



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,  
*King of the Universe*

So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king." - Jn 18:37a

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

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## FOCUS

### *One Solitary Life*

Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty. Then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never owned a home. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put His foot inside a big city. He never travelled two hundred miles from the place He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself. While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed upon a cross between two crucified thieves. While He was dying His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth – His coat. When He was dead, He was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend. Twenty long centuries have come and gone, and today He is a centrepiece of the human race and leader of the column of progress. I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that were ever built; all the parliaments that ever sat and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of people upon this earth as powerfully as has that One Solitary Life.

Adapted from the writings of James Allan Franci  
Pastor of First Baptist Church of Los Angeles 1914-1928



# 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

**Mr Jeffrey Caluag**  
Administration & Finance Co-ordinator

## 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

We live in interesting times. Life is constantly changing. While this can be exciting on one hand, change also presents challenges. We live in an age of relativism where people can pick and choose the truths that suit them and build their own system of beliefs. While humans certainly have the freedom to choose, losing sight of long-standing universal truths is not such a healthy course. Jesus Christ our King is our universal truth! He is the God who is nonnegotiable, our non-option! In Christ, we know what truth is. He alone points us to God, our true selves, our proper relationships with one another, and the world in which we live. Christ directs us to the poor and vulnerable and teaches us what God's kingdom is meant to be. Christ is the king who serves others. He gets dirty. He ascends the throne of the cross. We are called to do the same.

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

When I was growing up, my parents told me about Elvis Presley, the King of Rock 'n' Roll. He received that title from fans due to the huge effect he had on rock music. When I was a teenager, people called Michael Jackson the King of Pop. The designation was based on the fact that he had so many hits for so many years and because of his power as a live performer. The title of king carries with it a lot of weight and communicates to people that the one bearing the title is at the pinnacle of something, some people, or some reality.

There are many kings of many things, but only one King of the Universe. If you were the king of a kingdom, all would be your subjects. In the universe, all creation bows down to this king. No other king stands above him. All belongs to Him, although much is given to each of us as gift. He gives out of love and our love for Him should cause us to use those gifts for His glory, for we are more than simple subjects. We are sons and daughters of the King. We are royalty due to the mark of Baptism.

Elvis and Michael are gone. Monarchs from different eras and places have vanished. However, our King is alive and well, calling us to have full membership in His Kingdom. His name is Jesus. His Kingdom is at hand.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

We are called to uphold the dignity and rights of every human being. On this International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women we can remember that we all have a responsibility to raise awareness and prevent violence against women and girls.

The example of how we relate to others is a great teacher.

## RCIA HAPPENINGS

This weekend during the 9.00am Mass nine children will celebrate an adapted Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens. This is the Rite where they ask to be initiated into the Church family through the Easter sacraments. They are signed with the Sign of the Cross and commit to learning more about Jesus. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Recently Deceased:** Francis Jones (Sydney), Angela Stocco, Kathleen Salmon; Debbie Prosser (UK), Lola Comas (Ayr); Dorothy Castle; Martin Thomas; Zeny Borrás (Philippines)

## NOTICES

**The Word Among Us** : Advent 2018 edition is now available for collection from the Parish Office. \$27 each.

**The Little Blue Books** : Advent 2018 are now available at the front entrances of each church, or from the Parish Office. \$3 each

**Rosters for January, February & March:** will soon be started. If you will be away for four (4) weeks or more, or have changes to your Mass Ministry, please advise the Parish Office **by Friday, 30 November**.

**Community Christmas Carols in Bargara: 6.30pm Thursday, 30 November**, Uniting Church Bargara. For more information, please see the Church Noticeboards. Everyone welcome.

**Holy Spirit Seminary Appeal:** next weekend **1/2 December 2018** there will be a 2nd collection for the Seminary Appeal. Please give generously. Thank you.

**Musicians & Singers:** next practice is **10.30am Saturday, 1 December 2018** in Holy Rosary Church. Please begin thinking about where you will be this Christmas as preparations are under way.

**Parish Christmas Celebration:** the Parish Stewardship Council invites all parishioners to join them for a **Christmas Celebration** on **Saturday, 1 December 2018** from **3.00pm - 5.00pm** in the **Parish Office**. Food & Drinks provided. For catering purposes, please RSVP to the Parish Office by Monday 26 November 2018.

**Christmas Mass with Children:** will be held on **Christmas Eve** at **5.00pm** in **Holy Rosary Church**. Each year we invite young children to take part in this *Christmas Mass with Children*. Secondary students make excellent readers & singers. There are parts available in the Gospel dramatisation for Joseph, Mary, Angels, Shepherds, Sheep & Cattle. If you would like to be involved in this Mass, either in the dramatisation, reading or singing, please come along to the Novakoski Centre (behind Holy Rosary Church) on **Wednesday, 5 December 2018** at **3.30pm** when parts will be allocated. For more information, please contact Anne Sheehan (Parish Office) on 4151 6666 or Pauline Merefield on 4159 3272.

