



The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Office Hours: 8:30 - 3:30 Monday to Friday

Parish Office: Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St

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Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

4th SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C)

31 March 2019

FOCUS by Anne Sheehan

Lent has a two-fold focus: remembering baptism, and repentance. Having young people and adults who are journeying towards initiation at Easter makes this season important, not only for them, but for the whole community. For the RCIA this is a Period of Purification and Enlightenment. As the RCIA Elect are looking more closely at their lives to see what still needs to be “uncovered and healed”, strengthened and made clean in the light of the Gospel, we are given the opportunity to do something similar as baptised members of the Church.

It's a time to consider our baptismal call. Ask yourself “why am I baptised?”, “what's the purpose?” An interesting exercise is to ask your parents why they brought you to be baptised! “What overtakes or consumes my life and prevents me from living my baptism?” Is it anger, greed, selfishness, self-pity, ignorance, prestige, and so on? What can I do to change? Do I need to think of or do for others more than for myself? The Church gives us this season to reflect on the bigger picture and, like the son in today's Gospel, turn back to the Father.

Which brings us to the second focus of Lent, repentance. The Elect do not “make” their first confession before the Easter Vigil. They discover God through Christ as a forgiving, compassionate and merciful God. They realise the need for forgiveness and repentance. During baptism we were anointed, washed clean, clothed in an unstained white garment, and given new life with the Holy Spirit to live as God's beloved sons and daughters. Most importantly we were given a lighted candle, symbol of Christ our Light, who conquered darkness and guides us through the potholes, sharp bends and detours of our life, until at last we come to our eternal home with the Father.

With the RCIA Elect, Will Mizzi, Ayla Duffy, Tye & Jayda Critchlow, Riley McKenzie, Matilda & Emily Olsen who prepare for the beginning of a new life in Christ as his faithful followers, take some time to consider how well you're travelling as one of the baptised. Life will be changed for the RCIA Elect after being washed in the waters of baptism at the Easter Vigil. Our lives were changed all those years ago, too. In what way?



Fourth Sunday of Lent

31st March 2019

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Michaela is a 21-year-old trainee at Purple House, a dialysis center in the Central Desert for people suffering from kidney disease. With the support of Caritas partners, Michaela is helping to build a social enterprise, a connection to culture and a new outlook for the chronically ill.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help provide essential health care, employment and training for First Australians like Michaela.

Lives change when we all give 100%. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Peter Tonti PP

Parish Priest

Rev Jomon Poothara

Associate Pastor

Rev Ronaldo Rodriguez SVD

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

Mrs Raquel Arriola

Reception

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

Judy Pidcock: 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.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

We shouldn't determine our actions based upon what we get. The actions of a loved one are due to the love for one's beloved. Jesus gave his life out of love for us. He has shown us what complete surrender looks like. He does not need our surrender but wants it because that is what those in love do. This Lent, perhaps our prayer should not be to simply be better stewards, but to love Him more. Then our motivation will not be based upon what we should do but on what we are moved to do out of love.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

FROM POPE FRANCIS "LAUDATO SI"

Patriarch Bartholomew has spoken in particular of the need for each of us to repent of the ways we have harmed the planet, for "inasmuch as we all generate small ecological damage", we are called to acknowledge "our contribution, smaller or greater, to the disfigurement and destruction of creation". He has repeatedly stated this firmly and persuasively, challenging us to acknowledge our sins against creation: "For human beings... to destroy the biological diversity of God's creation; for human beings to degrade the integrity of the earth by causing changes in its climate, by stripping the earth of its natural forests or destroying its wetlands; for human beings to contaminate the earth's waters, its land, its air, and its life – these are sins". For "to commit a crime against the natural world is a sin against ourselves and a sin against God".

LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace is Saturday 6th April. 'Sport can be a powerful handmaiden for peace and reconciliation.....In effortless throwing asunder all human barriers, sport is indeed the world's universal language.' (Social Justice Statement 2014-2015) *Let us work towards peace in our own lives and world not only through sport but by eliminating injustice, oppression, racism....*

BUNDABERG NET TEAM

The week of Sunday, 17th March - 23rd of March started with ECHO Junior and ECHO Senior looking into the theme how we can be like Jesus through the tagline of "who do I want to be"? On Monday and Tuesday, we were at St. Joseph's and St. Mary's, sharing the gospel of the transfiguration. Through card games and singing "This Little Light of Mine" we shared how we all have lights in us that shine just as Jesus did. Wednesday was Rachel's 21st birthday! We began the day with mass in the chapel, followed by assisting yr 7's in exploring their "house heroes". We facilitated "VISION"- our Shalom youth group at lunch time, where we had our biggest group yet! At Shalom, we facilitated interactive RE classes on the topics, Stations of the Cross and the Eucharist. On Thursday night the team led the opening prayer at the Stewardship Council meeting. We are incredibly grateful for their continued support, encouragement and contribution to NET Ministries in Bundaberg. We concluded the week with our "REACH" young adults' night on Friday which led into the 'Hour of Power' where team led some praise and worship music during adoration. It was a great way to end the week with prayer and fellowship. We are grateful for all the beautiful affirmations and wonderful smiling faces of the parishioners we encounter.

FEEDBACK - CATHOLIC CEMETERY SHED

Oral history tells us that this building was probably built in the 1880's either as a school classroom or as a chapel. It is now used by our Cemetery Sextant for storage, but it badly needs repair work and painting. The potential cost of restoration has prompted the Finance Committee to ask if it would be more economical to build a new shed. Photos of the existing shed are available on our Parish website. We would appreciate any feedback you have regarding our options to refurbish the shed, or to spend a similar amount of money on constructing a new purpose-built structure, and in keeping with the surroundings. Please email any comments to norm.whyte@rok.catholic.net.au

NOTICES

EASTER MINISTRIES: Could all ministers who haven't yet contacted Anne about your availability to assist at the Easter liturgies please add your name to the list at the door of the church or email. Thank you.

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: Family session: Sunday, **31st March**, 10.30am or Wednesday, **3rd April**, 5.30pm in the Parish Office. **Topic: Eucharist.**

ADULT FAITH: The next session will be held Monday **1st April** at 1:00 pm and repeated at 5:30 pm at the Parish Conference Room. **Topic 5: The Location (Google Earth) and Journey of the Unfolding Biblical Story.** Presented by Father Peter Tonti. All welcome! Please bring your bible.

SOCIAL JUSTICE GATHERING: For those committed to a Gospel-based response to injustices, beginning 6.30pm, **5th April – 6th April**, Duhig Centre, Bishop's Office, West St, Rockhampton. Guest speaker, Mr Mark Copland, former Executive officer for the Social Justice Commission in the Toowoomba Catholic Diocese for 16 years. RSVP **23rd March**. Contact Sr Pat Wood rsm, 0419203677, marypatricia.wood@gmail.com, or locally, Sr Margaret Schofield 4153 4631. Registration forms available at the Parish Office.

MASS OF RECONCILIATION: Monday, **8 April** 6.30pm at Holy Rosary Church. Individual confession afterwards if required.

EUTHANASIA SUBMISSIONS: The *Queensland Parliamentary Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee* (the Health Committee) **has called for submissions** on aged care, end-of-life and palliative care and voluntary assisted dying. **Voluntary assisted dying, also known as euthanasia is assisted-killing.** Cherish Life QLD encourages you to send in a personal submission on this critical matter. **Submissions are due by 15 April.** Please visit <https://www.cherishlife.org.au/issues/euthanasia-in-queensland> for information on how to send yours. **Every submission counts.**

DATE CLAIMER: Working Bee to make Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday, Friday, **12th April**, beginning at 9.00am in the Novakoski Centre. BYO Lunch. Please contact the office if you can help on this day.

HEARTS ON FIRE CONFERENCE: Led by Fr Ken Barker MGL on Friday, **12th April**, 7pm to Sunday, **14th April 2019**, 11.30am at Kevin Castles Centre, West Street Rockhampton. Cost is \$50 including lunch on Saturday and morning/afternoon teas. Please contact Sharon McDonald to register at 0409 632 074 or email Smcd2237@bigpond.com

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRIENDS OF KEPNOCK GROVE AUXILIARY: Past members are invited to afternoon tea on Monday, **13th May** from 1.00pm at the Pavilion of Carinity Kepnock Grove. **Please RSVP to Debbie McCormack by 29th April at 4131 2222**

FRIENDS OF KEPNOCK GROVE AUXILIARY ANNUAL MAYTIME MORNING TEA: Tuesday, **21st May** at the Kepnock Grove Pavilion (Community Centre) from 9.30am. Admission \$5.00 (includes home made morning tea, fashion parade by Target, mini cent sale, lucky door prizes and competitions) Please come along for a very enjoyable morning. To book a table, phone Lyn 4151 6724 or Casimir 4151 4888.

