



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

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR C)

5 May 2019

FOCUS by Fr John Daly

During this period between Easter and Pentecost our Scripture Readings are from John's Gospel (The Gospel of the Beloved Disciple), The Acts of the Apostles (an account of how the early Church began and developed) and The Book of the Apocalypse (the hope of what is to come). The Feast of the Ascension is an exception in that, it uses Luke's Gospel and the Book of Hebrews.

Our readings at this time speak of the essential virtues: faith, hope and love. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit the early Christian Community is identified by these three ways of living. So much so that St Paul in his writings can say "Three things only last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love." (1 Corinthians 13:13)

That being the case, it makes sense that we as individuals and as a community of disciples build up these virtues while we have a chance. This period between Easter and Pentecost is about firming up our Baptismal vocation: to be covered in Christ; to live His life. It is a good time to look at our faith, hope and love. Am I attempting to live these virtues more fully? Can people look at our community, our parish and say "They are a community of believers where hope has a home and love is evident"?

Our Gospels and The Acts of the Apostles certainly stress the witness of love. "By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples." (John 13:55 - Fifth Sunday of Easter)

Love has many faces. It is seen in the way people encourage one another; in the manner in which we speak to and of others; in our attitude to differences and so on. I saw a news item during the week where the Mayor and community leaders from Binalonan, a town north of Manila in the Philippines have placed a ban on gossip. Gossip had become so diverse that now there is in place an anti-gossip group ordinance. For gossip one can receive a fine and then pick up rubbish around the town. While it seems sad that a law has to come into place for such a thing, it does emphasise the damage gossip causes and what an act of disrespect and lacking in love it is.

There are so many ways we can fail to love or witness to love as a parish community! In this Easter Season, let us in faith live in a more loving way. It is the only way to hold back the growing hatred and intolerance that seems to be spreading throughout the world.

Let us be guided by our Easter Scriptures. To discover what true love is we may reflect on St Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, "Love is..." (1 Corinthians 13:4-13) or look to the fruits of the Spirit as listed by St Paul in his Letter to the Galatians, "What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control." (Galatians 5:22)

To have these in our lives and in our community is to witness in faith, hope and love the life of the Risen Christ.

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 Bargara

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

I am struck by how Jesus addresses the disciples in the 21st chapter of John. They have been fishing all night, and when the dawn comes, Jesus asks, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" They hadn't caught a thing, so he tells them what to do to finally fill their nets. These children thought they knew best, but they couldn't get the job done until they listened to Jesus. Like a child who needs a parent, these early followers of Jesus were learning that real maturity of faith requires trusting in and listening to the Teacher.

The stewardship way of life demands of us a certain maturity of discipleship. Just as a child is not yet ready to be a parent, an immature disciple may not yet be ready to sacrifice regardless of the cost or understand the true value of his generosity. So every day, we are challenged and called to respond, sometimes even with little cost to ourselves. But each step, no matter how small, brings with it growth. We are growing not only in maturity, but in the ability to trust in God and how to listen for the call as well.

How mature are you in your faith? How much trust do you have in Jesus Christ? How often do you pause to listen to the instructions of your Teacher? The night is now over, and the dawn is upon you. Reflect on the visible fruit of your stewardship, and then listen for the words of Jesus.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

FROM POPE FRANCIS "LAUDATO SI"

What is more, Saint Francis, faithful to Scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness. "Through the greatness and the beauty of creatures one comes to know by analogy their maker" (*Wis 13:5*); indeed, "his eternal power and divinity have been made known through his works since the creation of the world" (*Rom 1:20*). For this reason, Francis asked that part of the friary garden always be left untouched, so that wild flowers and herbs could grow there, and those who saw them could raise their minds to God, the Creator of such beauty. Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise.

LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

This Saturday is World Fair Trade Day. Fairtrade addresses injustices and enables farmers and workers in developing countries to improve their position and have more control over their lives. As we buy our goods or have a tea or coffee our purchases can support Fair Trade products. (Social Justice Diary 2016)

BUNDABERG NET TEAM

Following our Easter celebrations, the team got back into ministry after a great Holy Week. On Tuesday we were at St. Mary's, led by Sophie where she shared about the Resurrection of Jesus. At Shalom, the team led classes for the year 11s on "Good vs Evil" and "The Eucharist". Thursday was Anzac Day and several of the team members and parishioners took part in the Dawn Service at Bargara which was a beautiful ceremony and quite the cultural experience for the internationals on team. On Friday our REACH young adults group began the 'Alpha' video series which will occur fortnightly at the parish office, it was a great night of Mexican food, fellowship and amazing discussions. We concluded our week with attending Mass at St. Patrick's. We are incredibly grateful to all the parishioners who have made us feel so loved throughout this Easter season- may the joy of Jesus' Resurrection bring so much peace and solace to your hearts!

WHY DO WE DO WHAT WE DO (a monthly presentation of Fr John Daly)

Thursday, 9th May 5.30pm Parish Centre

Topic: Why do we, as Catholics have a devotion to Mary?

ADULT FAITH (Breaking Open the Scriptures) by Fr Peter Tonti

Monday, 13th May 1.00pm repeated at 5.30pm at the Parish Centre

Topic: The Outline and Structure of the Unfolding Biblical Story using Google Earth

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Edna Blake, Patricia Eileen McKenzie, Edward Arthur "Ted" Burton, Iris Fallini nee Vella (Mackay), Betty Fry (Blackall), Barry Hunt, Lynette Mary Swan, Mary Aura O'Keefe, Patricia Jean McIntyre, Daphne Kettle, Esme Patricia 'Pat' Rewald, Willemina Drent, Patricia McIntyre, Isobel Lydia Aplin, Albino Modolo

NOTICES

BISHOP'S VISIT: Bishop Michael will be with us on the weekend of 11th/12th May. Confirmation of the children will occur on Saturday, **11th May**, at 11.00am in Holy Rosary Church, followed by First Communion during the 6.00pm, 8.00am and 5.30pm Masses that same weekend.

BUNDABERG CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Bring a friend to the May meeting on Tuesday, **7th May** at the Café 1928 at 11.30 for 12. The proceeds from the raffle on this day will be our contribution to "The Biggest Morning Tea" fund raiser. You might like to bring a raffle prize. Cost \$5.00. If you wish to attend, please contact Olga (4151 3397) by Sunday night May 5th.

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 29 April at 4131 2222

CWL YOUNGER SET: Meeting on Tuesday, **14th May** 6.30pm at Sabrosa Steak House. If any younger ladies would like to join us, you would be very welcome. For further information or to book, please phone Maureen before Tuesday lunch time 0407 964 753.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: Family and friends of our recently deceased are invited to a Memorial Service on Wednesday, **15th May** at 7.00pm in Holy Rosary Catholic Church. Please RSVP to the parish office if attending. All welcome.

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

2019 MAYORAL SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY: Tuesday, **21st May** 6.30am-8.30am at Bundaberg Multiplex Convention Centre. Guest speaker: Andy Gourley, Founder and CEO of Red Frog Australia. From \$30 per person. Must be purchased by 13 May at bundabergregionevents.com.au or by phone 4130 4100 or in person to Moncrief Entertainment Centre. For enquiries phone 1300 883 699 or email events.admin@bundaberg.qld.gov.au.

CATHOLIC MISSION: Catholic Mission Diocesan Director, Greg Clair would like to thank Parishioners of our parish for their continued faithful and financial support. The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg generously donated a total of \$5, 523 to The World Mission appeal last October and donates a yearly total of \$7,814 through regular monthly givers. **Thank you to all for your wonderful support.**

PROJECT COMPASSION: Thank you all for your support in the Project Compassion 2019 appeal. We have raised a total of \$17,287.35. Your generosity will help give hope and transform lives of the vulnerable.

