

FoCus by Fr John Daly

Next Thursday is the Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop. She is the first and only Australian to be canonized a Saint of the Church. Yet in Australia we have had many saints. They are known by us - parents, friends, parishioners who have gone before us. In our parish we have many living saints whom we meet frequently. They are ordinary people who love others in an extraordinary way. The signs of sainthood to which each of us is called to in this life are these - to have a deep relationship with Christ; to live his Way as found in the Gospel; to love as he loved; to be willing to listen to the Holy Spirit's direction. A test of sainthood is to have at least some of the fruits of the Holy Spirit as found in Paul's Letter to the Galatians 5:22-23 (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control).

As we hear the call to sainthood in the everyday events of our lives we might use Mary MacKillop as a model to guide us. She is especially present to us in Bundaberg. She has walked in our city; worshipped in our original parish church; visited the Sisters of St Joseph who taught in St Joseph's School.

There are two statues in the Parish that are special in that they speak to us of her presence here in Bundaberg: In St Joseph's school there is the figure of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop sitting on a semicircular seat. Either side of her there is a room for children to sit. Children were her priority especially in bringing education to children who were poor or isolated. Another statue is to be found in the foyer of our Parish Centre. It features Mary being greeted by the first Parish Priest of Bundaberg, Fr Rossolini. Fr Rossolini appreciated and supported Mary MacKillop and her sisters working here in St Joseph's School. We have copies of his letters to Mary.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop is still a special friend to us in Bundaberg. She is our Saint. I have a special gift, a calendar called "Mary McKillop's Daily Thoughts". I recommend it to you. It can be purchased from the Parish Bookstore.

Next Thursday let us take time to thank God for the example of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop who in her living of the Gospel witnessed to the human dignity of each person. She was one who faced life's challenges with faith and courage.

She will pray with us as we pray for those we know who are sick or suffer in any way. She once said to her Sisters, "We must not forget our loved ones in our prayers. Though they may not need them, we know they won't be lost."

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 Coordinator

Ms Anne Carlsen Parish Safeguarding Representative

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

A few months back, my wife and I helped move my oldest son into his first real apartment. He was moving to start his first real job and was excited and cautious at the same time. Moving him in reminded me of when his mother and I were first starting out. We received an old couch from her aunt, some kitchen supplies from my mom, and many other things from friends and relatives so we could begin this new journey in our lives. We didn't have much. But we had one another, and we had love. Looking back, those were great times.

Sometimes, we think material possessions give evidence of a life lived well. Artefacts from our travels, collections that take time to amass and provide clues to our interests, and various pictures and prints that adorn our walls. However, those who have lived lives of hardship and pain have many of the same items. Not only doesn't all our stuff amount to real evidence of what our life has really been like, but it doesn't make our lives better either.

What makes a life well lived will be the love and compassion that we have experienced, primarily with God who loves us so deeply. Due to that love, God gives to us what we need, not always what we want. More stuff will never amount to anything in comparison to what God provides to us. If we reflected on that truth more, perhaps we would spend less time accumulating things and more time simply loving.

On that moving day, I wanted to give my son more material things than was possible. However, what he really needs then, now, and always is my love.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

FROM POPE FRANCIS "LAUDATO SI"

One particularly serious problem is the quality of water available to the poor. Every day, unsafe water results in many deaths and the spread of water-related diseases, including those caused by microorganisms and chemical substances. Dysentery and cholera, linked to inadequate hygiene and water supplies, are a significant cause of suffering and of infant mortality. Underground water sources in many places are threatened by the pollution produced in certain mining, farming and industrial activities, especially in countries lacking adequate regulation or controls. It is not only a question of industrial waste. Detergents and chemical products, commonly used in many places of the world, continue to pour into our rivers, lakes and seas.

LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

This week is Homelessness Week. In the Social Justice Statement 'A Place to Call Home' for 2018-2019, we are called to be a community of hospitality, called not to walk past the thousands whose wounds need binding, but to reach out to them particularly in the face of homelessness and housing stress. As the Good Samaritan responded, so can we by building genuine human relationships with those who are homeless, supporting them and organizations helping them.

NET TEAM

NEW YOUTH GROUP TIMES - Echo Junior: Primary School Youth Group (Years 4-6) Thursdays | 4pm - 5:30pm | Holy Rosary Youth Centre. **Echo Senior:** High School Youth Groups (Years 7-12) Fridays | 3:30pm – 5:30pm | Loyola Centre in Shalom College.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (17-39 years old): Sundays | 7:00pm-9:30pm | Parish Conference Room in the Parish Office

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Adrian Herman Verdel, Ruth Eyles (Brisbane), Jim Noble (Mackay)

NOTICES

SAFEGUARDING IN OPERATION: To keep you fully informed regarding Parish Safeguarding activities, we can report that you have responded well to requests from our Parish Safeguarding Representative Anne Carlsen and volunteer assistant Jan Aplin to bring your Blue Card details and status up to date. This Parish recording process is almost completed, however there remains a few volunteers who have not yet responded to requests for Blue Card details. This very important work needs to be completed now, therefore if you are a Parish volunteer and have not yet advised of your Blue Card details, can you please contact the Parish Office urgently on 4151 6666 and advise Anne or Jan. Thank you.

<u>CALLING FOR NEW MEMBERS OF THE PARISH STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL:</u> We are calling for Nominations for new members of the Parish Stewardship Council this weekend. We would ask you to give some prayerful thought to nominating someone possibly yourself, for these positions.

