



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

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

10 November 2019

FoCuS by Fr Ronaldo Rodriguez SVD

READING "SIGNS OF THE TIMES"

For the majority of people, if not all, part of our day to day living is driving. Driving has taught me a big lesson in life, that is to stay focused on the front road, occasionally on the side and rear mirrors or rear camera screen. In other words, to keep our eyes and mind always on the road. When we take our eyes and mind away from the road, accidents most likely will happen. Sadly, it happened to me.

When we make a mission plan, it is always important to consider looking forward on what the Church would look like in the future in the long term. To me, making a realistic picture of the Church in the future and to be relevant, is to consider the past and present trends. That is why, it is important to read the "signs of the times". This reading of the "signs of the times" was made popular by Pope John XXIII.

Patrick from Catholic Mission, who gave a seminar to all priests and the Bishop of Rockhampton last 9-10 October 2019 about Cultural and Interpersonal Competency for Mission, said that Australia including Rockhampton diocese are becoming multicultural. He further said that "In the National Church Context" according to 2016 Census, "Catholics make up 22.6 % of the Australian national population, approximately 1/5 of the Australian population."

"The national average of Catholics born overseas is 26.4 %, more than 1 in 4."

"The most recent Catholic arrivals, i.e. 2013-2016, have come from Brazil, Columbia, Iraq, Middle East, North Africa and the Philippines. 19.1% of all Catholics are born in non-English speaking countries, and 20.8% or 1 in 5 currently speak a language other than English at home. It is estimated that there are between 500-550 international priests in parish ministry, with one in every two seminarians born or recruited overseas."

In the Bundaberg context, from 77,159 people in 2011 Census it's up to 79,606 in 2016 Census. Catholics are down to 18.7 % in 2016 from 19.6% in 2011. In the meantime, those who declare "No Religion" are up to 26.1 % in 2016 from 20 % in 2011.

In the socio-economic, political and religious context, my Superior General Paulus Budi Kleden and the Leadership Team pointed out that, "Signs of the times is shown in..... economic slowdown in most countries, political populism, narrow nationalism and international migration of people.... secularism is on the increase, religion is pushed back to the private realm, material values, and religious fundamentalism is increasing.... but along with these negative trends, there are positive aspects too. People are generous, faith-based communities who do not show fear, the freedom of individuals is cherished, and there is a steady growth of opportunities from the technological and digital world. But one has to see what happens to the people at the margins, vulnerable people, children and women."

Dr John Barletta, Counseling and Clinical Psychologist who gave us priests and our bishop an On-going Formation last 8th October 2019 said that, "The way some people live or manage uncomfortable feelings has changed this century, with an increasing use of smartphones, gaming, pornography, coffee, alcohol, social media, and shopping, as well as being crazy busy."

"This has resulted in a new wave of problematic, compulsive, and addicted behaviours."

"To make matters more challenging, there is a generation entering adulthood who have grown up using these methods as their primary emotional coping mechanism."

"Whilst avoidance strategies have short-term benefits, the long term consequences include self-management difficulties, depression, anxiety, loneliness, and addiction."

Being aware of several "signs of the times", what are the new paths that we as a Church could tread to continue our pastoral activities? Should we draw a picture of multi-cultural Church or cross-cultural Church? Do we embrace and make enough effort towards intercultural living?

Finally, in the words of Patrick, "Intercultural living is Godly living. It is faith-based living and 'of God'. It becomes a reality when we believe that community can be sustained through our differences. There is no need to destroy differences. We cannot remove differences, but we can remove discrimination. Intercultural living is the ultimate way of inclusion". After all, "The common ground is the dignity of the person and love."

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

Principal: Mrs Kaye Beston

sjbgrok.catholic.edu.au

Ph: 4151 4771

St Mary's Catholic Primary

Principal: Ms Madonna Davitt

stmarysbundaberg.qld.edu.au

Ph: 4152 2167

St Patrick's Catholic Primary

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

22 Barolin St (Cnr Barolin & Woongarra Sts)

St Patrick's Church

14 Powers St

St Mary's Church

139 Barolin St (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.

LIVE THE LITURGY—INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Our God is a God of the living. In God, there is no death. While life certainly presents hardships and has its measure of suffering, God does not promise anyone, not even his own Son, a way around it. What He does promise is His abiding, all-sustaining presence as a source of courage and hope so that we can more gracefully and purposefully endure it. Our faith in the Gospel message of Jesus Christ reminds us to carry the hope of resurrection with us in all things. We must never lose sight of the fact that we are works in progress and that what we see and experience here is only the beginning of greater marvels to come. This is why people like St. Paul and others of great faith consider their sufferings as nothing compared to the glory yet to be revealed.

