



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

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

25 August 2019

FoCuS by *Norm Whyte*

The Many Gifts of Our Parish Volunteers – Giving Their Time and Talents

At last Monday's Team meeting, our reflection focused on Matthew's Gospel chapter 19, in which he quotes Jesus as telling us to give what we have to the poor, thereby gaining us riches in heaven. Then He says "Come, follow me".

The theme of our Reflection was "Do you want to be rich?" I think a typical response to the thought of being rich materially would be a mental image of possessions, luxuries, lifestyle and money. Part of the Reflection prayer last Monday was "Lord, receive all I have and help me to use it only in the way You desire."

These words from the Gospel and from the prayer bring me to thinking about the riches we have in our 350 active Parish volunteers. So much of their positive activity and energy, their good will and their generosity goes unnoticed, and sometimes, unacknowledged. Today I want to acknowledge just a few examples of our Parishioners giving their time and talents, and of their treasures.

Very recently, two parishioner volunteers spent 2 weeks painting the inside of a 60 year-old Parish-owned rental house in Bundaberg, assisted on various days by 5 other volunteers. Our Parish contract cleaner donated all the cleaning costs for that house. The Parish handyman/builder/contractor donated some of his time and skill. The real estate principal donated his sales commission back to the Parish. A parishioner donated almost a house full of furniture. Others donated furnishings, kitchen wares and appliances. The result of all this activity and generosity is that a young disadvantaged family now has a very comfortable place to call home.

Another Parishioner activity group is our Blanket Buddies which was formed in 2011 by Noreen Plath and two friends. Now there are over 40 women regularly crocheting blankets, scarves, beanies, shawls, bed socks and twiddle muffs. The group meets every Wednesday morning at the Novakoski Centre. They are self-funded via the proceeds from the sausage sizzles which they run about 5 times a year at St. Pat's School and at Shalom College.

Blanket Buddies is a wonderful example of Christian outreach, with their donated crocheted comfort creations going to at least 60 groups and organisations throughout the Eastern seaboard. They estimate that, since their crocheting began, they have given away more than 7,000 blankets. Now that's a whole lot of comfort! Since March this year, our Blanket Buddies have donated 133 blankets, 92 beanies, 70 scarves, 16 shawls and 11 jumpers.

Blanket Buddies also donate cash from their sausage sizzles to a local coffee shop which in turn passes the cash equivalent in vouchers for coffee and food to Impact which then distributes the vouchers to homeless people to be cashed in back at the coffee shop. More comfort to our community!

A sincere "thank you" and "congratulations" to Blanket Buddies, and to every Parish volunteer. You are surely following Jesus.

"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

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 Bargarra

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

When I speak and write, I mention my family quite often. Those of you who have been reading these reflections for the past 5+ years - or who have read my books - may think you know them. When I travel, I do get asked about my family by those who have entered my life through the words on a page. My hope is that by sharing stories about my family and life the reader gets a chance to see himself or herself in the story as well. Then the point being made in the article or reflection can take on stronger meaning because it hits home. However, no matter how much I write about my family and how much you read about them, you will only have a glimpse as to the real people. It will take an actual relationship with one of them to get you to the point where you can say you know them.

That is the same way with Jesus. First, more Catholics need to read more and learn more about Jesus. Bible studies should be the norm and not the exception in our lives. Second, too many of us in the Church can explain who Jesus is from our past formation classes and reading, but we do not actually know him. Jesus is not a topic, a theological term, or simply an historical figure. He is a real being who is alive! He is not dead, but alive! He calls us to do more than read about him. He calls us into an intimate relationship with him. We grow in relationship with Jesus by worshipping at the Mass, spending time with him in adoration, resting in him in the quiet, and by having the Jesus in us meet the Jesus in others. If you do not know him personally, get to know him. I would love for you all to meet my family in person someday, but I would much rather you get to know Jesus instead. - Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

FROM POPE FRANCIS "LAUDATO SI"

LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY

The earth's resources are also being plundered because of short-sighted approaches to the economy, commerce and production. The loss of forests and woodlands entails the loss of species which may constitute extremely important resources in the future, not only for food but also for curing disease and other uses. Different species contain genes which could be key resources in years ahead for meeting human needs and regulating environmental problems.

LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

Today is Refugee and Migrant Sunday. Pope Francis' message has the theme 'it is not just about migrants'. He says societies' trend toward extreme individualism is producing a 'globalization of indifference'. The presence of migrants and refugees and of other vulnerable people, is an invitation to recover some essential dimensions of our Christian existence and our humanity that risk being overlooked. When we show concern for them, we also show concern for ourselves, for everyone; in taking care of them, we all grow; in listening to them, we also give voice to a part of ourselves that we may keep hidden because it is not well regarded nowadays.

