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph? how can he say 'I have come down from heaven'?"*

In his response, Jesus brings up the Israelites and the manna God brought them in the desert. If you turn back to the story in Exodus, you'll see another similar word: murmuring. As the going got tough, the Israelites doubted Moses and God's plan to protect and care for them as a chosen people. Here, Jesus proposes a difficult theological concept. Jesus himself is "the living bread" and "flesh for the life of the world."

This is not an exclusive concept. *"Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him comes to me."* Why? Because *"the Father who sent me draw[s] him."*

The next time you're at Mass, take a few moments to watch the communion line. Young and old, families and singles, diverse races and cultures and stories? We are all drawn to the Eucharistic table. Catholic doctrine may require faith, but it is a faith possible for anyone who seeks truth.

Christianity does not hide behind locked doors in an exclusive clubhouse, whispering behind the backs of non-believers. Jesus compels us to share the love of God the Father for his Children, that we one day be joined with Him and "live forever."



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 Jomon Poothara

Associate Pastor

Mrs Anne Sheehan

Liturgy & Sacramental Co-ordinator

Mrs Denise Tuzes

Visitation & Bereavement Co-ordinator

Mr Norm Whyte

Business Manager

Mrs Diana Pippia

Administration & Finance Co-ordinator

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 Bargaara

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.

LIVE THE LITURGY

Life can be confusing, and the demands and challenges of everyday life can easily cloud our vision. We can become tired. Because of all of the energy needed to manage our day-to-day routines, our spiritual lives can get neglected. Anger, apathy, bitterness, and competition readily distort our relationships with one another and with God. We are asked to imitate God and to put love, compassion, kindness, forgiveness, and gentleness over all things. We need to develop a strong life of prayer in order to bring balance to our lives and to realize who we really are.

DISCERNING GIFTS & TALENTS by Anne Sheehan

What's involved in the RCIA ministry?

The R.C.I.A. (The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is one of the most rewarding ministries in which to be involved if you take the words of Christ seriously. Note that the C in the R.C.I.A acronym stands for Christian, not Catholic. If you love your faith and would like to share it with others, then the RCIA is for you. If meeting new people and sharing stories of faith, life, and Catholic nuances appeals to you, then the RCIA is for you. If you love scripture, especially the New Testament, the origins of Christianity, then the RCIA is for you. Did I say you had to know all about scripture, the Catholic faith, Church teachings and law, or why we do what we do? No. All you need is the ability to share the joy that comes from following the way of Jesus Christ so that others may know him.

The R.C.I.A is the process by which those who are unbaptised want to become Catholic, and those who are baptised in another denomination wish to be received into full communion with the Catholic church. Those in the R.C.I.A Team help them to achieve this through the various stages of the journey. It involves meeting with them, preferably in a group situation, telling our story and listening to theirs, allowing them time to ask questions and gradually leading them closer to the mystery of God through the person of Jesus Christ through the scriptures, Sunday by Sunday. We meet at a time that suits them. The process is of no fixed time or length, but for the non-baptised, the Easter Vigil is their destination.

The first and principal minister of the R.C.I.A is you, a member of the faith community. The faith community welcomes and shows the candidates how to live as Christians first, and Catholics second. Your role is to be ministers of hospitality. Next we need catechists to guide them through the sessions and rituals, and sponsors to walk with them on their journey. Anyone who loves their faith and wants to share it with others is ideal for this ministry.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gifts you have given us.

You ask us to develop these gifts and share them with others.

Help us to recognise the gifts of others, so that together, we may respond to the call of Jesus to spread the Good News in our Communities.

May your Spirit of Love guide us on our journey.

LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

In the Social Justice Statement 2017-2018 *Everyone's Business*:- developing an inclusive and sustainable economy, we are reminded of Pope Francis' call that people always remain the centre of concern, avoiding the social and economic exclusion of individuals or entire communities 'when money becomes the end and motive of every activity and venture'.

As we reflect on our own lives are people or money the centre of our concern?

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Baptisms: Sylvia Celeste Callaghan; Samuel Andrew Grainger; Oliver Nasio; & Alistaire Madelena Nielsen.

Recently Deceased: Sr Ita Cavanagh; Don Hancock; Anne-Maree Falco; Patty Kernke (Brisbane); Larissa Beilby.

POSITIONS VACANT

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE CO-ORDINATOR

Expressions of Interest are invited for the full-time position of Administration & Finance Co-ordinator for The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg, commencing 3 September 2018.

The primary focus of this role is to provide Office Co-ordination, Bookkeeping, Finance and Administration Support.

The Position Description for this role is available by contacting the Parish Office either via email to bundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au or by telephone on 4151 6666.

Applications close at 3:30pm Friday, 17th August 2018.

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER

Applications are invited for the position of Human Resources Manager for the Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton.

Reporting to the Director of Diocesan Services, the Human Resources Manager is responsible for promoting a positive organisational culture that is focussed on Catholic values, performance and accountability. The position is full time but consideration will be given to a part-time arrangement.

For further information or to obtain a copy of the Position Description, please call Vicki Oliver on 4887 3090 or via email hr@rok.catholic.net.au.

Applications close 9.00am Monday, 20th August 2018.

NOTICES

CWLA Younger Set: are meeting for dinner at Sabrosa Steak House at **6.30pm on Tuesday August 14th**. If any younger ladies would like to join us, you would be very welcome. For further information or to book, please phone Maureen on 4152 1263 before Tuesday lunchtime.