FROM POPE FRANCIS "LAUDATO SI"

On many concrete questions, the Church has no reason to offer a definitive opinion, she knows that honest debate must be encouraged among experts, while respecting divergent views. But we need only take a frank look at the facts to see that our common home is falling into serious disrepair. Hope would have us recognize that there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps, that we can always do something to solve our problems. Still, we can see signs that things are now reaching a breaking point, due to the rapid pace of change and degradation. These are evident in large-scale natural disasters as well as social and even financial crises, for the world's problems cannot be analysed or explained in isolation. There are regions now at high risk and, aside from all doomsday predictions, the present world system is certainly unsustainable from a number of points of view, for we have stopped thinking about the goals of human activity. "If we scan the regions of our planet, we immediately see that humanity has disappointed God's expectations".

LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

From Monday, 11th to Sunday 17th November is National Recycling Week, bringing a national focus to the environmental benefits of recycling. Now in its 24th year, this established and highly regarded annual campaign continues to educate and stimulate behaviour change, by promoting kerbside, industrial and community recycling initiatives and giving people the tools to minimise waste and manage material resources responsibly at home, work and school.

BUNDABERG NET TEAM

On behalf of the 2019 Bundaberg NET Team, we would like to thank the Catholic Parish of Bundaberg for their continued support of our ministry this year. We are grateful to all those who have welcomed, encouraged and affirmed our ministry. Thank you to the youth and young adults who have attended our events, and to all the families and parishioners who have supported the team in various ways, such as by donating meals and resources.

From the students to the teachers, the priests and staff at our office, we thank you for your generosity! We appreciate all the love you've shown to us. The memories of this year will remain in each team member's minds in a very unique way. Thank you for letting five missionaries into your hearts and homes.

Thank you to the parish for committing and investing into four years of NET Ministries, your dedication and faith in the work we do is not overlooked. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Peace and blessings,

Gerry, John, Rachel, David and Bridgette

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Baptised: Adelaide Kate Henry, Penelope Isla Courtice, Orlando Zachariah Kaufusi

Recently Deceased: Margaret Smith (King), Barbara Hancock, Anne Galea (Mackay), John "Des" Drinan, Martina Durnin, Mary Josephine McIntyre, Mary Patricia Stanley, Bernard Charles Luton White, Chantal Thiele (Melbourne)

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: Next session for parents ONLY is on Sunday, **17th November**, 10.30am OR Wednesday, **20th November**, 5.30pm. All sessions are held at the parish office. Contact Anne Sheehan for more information 4151 6666.

BUNDABERG CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL) CHRISTMAS DINNER: Tuesday, **19th November** 6.00pm for 6.30pm start in the Leprechaun Room, Brother's Club. Cost \$25.00 to be paid at the Parish office from Monday, 4 November to noon on Friday, 16 November or at the November meeting. Remember a gift for Secret Santa. For further information, please contact Maureen 4152 1263.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: Wednesday, **20th November**, 7.00pm Holy Rosary Church. Family and friends of our recently deceased are invited. Please RSVP to the parish office if attending. All welcome.

VISITATION MINISTRY MEETING: Thursday, **28th November** 10:30am at the parish office. Guest speaker: Jenny Tree, Centacare.

ROSTERS FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH will soon be started. If you will be away for four (4) weeks or more, or have changes to your contact details, it is important to advise the parish office **before Friday, 29th November** as changes cannot be made after that date.

PALMS AUSTRALIA: Working in Education, Health and Trades? Assist to reduce poverty in overseas communities by sharing your skills. Mutual development assured! There are five places left on **4th - 12th January** Orientation Course. You must apply now for a position beginning any time in 2020. Call or text 0422 4PALMS (Monday to Friday) or visit palms.org.au

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - ST MARY'S: Looking for some people who are willing to clean St Mary's Church. It would require 30 to 45 minutes of your time every 7 weeks. For further information please contact the parish office.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - ST PATRICK'S: Looking for some people who are able to assist before and after mass, and closing the church and parking area. For further information please contact the parish office 4151 6666.