BUNDABERG NET TEAM

The week of the 11th-17th of August was a fruitful week for the Bundaberg NET Team. They participated in the parish team for 'Relay for Life', and were able to immerse themselves in the community through song and conversations. In the primary schools of St. Joseph's and St. Mary's, the team encouraged the children to be 'prepared for Jesus', inspired by the Sunday gospel for the week. The team facilitated various classes at Shalom, and participated in the college assembly. The Echo youth groups, have both significantly grown in the number of participants since the youth groups times changed from Sunday to later in the week. Our young adults group had a feedback and vision casting night, reflecting on the first half of the year. After a very productive meeting we are all keen in moving forward, with a vision in mind, and hope for the future of the young adult ministry when the NET team is no longer here at the end of the year and moving into next year.

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.

NOTICES

ROSTERS FOR OCTOBER TO DECEMBER: Rosters for next term will be compiled 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.

ST MARY'S 25th ANNIVERSARY FETE: Come and have fun! Saturday, **31st August**, St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

PARISH RETREAT "TAKE MY HAND": Thursday, **29th August** 9.00 am - 3.00 pm, St James' Catholic Church, See St. Bargara. For catering purposes, please let the Parish Office know if attending by Tuesday, 26th AUGUST .

MOORE PARK MASS: Thursday, **29th August** commencing 4.00pm. Venue is at Ian and Elizabeth's home, 106 Sylvan Drive. This invitation extends to residents in the area and beyond. We'll gather for Mass and spend some time afterwards in fellowship. Please bring a plate. See you there.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH RETREAT Facilitated by the National NET Team: 31st August to 1st September, PCYC Capricorn Coast, \$75 includes meals and accommodation. For more information email northrockyyouth@gmail.com. To register online, go to <https://forms.gle/4pj6hkkoz:nvh7kd9>.

OPPORTUNITY FOR ONGOING FORMATION IN FAITH: The Diocese of Rockhampton has secured a partnership with the University of Dayton, Ohio to provide online adult faith formation through its Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF). This partnership arrangement gives all adults within the Diocese access to a very comprehensive range of 3 and 5-week courses. ***If you enrol and complete the September course, Study of Evangelii Gaudium (Joy of the Gospel by Pope Francis), the Diocese will refund your course fee of \$US 50.*** You can access the VLCFF website at: <https://vlcff.udayton.edu/about/>. If you enrol for a course, let Judith Gardiner (Diocesan Coordinator) at judith.gardiner@rok.catholic.net.au know so that we can offer some ongoing support throughout the course. If you would like more information please contact Judith on 4887 3070 or the email above.

PARISH CHRISTMAS MAGAZINE: The Annual "Good News" Magazine Project is underway, with the focus this year "Care for Our Common Home". The Magazine Committee would again appreciate your monetary sponsorship, either in big or small amounts. Please consider helping in this way. Sponsorship Forms are on the back of this weekend's Hymn Sheet.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL BUDDIES DAY: If you would like to volunteer or refer a child for the Buddies Day please call 3010 1073 or email youth@svdpqld.org.au. For more information please see notice on the noticeboard.

CLERGY SUPPORT FOUNDATION APPEAL: Next weekend we will have a second collection for our retired priests. Envelopes are available on the end of the seats. This is a tax deductible appeal.

DIOCESAN MINISTRY APPEAL: Thank you for your generosity. We have collected a total of \$3,744.15 to contribute to the Diocesan ministries in supporting those in need or on the margins within the Diocese.

DATE CLAIMERS:

- ⇒ Monday, **2 September** Adult Faith by Fr Peter Tonti
- ⇒ Tuesday, **22nd October** Carinity Kepnock Grove Bumper Cent Sale

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Married: Kirsty Weir and Edward Nevin, Caitlin Rose Nash and Jack William Newton

Recently Baptised: Ryder John Reed, Nash Christopher Reed

Recently Deceased: William Desmond Anderson, Charles Geoffrey Hall, Joseph Formosa, Brian Francis Nicolson, Diane Lorraine Barrett, Adrian Herman Verdel, Ruth Eyles

LITURGIES

Monday 26 August 2019

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 27 August 2019

St Monica

9.00am St James' - LWC

9.30am Gracehaven Nursing Home
- Anointing Mass

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Wednesday 28 August 2019

St Augustine, bishop, doctor

8.00am Shalom - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Thursday 29 August 2019

*The Passion of St John the Baptist,
martyr*

6.30am St Mary's - Mass

Friday 30 August 2019

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 31 August 2019

7.30am St Mary's - Mass

9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance

6.00pm St Patrick's - Mass

NEXT SUNDAY

1 September 2019

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year C (I)