Last Chance !!! - The 16th Annual Ecumenical Luncheon: will be held on **Saturday, 25 August 2018 from 10.00am to 2.00pm** at the Bundaberg Services Club (RSL, Quay Street). Guest Speaker: Chaplain Gary Stone (The Veterans Padre). Tickets: \$35/person & are **available from the Parish Office until Monday, 17 August 2018**. *Don't Forget !!! Tickets in the Ecumenical Luncheon Monster Raffle available now from the Parish Office (\$2/Ticket or 3 Tickets for \$5).*

World Day of Migrants & Refugees - Sunday, 26th August: Our Churches see many overseas people worshipping with us each Sunday, from Italy, Malta, Croatia, Vietnam, India, Phillipines, Tonga, Malaysia, Singapore, Scotland, Holland, and more. We invite those who come to us from other countries to come dressed in your national dress to any of the Masses that weekend. We would also like to have a Procession of National Flags at the beginning of Mass too. If you would like to take part in this procession, could you please contact Anne at the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Annual Ladies Dinner: hosted by the Bundaberg Passionist Family Group will be held on **Tuesday, 28 August 2018 from 6.00pm** in the Panache Restaurant, Shalom College. Tickets are \$26/person & are available from the Parish Office until Wednesday, 22 August 2018. Cash payment at time of booking appreciated.

Retreat ~ The Hospitality of God: presented by Fr John Daly, **9.00am to 3.00pm on Thursday, 30 August 2018** at St James' Catholic Church, Bargara. Morning Tea & Lunch provided. For catering purposes, please RSVP to the Parish Office by Monday, 27 August 2018. For more information please contact Denise Tuzes at the Parish Office. **All welcome.** Attendance by Visitation Ministers would be appreciated.

Why Do We? ~ A Monthly Presentation on Various Catholic Beliefs: **Thursday, 6 September 2018 from 5.30 to 6.30pm.** This First Session, presented by Fr John Daly, will be held in Holy Rosary Church and will look at why do we have certain sacred objects in our Churches eg: Statues, Altar, Lectern, Holy Water Font, Baptismal Font etc. Please RSVP to the Parish Office by Monday, 3 September 2018 if you are attending.

LITURGIES

19th Week of Ordinary Time

Monday 13 August 2018

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

2.00pm Fairways

- Mass with Anointing

Tuesday August 2018

St Maximilian Mary Kolbe

9.00am St James' - LWC

5.30pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Wednesday 15 August 2018

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6.30am St Mary's - Mass

7.00am St James' - Mass

8.00am Shalom - Mass

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Thursday 16 August 2018

6.30am St Mary's - Mass

Friday 17 August 2018

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 18 August 2018

7.30am St Mary's - LWC

9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance

NEXT SUNDAY

19 August 2018

**20th Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Year B (II)**

**Hours of the Solemnity
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

Proverbs 9:1-6

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:15-20

Gospel

John 6:51-58



**The Future of the Catholic Church
in Australia**

In 2016 Pope Francis said: “We need lay people who take risks, who dirty their hands, who are not afraid to make mistakes. We need lay people with vision of the future... with the flavour of life’s experiences, who are animated by dreams.”

On 4 May 2018, Catherine Sheehan wrote in “The Catholic Weekly”: Leading up to Plenary 2020, “In the Year of Listening, participants are invited to “Listen to God by listening to one another.”

**SCRIPTURE
REFLECT & RESPOND**

1 King 19:4-8

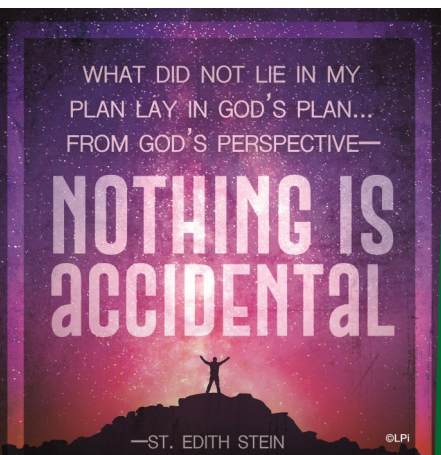
Within the larger narrative of today's reading, the prophet Elijah has been fleeing for his life from Queen Jezebel after defeating the false prophets of the god, Baal. In desperation and exhaustion, Elijah prays for death. The Lord responds by sending an angel to strengthen Elijah. How does prayer strengthen you in your spiritual journey?

Ephesians 4:30 - 5:2

Paul presents a series of ethical imperatives for the Ephesian Christians to live by. How well does your faith community live to these standards?

John 6:41-51

Jesus is not deterred by the Jews murmuring against him as he continues to speak of himself as "living bread." Why do you think some of the Jews found this idea so threatening?



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This is a way of the Church determining its course of action during a particular moment in time - discerning the “signs of the times” under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Indeed, the scriptural theme of the Plenary is “Listen to what the Spirit is saying.” (Rev. 2:7)”

It is an opportunity not just to devise new strategies to evangelise the culture around us, but also to engage in the New Evangelisation - that is, evangelising lapsed Catholics.

This is a mammoth task. As evidenced by the outcome of the same-sex marriage vote, and the decline in Mass attendance over recent decades, many Catholics have been successfully evangelised by the secular culture around them.

Yet with God nothing is impossible. After all, we believe in a God-man who rose from the dead. Like the small band of Apostles huddled in the Upper Room on Pentecost, we always have a reason for hope because we have the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

It is to be hoped that Australian Catholics take up the challenge of the Plenary Council 2020 by participating in it in a prayerful and hopeful way, recognising its import for the future of our Church in this country.

In her article, Catherine mentions “sign of the times” and “lapsed Catholics”.

Personally, my prayer in this Year of Listening is that we hear the voices of the younger Catholics and discern:

- What is required for them to want to take ownership of the Catholic Church in Australia?
- What is it within their current view of the Church that keeps them away from weekly Mass?
- What has to change for them to want to be practising Catholics?

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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