THANK YOU - CLERGY SUPPORT APPEAL: We received a total of \$2,676.55 for the Clergy Support Foundation Appeal. Your donations will support our retired and sick clergy. Thank you for your generosity!

THANK YOU FROM FRIENDS OF KEPNOCK GROVE AUXILIARY: We wish to thank everyone who helped in many ways to make our October Cent Sale a huge success. (Lyn, Secretary)

DATE CLAIMER: Holy Rosary temperature control: Over the past two years and more, the Parish Finance Council has been conducting an evaluation process to identify the best option for temperature control within Holy Rosary Church. It is important that you are kept fully informed of this process which has been carried out by the Finance Committee with due diligence. Therefore you are invited to attend a meeting at 5.00 PM on Monday, **9th December** at the Parish Office. At that meeting we will have Mr. Tim Muller B. Eng.(Mech), A. Deg.(Elec), RPEQ the Principal Mechanical and Electrical Engineer of Geared Project Engineering Pty Ltd. When considering all options for temperature control of Holy Rosary, Tim was contracted by the Parish to design an air conditioning plant for the church. You are welcome to hear Tim's thoughts on the project, and to ask questions.

Places are still available. For enrolment information and details regarding parent information sessions, please contact St Joseph's Catholic Primary School on 4151 4771 or email sjbg@rok.catholic.edu.au

NOVEMBER
The month of the Holy Souls



There's a new kid in town
ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC KINDERGARTEN
Opening January 2020
CATHOLIC EDUCATION
DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON
Contact us on 1800 228 433

LITURGIES

Monday 11 November 2019

St Martin of Tours, bishop

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass
10.30am Mater Hospital - Mass

Tuesday 12 November 2019

St Josaphat, bishop, martyr

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

Wednesday 13 November 2019

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

Thursday 14 November 2019

6.30am St Mary's - LWC

Friday 15 November 2019

12:15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 16 November 2019

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

NEXT SUNDAY

17 November 2019

**33rd 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
Malachi 3:19-20

Second Reading
2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

Gospel
Luke 21:5-19



SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14

Second Maccabees is one of the earliest writings assuring us that those who suffer for the faith will be raised from the dead. Why do you think martyrdom remains a reality today for many believers around the world?

2 Thessalonians 2:16 - 3:5

Paul asks the Thessalonians to pray for him, Silvanus, and Timothy to be delivered from people who would do them harm. What would you like your faith community to pray about for you?

Luke 20:27-38

The Sadducees attempted to trap Jesus with a seeming riddle about the resurrection of the dead. How do deal with non-believers who challenge what you believe?



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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



32nd Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

"They can no longer die, for they are like angels; and they are the children of God because they are the ones who will rise." - Lk 20:36

GOSPEL REFLECTION

"Some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, came forward and put this question to Jesus..." In this Sunday's Gospel, the Sadducees avoid their real question. Is there a resurrection from the dead or not? Rather than ask this question point blank, the Sadducees try to prove their point through a roundabout, unrealistic scenario. Jesus cuts straight to the question behind the question, citing Scripture passages relating to the resurrection.

The Sadducees are trying to trick Jesus. While we may not intend to stump God, our doubts and questions may have more in common with the Sadducees than we care to admit. Doubts are part and parcel of life in a fallen world. Still, there are different ways we can word our doubts to ourselves, God, and others. When we're struggling, truly struggling, about some article of faith, do we admit it? Or do we cloak it with other, obtuse questions to hide the nature of our concern?

Have you considered leaving the Church over the hypocrisy of some of her members and leaders? Perhaps the real question is, "How can a place blessed by God and instituted by Christ have this evil in it? Can I reconcile with the concept that an institution has an admixture of good and bad? What do I expect from others, from myself? What responsibility do I have to try and remedy evil in an institution I'm part of?" Perhaps you've wondered about the nature of romantic love, and if God is love, does He really care so much about the details of this particular scenario? Perhaps the real question is, "Can my mind wrap around the concept of a God whose law seems on the surface, in this situation, to make people unhappy? What is the relationship between the moral law and human flourishing?" These aren't easy questions, but they are more honest ones. This week, don't be afraid of your deeper questions! Bring them to God, to someone you trust, and to yourself.