

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

**25<sup>th</sup>**  
SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME

“Whoever  
receives one  
child such as  
this in my name,  
receives me.”

- Mk 9:37a

©LP

## FOCUS by Denise Tuzes

### GROWING OLDER

Only children look forward to getting older. The rest of us would like to stop time, to stay as we are, but as a wise Priest once said to me *“there is only one option to growing older and I am sure you don’t want to take that option.”* We have no power over the aging process as it unfolds before us and upon us. We can spend a fortune on hair implants, plastic surgery etc. etc., but these procedures can’t make us one day younger. What we do have is the power to choose how we respond to our own aging. We can dread it, or we embrace all the gifts that our years have to offer.

Growing older can certainly feel like a curse in a society that idolizes youth. Aging inevitably brings with it a series of losses: *the loss of employment and identity; the loss of control of physical strength and health; the loss of friends; the loss of an illusion of invincibility.*

But aging also bestows a vast array of blessings upon us: *the freedom of life without work, the joys grandchildren and great-grandchildren bring into our lives, too numerous to mention them all; the identity as the elder family member; the perspective on life that can only be gained through years; the awareness of human frailty; the link to the past that elders can offer; the wisdom that comes with age.*

We can get older against our will and become frightened, frustrated, and angry, or we can grow older and reap all the benefits of age. Growing older means that we actively choose to continue to develop and live and learn and give and teach and help and bless this world.

To all our older Parishioners, I hope your glass is always half (½) full.



**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**  
**Mr Jeffrey Caluag**  
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:** 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

Humility is really a virtue that allows us to keep our relationships in proper order: God first, others second, and myself third. However, we all wrestle with our incompleteness, weakness, and imperfections. Passions and impulses from within can color how we view our lives and distort them. Who among us does not struggle with jealousy, envy, pride, and lust? Then, when we can't have what we desire, we find ourselves angry, greedy, and taking more than we deserve. The downward spiral continues. Even Jesus' disciples, who knew him better than most, argued about who was the greatest. Humbly seeking the wisdom that comes from God and His righteousness is the corrective we need in order to keep ourselves in check.

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Jesus said, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." We are called to serve and not to be served. If we seek what we truly deserve in this life, we will find that we are not actually entitled to much. If we humble ourselves and seek to serve others, we will receive an abundance of good things, even though we still won't deserve it. For all we receive, is a gift.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

The economy, which has come to be the dominant consideration in our society, must be directed towards the good of all. We are called to challenge ways of operating that undermine human dignity and damage the most vulnerable of our neighbours. Pope Francis calls on each of us and on our Christian community to consider where the economy fails to serve the common good.

(Social Justice Statement 2017-2018)

## SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2018-2019

Next weekend is Social Justice Sunday. This year's Australian Catholic Bishop's Social Justice Statement is titled:

*'A Place to Call Home : Making a Home for Everyone in our Land'.*

The Statement challenges us all to confront Australia's growing rate of homelessness and unaffordable housing.

For further information, visit the Australia Catholic Social Justice Council website: [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or call (02) 8306 3499. Limited copies are available at the doors of all Churches this weekend to take home and read.

## LEADERSHIP IN A EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY

You are invited to come along to a workshop on "*Leadership in a Eucharistic Community*" presented by Sr Carmel Pilcher and Fr David Orr on **Saturday, 20 October 2018** from **10.30am to 12noon** in the Parish Office Conference Room. Please RSVP your attendance by Wednesday, 17 October 2018. All welcome.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Newly Baptised:** Josip Andrej Basanovic and Hunter George Stranieri.

**Recently Deceased:** Stacey Coco; Rev. Fr John Hill; Mavis Gann; James "Jim" Matthews Dunphy; Nora Lane; Mary Jeffers (Brisbane); Margaret Fitzsimon (Brisbane); Tracey Read (Mackay); Peter Heuser; Andy Patroni (Mackay); Bill Taylor; Nieves Bulow; John Manly; Mario Signor (Italy); Bevan McGarvey; Sr Ita Cavanagh; Don Hancock.