**Pageant of Lights: Thursday, 6 December 2018.** The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg is entering a float in the Christmas Parade. If you have a child who would like to participate in the parade, or if you, would like to walk as part of the Parish Community, please contact the Parish Office. *All children must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the event.*

**Christmas Carols at St James Church, Bargara:** from **4.30pm Sunday, 16 December 2018** followed by a cuppa & some Christmas goodies. Everyone welcome. Tickets for the Monster Raffle are now on sale at the Parish Office and will be drawn that afternoon.

**Temperature Control of Holy Rosary:** The Finance Committee have circulated a proposal & discussion paper concerning this matter. This document is available from the Parish Office, on our parish Facebook page, and on our parish website: <https://www.bundabergcatholic.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Temperature-Control-for-Holy-Rosary-Church.pdf> - Please read and provide feedback.

**Christmas Gift Giving:** Thank you to the many who have already donated gifts for those in need this Christmas. There is still time to take a tag, buy a gift for that person and return to the church. Last weekend for donations will be **8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> December**. Santa's helpers are required to sort the presents on **Monday 10 December at 9.00am -12noon** in the Novakoski Centre, continuing each day until all are ready for distribution the following week. If you can help with sorting or distribution of gifts please leave your name at the office.

## LITURGIES 34<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time

**Monday 26 November 2018**  
9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

**Tuesday 27 November 2018**  
9.30am Gracehaven—Mass  
with Anointings  
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

**Wednesday 28 November 2018**  
8.00am Shalom - Mass  
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

**Thursday 29 November 2018**  
6.30am St Mary's - Mass

**Friday 30 November 2018**  
**St Andrew**  
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

**Saturday 1 December 2018**  
7.30am St Mary's -Mass  
9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance

## NEXT SUNDAY 2 December 2018

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Year C (I)**  
**Hours of the Sunday**  
**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 33:14-16

**Second Reading**  
1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

**Gospel**  
Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

Today's feast is a relative newcomer to the Church's liturgy – established by Pius XI, last century, as the Church's response to the emergence of totalitarian regimes. There is a certain irony in the fact that when it was established earthly kings and queens had become little more than figureheads. The gospels of the liturgies of this feast in the three year cycle, however, make it clear that this symbolic theme can still invite us to deepen our appreciation of the role of the Saviour in the designs of God. The first and second readings – from the prophecy of Daniel, concerning 'the Son of Man', and a reading from the Apocalypse proclaiming the fulfilment of the prophecy in Christ – remind us of the deep roots this theme has in the Scriptures. This year's gospel reading from John takes us to the heart of the drama being enacted before the Roman governor – as, according to the words of Jesus at the Supper, the 'Son of Man' is being 'glorified', and in him God is being glorified. Jesus will reign, but he assures Pilate that his kingdom – 'not of this world' – is not in competition with the earthly powers Pilate represents. He will establish God's reign, not by power and violence, but by bringing his 'truth' to the world, the truth that is one of the principal themes of John's gospel ('Father, consecrate my disciples in the truth, your word is truth', Jn 14:6; 'I AM truth and life', Jn 14:6). This truth is a sharing in the wisdom of the Father, the personal truth in which we come to know who we are in the plan of God, the truth that 'sets us free' (Jn 8:32). The Kingdom announced and inaugurated by Jesus is a renewed creation, ruled by the ways of God - shaping all things, liberating them and leading them to their fullness. When Jesus teaches that this reign of God has already begun in a hidden way (Mk 4: 26 etc.) he is telling us that we can know something of this final achievement of God, when the truth he has brought to the world shapes our lives.

The exchange between Jesus and Pilate also makes it clear that the execution of Jesus is a consequence of his rejection by the establishment of the Jewish nation. In John's gospel, this conflict is described in terms of the 'truth' that he has brought from his Father: 'It is because I speak the truth that you cannot believe me' (8:45). He has urged his people to find again their true calling in the designs of God, to be 'a light to the nations', showing the world the life and joy of a people living according to the ways they have learned from his Father.

John's gospel, as we have seen, portrays Jesus as reigning on the Cross. His exchange with Pilate echoes through the continuing narrative, 'Here is your king', Pilate declares (18:14); the governor's 'notice' reads 'King of the Jews' (18:19); Jesus entrusts the beloved disciple – standing for us all – to his mother (19:26); 'the blood and water' from his side are solemnly proclaimed as a blessing upon us all. What Jesus foretold early in his ministry has been realized: 'The Son of Man must be lifted up so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life' (Jn 3:14). The symbol of kingship may have become archaic, but what it speaks of in the Scriptures, concerning the role of the Saviour in reign of God, has an everlasting relevance, far removed from the politics of this world.

John Thornhill sm



### SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

#### Daniel 7: 13-14

The prophet Daniel fore-saw the "coming son of Man." In what ways do you see this prophecy as a vision of Jesus Christ?

#### Apocalypse 1:5-8

The opening verses of the Revelation of John affirm Jesus as "the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth." How is this belief about Jesus fundamental to our faith as Christians

#### John 18:33-37

During his trial, Jesus tells Pilate that his followers "listen" to his voice. How is listening to Jesus' voice a spiritual exercise 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.