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

Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29

Second Reading

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

Gospel

Luke 14:1, 7-14



SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

Isaiah 66: 18-21

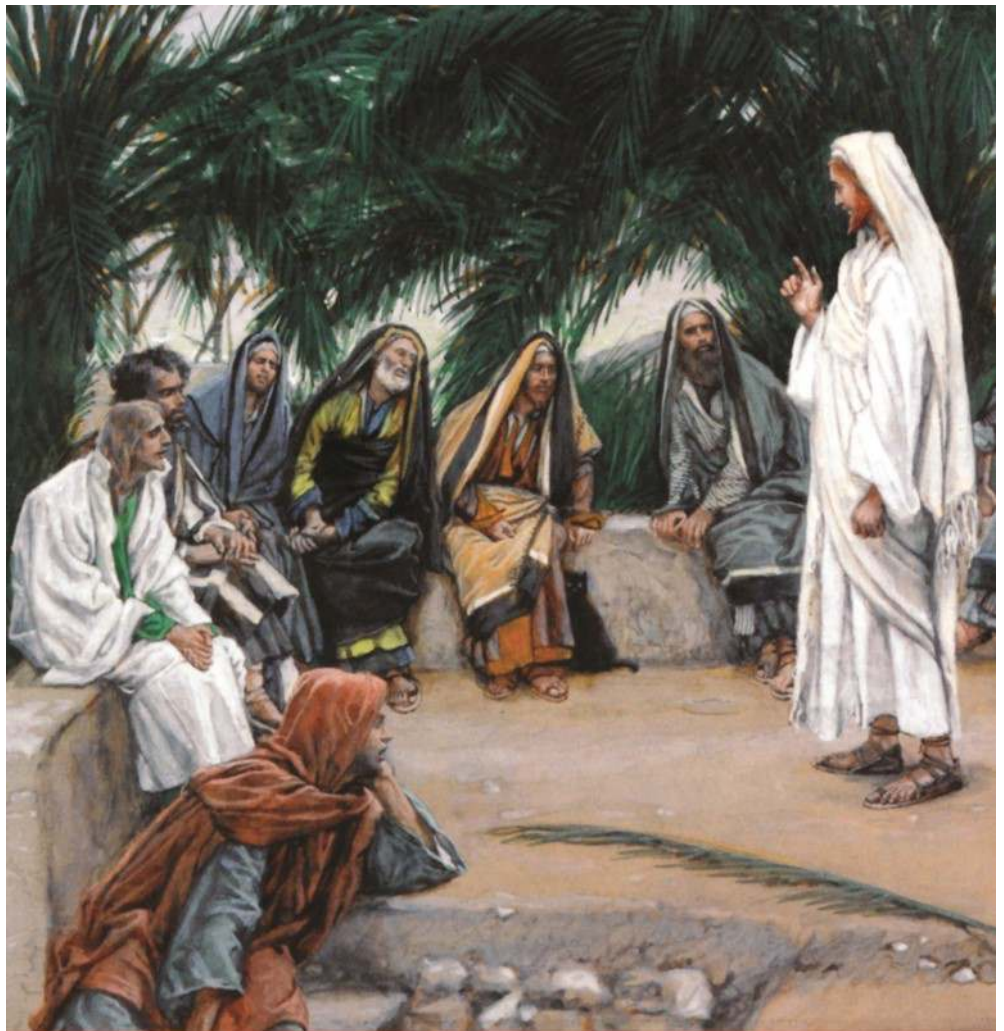
Today's reading presents the final prophecy of Isaiah, where he foreshadows God's gathering of all the nations at the end times. What do you think this prophecy reveals about God?

Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13

How do you think you have been "disciplined" by God?

Luke 13:22-30

As Jesus continues his final journey to Jerusalem, he speaks to the crowds about Judgment Day, emphasizing the inclusive nature of the kingdom of God. How do you nurture a sense of inclusiveness in your home and work?



"For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." - Lk 13:30

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Have you ever seen a celebrity? Have you ever met a political representative? Did the encounter leave you with newfound acting or musical abilities? Did it give you a grasp of the intricacies of the latest city ordinance or controversial law? Talents, expertise, and skill are hard-won traits, not rewards that spread by contact. Our life of faith is also not so easy.

"We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets!" In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus notes that it requires moral strength to enter the kingdom of God. It's not mere proximity to righteousness that saves. Rubbing elbows with the righteous is not the same as being truly holy ourselves. Unfortunately, we can have this attitude in many areas. It's easy to see who may seem "first" in the eyes of the world. This occurs in our workplaces and among our public figures. It can also happen in our schools, local parishes, and the larger Church. For some of us, the temptation to have the popularity and prestige rub off on us can be fairly strong. If only we are in the right place with the right people, surely others will associate us with what they possess!

But salvation is worked out in each individual life. It is our task not merely to show up, but to be transformed. And the truly transformed may not be everyone we expect. "People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south... some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." Some who seem first in reputation now may be last in the kingdom of God. Others who appear now on the furthest fringes of society - but better imitate the lowly holiness of Jesus - will be first in his kingdom. What are your concerns? Proximity and reputation? Or prayerful righteousness?



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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