**September Anniversaries:** Frank Curran; Tony Gunn; Alma Della; Antonio Pippia; Emanuel Borg; John Zandona; John Orvad; Joe Uccisella; Graham Moohen; Beatrice Ball; Agata Leonardi; Nell Gunn; Ray Fourro; Clem Healey; Mary Priesa (USA); Sergio DePaoli; Edna Christensen; Frances Steemson; Margaret Kelly (nee Dwyer); Harry Fincham; Joseph Jendra; John Clarke (Snr); Ross Andrewartha; Brian Woodward; Reta Murphy; Leonard Coop; Theresa Galea; James Priaulx.

## NOTICES

**Christian Meditation:** there will be **NO** Medication in the Parish Office on Tuesday and Friday during the School Holidays.

**Prayer Against the Termination Bill:** continues Monday to Friday in Holy Rosary Catholic Church, beginning with the Angelus at 12noon, followed by Mass (Tuesday & Friday), and/or Rosary during Exposition and Adoration for half an hour.

**Bundaberg CWLA October Meeting:** will be the Springtime Luncheon at Café 1928 on **Tuesday, 2 October 2018**. Please RSVP to Maureen (Ph: 4152 12 63 / 0407 964 753) by the afternoon of Friday, 28 September 2018. Cost \$5. Proceeds from the raffle will go to 'Make a Wish Foundation'. All welcome.

**Visitation Ministry Coffee & Cake Meeting:** 10:30am Thursday, 27 September 2018 in the Parish Office. Please RSVP to the Parish Office.

**Christian Unity Prayer Group:** Thursday, 27 September 2018 from 10am in the North Transept of Holy Rosary Catholic Church followed by fellowship in the Novakoski Centre. All welcome.

**Parish Office Closed:** from 12noon on Thursday, 27 September 2018 until 8.00am Friday, 28 September 2018.

**Drought Relief: Diocesan Appeal:** a Second Collection on **Sunday, 30 September 2018** (*Social Justice Sunday*) will be held with all monies going to Rockhampton to be distributed to Centres in need.

**Why Do We?: "Why Do We Catholics Attend Sunday Mass/ What Do Catholics Believe About Mass"** presented by Fr John Daly, Thursday, 4 October 2018 from 5.30pm to 6.30pm in the Parish Office.

**'Wear a Tie' Sunday:** the weekend of the **6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> October 2018** begins the start of *Mental Health Week*. Please show your support and wear a tie to Mass that weekend and offer a gold coin donation as you leave. More details available on the Church noticeboards.

**Ministry Training & Formation:** starts **Sunday, 7 October 2018**. Please refer to the back of this week's Hymn Sheet for applicable dates & times for your nominated ministry. **Note:** Compulsory attendance required. Apologies appreciated if unable to attend. Thank you.

**Public Square Rosary:** join the public nation-wide rosary for Our Lady for the repentance & conversion of our Nation on **Saturday, 13 October 2018** at 1pm at St Mary's Catholic Church. BYO: chair; sunshade & water. Contact Sue Greenwood on 0447 039 823 for more information. All welcome.

**Pregnancy & Infant Loss Memorial: Monday, 15 October 2018** at 7.00pm in Holy Rosary Catholic Church. All welcome.

**Shalom Concert ~ An Afternoon of Beautiful Music:** from **3.00pm Saturday, 20 October 2018** in Holy Rosary Church. Entry by Donation. All funds raised will go to the Drought Appeal. All welcome.

**Volunteers Needed !!!:** to operate audio-visual equipment (laptop) to display the texts of hymns each weekend during Sunday Masses. Training will be provided. Please contact Norm Whyte at the Parish Office.

**New-Look Parish Website:** Check out our new-look website [www.bundabergcatholic.net.au](http://www.bundabergcatholic.net.au), with gratitude to Craig Hancock who created and maintained our website for the past ten (10) years.

## LITURGIES

### 25<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time

#### Monday 24 September 2018

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass  
10.00am Mater - Mass  
12.00pm Holy Rosary  
- *The Angelus & Exposition ...*

#### Tuesday 25 September

9.00am St James' - LWC  
9.30am Gracehaven  
- *Anointing Mass*  
12.15pm Holy Rosary  
- *Mass followed by Exposition ...*

#### Wednesday 26 September 2018

10.30am Tricare  
- *Anointing Mass*  
12.00pm Holy Rosary  
- *The Angelus & Exposition ...*  
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

#### Thursday 27 September 2018

**St Vincent de Paul**  
6.30am St Mary's - Mass  
10.00am St Mary's  
- *Anointing Mass*  
12.00pm Holy Rosary  
- *The Angelus & Exposition ...*