THE WILD GOOSE DVD SERIES – LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR: Unleash the Holy Spirit in your life. Come along to the 2019 Life in the Spirit 6 week series commencing 7pm at the PARISH OFFICE **Tuesday 30 April through to Tuesday, 4 June.** In this professionally filmed and stunning series, Fr Dave Pivonka will lead you on an unforgettable journey into the very heart of God. Discover the immense power and beauty of the unconditional love of God that is the Holy Spirit. If attending please phone parish office 4151 6666.

PHOTOS PLEASE: If you have taken photos of your group's recent activities, could you email them to the office at sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au for us to share.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Luzvi Ligacion (Philippines), Colleen Mary Bellett, Marjorie Monsen, Marlene Pavlides (nee Moohen), Roy Dawkins

LITURGIES

Monday 1 April 2019

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 2 April 2019

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

Wednesday 3 April 2019

8.00am Shalom - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Thursday 4 April 2019

6.30am St Mary's - Mass

Friday 5 April 2019

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass
with Adoration

Saturday 6 April 2019

7.30am St Mary's - Mass
9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance
6.00pm St Patrick's - Mass

NEXT SUNDAY

7 April 2019

5th SUNDAY OF LENT

Year C (I)

Hours of the Sunday

Psalter Week 1

7.00am St James'
8.00am Holy Rosary
9.00am St Mary's
12.00pm Baffle Creek
5.30pm Holy Rosary

SCRIPTURES

for next Sunday

First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

Second Reading

Philippians 3:8-14

Gospel

John 8:1-11

LENT

Ash Wednesday and **Good Friday** are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year (CCL97, 1251-52).



SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

Joshua 5:9-12

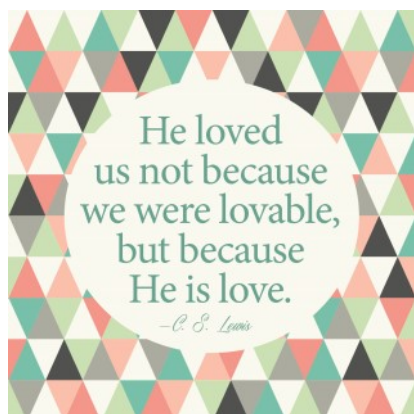
After Moses died, Joshua successfully settled the Israelites into the Promised Land (Canaan). Israel was now fully freed from their Egyptian captors after 40 years of struggle. When have you experienced liberation from a difficult situation?

2 Corinthian 5:17-21

Paul taught that through Christ, we, as believers, are reconciled to God. In this way, we are a new creation. How does the season of Lent keep you focused on this reality?

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Jesus' parable of the Prodigal Son is one of the most beloved parables. Why do you think so many people relate to this parable?



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

4th SUNDAY OF LENT

He said to him, "My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours." Luke 15:31

Repentance. Envy. Joy. Hope. Have you felt these human emotions? Today's Gospel offers a rich story, one we can all find our place in. As we reflect on our own spiritual lives this Lenten season, it can be helpful to imagine ourselves in the story of the Prodigal Son.

"I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers." The younger son has sinned greatly, betraying his father's trust and squandering his money in sin. Yet the parable turns on his deep repentance and humble return to his father. Is there any area of your life you have been wandering from God or you've squandered good gifts? This Lent, return to the sacrament of Confession! God, a merciful Father, waits for you there.

"While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him." The father in the parable sees his son's selfishness, perhaps even suspects what he might do, but gives him the inheritance anyway. After his son's departure, the father waits with hope for his son's eventual return. Has someone you love left the Church, made poor decisions, or abused your trust? This Lent is a time to let go of bitterness and to live in hope. Prepare your heart to be merciful!

Not all in the parable invite the mercy of God into their hearts. The self-righteous older brother dishonours his father with his pettiness. "My son, you are here with me always, everything I have is yours." Do you covet what others have? Do you feel as if you've been taken advantage of or that your work goes unseen? This Lent is a time to grow in gratitude. Take a close look at the blessings in our life that you might be missing.

We are all called to repentance. Open your heart to God's personal invitation to growth!