

#### FOCUS by Joe McCorley

What is God's plan for you, and for me? We are called, as the prophet Jerimiah was, to play a part in God's plan. "Before I formed you in your mother's worm, I knew you." (Jeremiah 1:5)

In God's plan, God has a role for each one of us. As God's plan is revealed, we are called to co-operate with God. This will bring about a great good, not only for us, individually, but also for our Community, our Parish, as art of the "Body of Christ."

And the Good News is, God takes care of the major part of the plan, leaving us with a small part. But it is fundamental to the plan. It is our using the unique gifts God gives to each one of us. We are grateful for these gifts, always age-appropriate. We use them in the service of others, in our families, in our Church, and the wider Community.

Like the sower in the parable, we scatter the seeds of the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus, like Mercy, Joy, Forgiveness and Love. But it is the Holy Spirit that helps them grow in the hearts of people. Our task is to keep scattering the seeds.

Once again, in our Stewardship Renewal, we make our commitments for the next three (3) years. We commit our God-given, personal gifts to particular ministries in our Church, or to the wider Community of Bundaberg. It is all part of God's plan as God's creation continues to evolve and change.

We continue to scatter the seeds. That is our crucial role. God will do the rest! We may not be remarkable people, nor were the twelve disciples Jesus called. But we have been chosen by God to be part of this community of disciples we call Church. Jesus Christ is the Head of this Body. We follow his Way!

"Here I am, Jesus!

I am ready for what you have in store for me this day."



# The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

#### 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

Wr Norm Whyte

**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 Bargara

#### **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: 18**00 692 273

**Towards Healing:** 1800 337 928

#### **AFTER HOURS**

Anointing of the Sick for Medical Emergencies Phone 4151 6666 & follow the prompts.

#### LIVE THE LITURGY

"Show me what is physically different between a host that is consecrated and one that is not." These are words that can be heard on the lips of anyone struggling with faith. Perhaps, they are heard on yours. Physical tests will reveal no difference. The difference is seen through faith. In one sense, it is simple. Either we believe that the risen Christ is present -- soul and divinity -- or we do not. The fruits of faith are the proof. In the Eucharist, God enters into the very depths of who we are. However, it is our choice whether we ignore what He does or act fully upon it. The Eucharist can change us. When people see that we are different, they in turn will themselves believe.

### DISCERNING GIFTS & TALENTS by Anne Sheehan

What's involved in the Sacramental Team?

This ministry is one of evangelisation, hospitality, and faith, and like the R.C.I.A, is for those who find joy in sharing faith and bringing others (children in this instance) to it. The Sacramental Team helps parents prepare their child/ren to celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist. Parents are returning to complete the action begun at baptism, that of full membership of the Church or initiation into the life of the Church. In many ways, the sacramental preparation period is a time of intense adult faith formation.

Many parents struggle to talk to their child/ren about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Church, and the sacraments. The Sacramental Team's role is to welcome them back in many instances, make them feel part of the community of the faithful, and help them through these areas of our faith. Parents need our support and help to prepare their little ones for the sacraments.

Practically there are three ministry roles in the Team. First and foremost is you, the faith community. You are the primary initiators of children and adults in the ways of faith. You welcome and acknowledge the young families you see around you on Sunday. You show them how to "pray the Mass" and be community.

The Team consists of catechists who lead parent and child sessions using pre-planned session outlines, video clips or music, and hospitality people who welcome the families at each session, look after the collection of fees, and assist in the sacramental liturgies. The program runs from Term 4 of one year through to the Easter season of the next, every 2 or 3 weeks, on a Sunday morning & Wednesday afternoon for one hour. Given enough Team members, the roles are shared so that the time commitment is minimal. Please consider serving our young families through 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

Today is World Humanitarian Day a time for all of us in our global community to recognize and celebrate those people around the world who face danger and adversity in order to help others, regardless of who they are or where they are.

How can we as individuals or as a community contribute to the elimination of these needs?

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR

Newly Married: Margaret Rose Attard & Edgar Ross Naysmith

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

#### **NOTICES**

E-Conference 2018: Synodality in Practice - Listening to the Spirit and Leading Change: For those who could not attend this excellent on-line conference last week it is available to view on-line at <a href="https://www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/short-courses/eConference-Video">www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/short-courses/eConference-Video</a> until Wednesday, 22 August 2018. The e-Conference centred around the 2020 Plenary Council for which we in the Rockhampton Diocese have already been preparing. It's about where we would like to see our Church in Australia, in our Diocese, in the near future and what needs to change in order to get us there. Gather some friends around a computer. It's definitely worth a look.

**Parish, Parents & Friends:** are invited to join our Shalom House Families to the Walsh House Mass on Friday, 24 August 2018 at 11.25am in the Loyola Chapel at Shalom College. All welcome.

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 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.

**History Project:** Bishop Michael would like to gather together some people of our Diocese who have a passion for recording and reflecting on the past, present and future of the Diocese. If you are one of those people, you are invited to a twilight gathering at the Duhig Conference Centre in West Street Rockhampton on 25 October 2018 from 4.00pm to 7.00pm to begin a new venture of ensuring that the history of the Diocese remains a central priority of our Diocese. A light meal will be provided. Please RSVP to Judith Gardiner via email: <a href="mailto:bishopsoffice@rok.catholic.net.au">bishopsoffice@rok.catholic.net.au</a> or telephone no.: 4887 3070.