#### Friday 28 September 2018

12.15pm Holy Rosary  
- *Mass followed by Exposition ...*

#### Saturday 29 September 2018

**Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael**  
7.30am St Mary's - LWC  
9.00am Holy Rosary - *Penance*

### NEXT SUNDAY

30 September 2018

### 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B (II)

Hours of the Sunday  
Psalter Week 2

#### 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

Numbers 11:25-29

#### Second Reading

James 5:1-6

#### Gospel

Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48



## SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

### Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

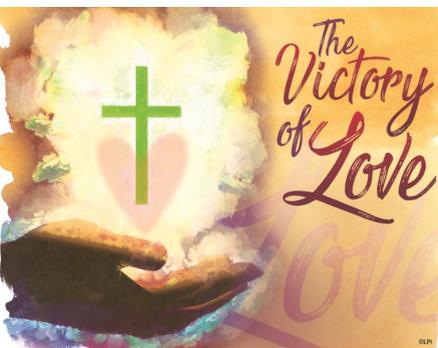
We hear from the Wisdom writer the mindset of those who oppose God. Where do you see this mentality in the world today?

### James 3:16 - 4:3

James speaks of one's passions as the source of much conflict in the world and in ourselves. Which of your passions have caused conflict for you?

### Mark 9:30-37

Jesus teaches the disciples today that true discipleship requires humility and simplicity. In what ways is this condition of discipleship a challenge for you?



## 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

### THE WISDOM THAT IS A GIFT FROM GOD MAKES FOR PEACE

The Galilean ministry of Jesus has ended in rejection. In today's gospel reading Jesus begins to give his whole attention to preparing his disciples for the final rejection that awaits him in Jerusalem – a rejection God will transform into a victory over all evil in the Saviour's Paschal Mystery. The first reading, from the Book of Wisdom vividly anticipates what lies ahead for Jesus. In fact, it is describing the selfishness and foolishness good people have to contend with in every age. The existence of real and pervasive evil presents a challenge to Christian faith. The freedom and responsibility that are the hallmarks of our human dignity will often be abused and obstruct the purposes of God. How is God to make creation a final masterpiece, by turning all things to good in the end?

There is something truly prophetic in the reading from Wisdom, because it echoes the Songs in the Book of Isaiah concerning God's Servant: 'the punishment reconciling us fell on him, and we have been healed by his bruises' (Is 53:5). These Songs were quoted by Jesus in the synagogue in Nazareth (Lk 4:18-19). No doubt they were of great importance to him as his mission unfolded. God's designs have been patiently prepared. Evil is a problem for all of us: we have to contend with disruptive forces – within ourselves, in our dealings with others, in the wide world in which we live. Like the disciples Jesus is instructing, we are still learning how to cope. Those whom Jesus wants to be the bearers of the Good News of God's ways are still lost in their self-centred ambitions. It is a situation that is so typical of our human experience. It leads Jesus to give the disciples a lesson that is at once radical and simple: 'Anyone who wants to be first must become last of all and servant of all'. Perhaps we have here another echo of the Servant Songs that have been mentioned – Jesus himself will be our example in the living out of this truth. Great teacher that he is, Jesus goes on to give the disciples an object lesson - receive those who have nothing to give you in return, like this child I am embracing, he tells them, and you will be true disciples of mine and dear to my Father.

James' letter, as we have said, reflects the ideals of a Jewish community of Christian faith. Their spirituality has its roots in the Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament and its call to live in harmony with God's ways. Today's reading shows how well these first Christians have learned the lesson Jesus was teaching the apostles on their way to Jerusalem. We are all challenged to look into our own lives as James names those things that belong to a world shaped by selfishness: 'jealousy and ambition', 'disharmony', 'battles between yourselves', unrealistic desires 'so that you fight to get your way by force'. It is all too familiar. How much more authentic and attractive is the alternative, shaped by God's ways – 'the wisdom that comes from above' – bringing 'peace', 'compassion' and generosity, fairness and straightforwardness. And James' characteristic practicality helps us to relate to this ideal as something within our reach: we must 'pray properly', not seeking through our prayer 'to indulge our own desires', but finding the joy that comes from identifying with the ways of God, after the example of Jesus.