<u>POWER POINT PRESENTATIONS</u>: On Friday, *5th August*, the projector will be installed at Holy Rosary Church thereby allowing us to project an enlarged image of the hymns and some prayers onto the wall above the exit door to the carpark. People sitting in the Woongarra Street transept may not have a clear vision of the projected text, and therefore hymn sheets will continue to be available for that part of the church. **OPERATORS**: We need operators for each weekend Mass at Holy Rosary. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in assisting.

<u>PARISH CHRISTMAS MAGAZINE 2019</u>: Tuesday, *6th August*, **5.30 pm** in the Parish Office for anyone who would like to assist in the production of the annual magazine "Good News". Please note change of time.

OFFICE CLEAN-UP DAY: Office will be closed on Friday, 9th August.

DISCO DANCE PARTY FOR RELAY FOR LIFE: Friday, *9th August* 5.00pm St Patrick's Hall, \$5.00 entry fee. Contact Maddie Devine 0434 991 623 for more details. *Theme: "When I Grow Up".*

PARISH JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABILITY GROUP: We are exploring the possibility of establishing a community garden at St James' Bargara. We would like to hear from the parishioners so we will hold a meeting after the 7.00 am Mass on Sunday, **11th August** to discuss this possibility.

FILIPINO MASS: Friday, **16th August** 5.30 pm St Patrick's Catholic Church to be celebrated by Fr Ronaldo Rodriguez SVD. The working committee led by Fr Ronaldo is seeking volunteers to join the choir, liturgy and hospitality team. Please contact the Parish Office.

ROSTERS FOR OCTOBER TO DECEMBER: Rosters for next term will be commenced soon so they can be distributed mid September. It is important that you advise the office by WEDNESDAY, **28th AUGUST** if your details have changed or you will be away for an extended period of time. No changes can be made after the 28th August.

<u>PARISH RETREAT - "TAKE MY HAND":</u> Thursday, **29th August** 9.00am - 3.00pm, St James' Bargara. Please bring your Bible.

<u>ST MARY'S 25th ANNIVERSARY FETE:</u> Food, fun rides, stalls, music, raffles, face painting, fruit and veg, crafts and more! Come and have fun! Saturday, *31st August*, St Mary's Catholic Primary School. We are still looking for volunteers and donations. For any information please contact the office 4152 2167.

Have you looked at the noticeboard of late? Check it out!

ADULT FAITH

Breaking Open the Scriptures by Fr Peter Tonti Deepen our understandings of the biblical texts. Monday, 5th August 1:00pm repeated at 5:30pm, Parish Centre Topic: 15 Essential Biblical Texts N. T. Wright 1. Introduction.

Please bring your Bible and notebook.

LITURGIES

Monday 5 August 2019

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 6 August 2019

The Transfiguration of the Lord 9.00am St James' - LWC 12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Wednesday 7 August 2019

St Cajetan, priest and St Sixtus II, pope, martyr

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

Thursday 8 August 2019

St Mary of the Cross

6.30am St Mary's - Mass

Friday 9 August 2019

St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, virgin, martyr

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass 2.30pm Pioneer Lodge - Anointing Mass

> 7.00pm St Mary's - Mass (Malayalam)

Saturday 10 August 2019

St Lawrence, deacon, martyr

7:30am St Mary's - Mass 9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance 6.00pm St Patrick's - Mass

NEXT SUNDAY

11 August 2019 19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year C (I)

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

SCRIPTURES for next Sunday

First Reading Wisdom 18:6-9

Second Reading Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19

> **Gospel** Luke 12:32-48



SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23

Ecclesiastes speaks of the dangers inherent in vanity. What do you see as an effective means for avoiding self-importance and excessive pride?

Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Paul encourages the believers in Colossae to remain focused on "what is above" where Christ resides and "not of what is on earth." In what ways is this a spiritual challenge for you?

Luke 12:13-21

Jesus tells the crowd the parable of the rich fool in response to those overly concerned with possessions. In your view, what is the right amount of material goods for people?



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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



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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

OLP

The cake is frosted, the guests have arrived, and the gifts are piled high. One by one, the packages are opened, and one by one, the child reaches for another. Who among us hasn't seen a child who appears crestfallen when the gifts run out? Even the abundance isn't quite enough. Today's Gospel tackles a key question in the spiritual life - grateful or greedy?

"There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest." We all recognize the need to be practical. Raising a family, there's need to save for all sorts of things beyond normal day-to-day costs - medical bills, family vacations, private school, rainy day funds, retirement. Jesus doesn't critique the rich man for simply having an abundant harvest. It's his mentality. Does the rich man sell off the extra to make the needed repairs to the back fence or to invest in some additional livestock to grow the business? Perhaps donate some of the excess to the poor? No. "You have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!" The man wants to hoard and indulge with no concern for others.

Jesus doesn't condemn prudent saving or owning necessary items. He calls us to purify our attitudes. "Guard against all greed... one's life does not consist of possessions." We are called to be good stewards. This means being practical. It also means remaining open to God's invitation with our resources. Are we tithing to our parish? Do we give alms to the poor? Does our weekly entertainment far outstrip what we offer to others? Life is not about "stor[ing] up treasure for [our]selves." The more we grow in gratitude and generosity, the more we become "rich in what matters to God."