CATHOLIC CEMETERY: Evidence would suggest that many flowers, vases etc have recently been stripped from several graves at the Cemetery. This is a heartless act of vandalism, and is very distressing for family and friends who care for their loved ones' graves. Apparently a similar act recently occurred at the Bundaberg General Cemetery. We are very sorry for families and friends who are affected by these thoughtless actions.

RELAY FOR LIFE: Saturday, 10th - Sunday, 11th August 2019. Registration now open.

EDUCATE AND SPONSOR ENGAGED COUPLES

Dear Parishioners,

SmartLoving is an easy, online marriage preparation program. The program is proudly Catholic and seeks to provide a quality and integrative experience for couples preparing for marriage. The program includes the engagement of Sponsor Couples who walk with those preparing for marriage.

The Parish of Bundaberg is inviting you to be a Sponsor Couple. There will be a presentation for those interested in knowing more about the program Wednesday 8 May at the Catholic Parish of Bundaberg Parish Centre commencing at 10:00 am. Mrs Francine Pirola (Director of the Marriage Resource Centre, Sydney), one of the authors of SmartLoving, will lead the presentation.

More information about the SmartLoving program can be found by contacting www.SmartLoving.org or contacting the parish office 4151 6666. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in being a Sponsor Couple and if you are able to attend the presentation.

Peter Tonti PP

LITURGIES

Monday 6 May 2019

9.00am Holy Rosary - Mass

Tuesday 7 May 2019

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

Wednesday 8 May 2019

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

Thursday 9 May 2019

6.30am St Mary's - Mass

Friday 10 May 2019

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass
2.30pm - Pioneer Gardens -
Anointing Mass
7.00pm St Mary's - Mass

Saturday 11 May 2019

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

NEXT SUNDAY

12 May 2019

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

Year C (I)

Hours of the Sunday

Psalter Week 4

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

SCRIPTURES

for next Sunday

First Reading
Acts 13:14, 43-52

Second Reading
Apocalypse 7:9, 17-17

Gospel
John 10:27-30



SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

Acts 5:27-32, 40-41

In the immediate weeks and months following Jesus' resurrection, the Apostles performed many miracles, but they also suffered for their faith and for preaching about Jesus. Why do you think non-believers even today are threatened by Jesus' resurrection from the dead?

Apocalypse 5:11-14

What does John's vision reveal to us about the unseen order?

John 21:1-19

Three times the resurrected Lord asks Peter, "Do you love me?" And three times Jesus tells Peter to "feed/tend my sheep/lambs." Jesus then foreshadowed Peter's martyrdom. What do you make of this exchange between Jesus and Peter?



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

[Jesus] said to him, "Follow me." - Jn 21:19b

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

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GOSPEL REFLECTION

"Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.'" Peter is a favourite apostle for many people. I wonder if it is because of his flawed, relatable humanity. Today's Gospel takes place after Jesus appears to the disciples and breathes the Holy Spirit upon them. And yet, Peter finds himself returning to his old way of life, to comfortable habits he formed long before following Jesus. Is something still lingering in him? Is something still lingering in us? Lent is over, and we should be rejoicing! But do you feel like you're still holding onto something? Or perhaps you had an excellent Lent. You encountered Jesus in a new way and grew in faith. But as the weeks since Easter have slipped by, some of your newfound devotion has begun to waver. The closeness you felt in your Lenten commitments has given way to humdrum status quo or turn-of-the-season busyness.

"Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter has endured so much in his walk of discipleship! But something is still weighing on him. In today's Gospel, Jesus confirms Peter's devotion three times, a redemption of his earlier threefold denial. The call of the Lord must come again, as if heard anew for the first time. So often, this is the pattern of the Christian life. We discover God and experience a new desire for our faith, but in time, our enthusiasm begins to wane. Perhaps something happens that startles us, or we startle ourselves by a poor decision. Then we discover God anew! Our joy returns...for a while. Even the Apostles were no strangers to the cyclical nature of spiritual growth. Our disappointments or frustrations should not be cause for giving up. Like Peter, we too can recommit and start anew. This Sunday and every day of our lives, Jesus is waiting to say again, "Follow me."