**Transport to Mass:** Centacare has offered our Parish the use of a Bus to transport Parishioners to Sunday Mass. It is proposed that this Bus would pick-up Parishioners for both 8.00am Mass at Holy Rosary and 9.00am Mass at St Mary's and return everyone to their residences after Mass. If you know of anyone who would be interested in using this free service or who has a 'C-Class' Drivers License willing to be rostered as a regular driver, please contact Denise Tuzes at the Parish Office.

**Diocesan e-Newsletter:** the latest edition of the Diocesan e-Newletter is available to read on all Church Noticeboards. Alternatively, to receive a copy direct to your in-box, send an email with your name to: <a href="mailto:catholic.net.au">catholic.net.au</a> or contact the Parish Office to organize a copy.

**Wanted!!!** Washing Machine in working condition, suitable for use by the NET Team. Needed till mid-November. Please contact the Parish Office if you can assist.

# LITURGIES 20<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time

#### Monday 20 August 2018 St Bernard

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

# Tuesday 21 August 2018 St Pius

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

#### Wednesday 22 August 2018

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8.00am Shalom - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

#### Thursday 23 August 2018

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

- Mass with Anointing

#### Friday 24 August 2018 St Bartholomew

11.25am Shalom - Mass

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

#### Saturday 25 August 2018

7.30am St Mary's - LWC 9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance

#### **NEXT SUNDAY**

26 August 2018

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B (II) Hours of the Sunday Psalter Week 14

### 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
Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

Joshua 21.1-2, 15-16

Second Reading Ephesians 5:21-32

## Gospel

John 6:60-69



# SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

#### Proverbs 9:1-6

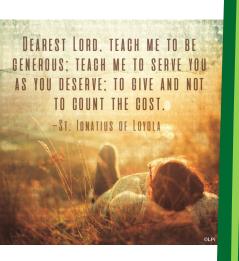
The Jewish sage of Proverbs uses domestic images to invite believers to participate in divine wisdom. What do you find attractive about obtaining wisdom?

#### **Ephesians 5:15-20**

Paul defines wisdom to the Ephesians as understanding "what is the will of the Lord." What do you understand as the will of the Lord?

#### John 6:51-58

The Bread of Life Discourse reaches its zenith in Jesus saying, "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you." How is this assertion central to our Catholic belief in the Eucharist?



#### **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**

In today's gospel reading Jesus concludes his teaching on the mystery of the Eucharist. We hear again the announcing of the Eucharist as the ultimate expression of the Incarnation: 'The bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world'. The listeners find this hard to accept, giving expression to the challenge all believers face as they own the truth of Jesus' words. The forthright response of Jesus to these doubts is a support and confirmation for our faith: through his Paschal Mystery he has truly become the healing and nourishment of the world, and he gives an ultimate expression to this fact by becoming our sacramental food and drink. Jesus is insistent: 'My flesh is real food and my body is real drink'; and the words he uses for 'eating' and 'drinking' in the gospel text have a graphic realism, confirming what he has said.

The Eucharistic mystery, whereby the Saviour makes himself - in the achievement of his Paschal Mystery - our very nourishment, is realised in a meal ('Do this' Jesus says). The first reading takes up the banquet theme. A celebratory meal shared with friends is one of the most meaningful moments of our human experience. Wisdom, the personification of God's ways in the world, calls those who are lost to share in her banquet. Now Jesus, who is the very Wisdom of God in person, calls us to his table.

And what does the nourishment of this meal bring to those who respond to the Lord's invitation? Nothing less than a sharing in the divine life that unites Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In the same gospel, at the Supper, the prayer of Jesus to the Father will be: 'All I have is yours and all you have is mine, and in them [my disciples] I am glorified' (17:10; see also v.21). In this discourse Jesus emphatically links this sharing in the divine life with the Eucharist: 'As I draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me'. And the joy of that life will never end: 'Anyone who eats my flesh has eternal life and I shall raise him up on the last day'.

Paul's teaching in the reading from Ephesians gives us a glimpse of the Eucharistic liturgies of the first Christian communities. As they gather to celebrate what God has done for them in Christ, they give expression to their wonder in 'the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns'. And when they return to their daily lives they take this faith and enthusiasm with them as they 'go on singing and chanting to the Lord in their hearts'. Their central prayer is one of gratitude 'always and everywhere they give thanks to God'. 'Eucharist' we know means 'Thanksgiving' the Church's principal act of worship is a grateful response to the God who 'loved us first'. Our prayer is to the Father, 'in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ'; because the Saviour has made himself our way to the Father. The people of their time, Paul tells them, have lost their way. Their life of witness and their prayer will be used by God to 'redeem' such people. We who are called to the Lord's table have a great responsibility – in eternal life we shall see how important in the designs of God are our heartfelt Prayers of the Faithful as we have bring the needs of the human family in faith and love to the Father.

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