



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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www.facebook.com/thecatholicparishbundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

17 November 2019

FoCuS by *Norm Whyte*

Caring for Our Homeless

Every community shoulders a load for the poor and the homeless. So many people find themselves in bad circumstances not of their choosing, while some may actually choose to "live on the fringe" for whatever reason. There are so many biblical stories centred around disadvantaged people in those times, and how Jesus told us to treat them with kindness and with justice. Today is no different.

Every day in some way, our parish is being touched by the poor and homeless. Up until this week, the tip of the iceberg of Bundaberg's homeless could be seen at one of our churches where, over the past 18 months or more, a few very unfortunate people were finding regular shelter and security. The church is usually cool and quiet, and they tell us that they have felt safe there. They use the amenities and they charge their phones. They were sometimes given cups of coffee. From day one they were told to respect all other visitors, and to not interrupt or impede anyone else who wanted to seek out peace, solitude or simply the quiet enjoyment of the church. They have always been told to be quiet inside the church.

All comers are always welcome into our churches, and Christian hospitality will always be offered, with no exceptions. However, long-term disrespect for that hospitality is not acceptable and this week, sadly, action had to be taken against a certain individual. We were fortunate to have the help of the gentlemen from Jeremiah House, Australia's first shelter for men and children.

Making a positive difference to the lives of those in need will always be part of the mission of our Parish. St. Vincent de Paul Society are a wonderful example of Christian outreach via their welfare contributions into our community. So much of their valuable work goes unnoticed and is possibly taken for granted. To the many people who volunteer their services to Vinnies in so many different ways, we say a sincere "thank you".

Bundaberg is very fortunate to have an active organisation called Bundaberg Housing and Homelessness Forum. As of this month, your Parish will be represented on that forum to find out how we can contribute, in a meaningful and co-ordinated way, to the less fortunate people within our local community. We will also be continuing similar discussions with the other local mainstream churches, and with St. Vincent de Paul, about how effective contributions to those in need within our community can continue.

Pope Francis recently said, "We know that Jesus wanted to show solidarity with every person. He wanted everyone to experience His companionship, His help and His love. He identified with all those who suffer, who weep, who suffer any kind of injustice. He tells us this clearly, 'I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.' Jesus keeps knocking on our doors, the doors of our lives. He doesn't do this by magic, with special effects, with flashing lights and fireworks. Jesus keeps knocking on our door in the faces of our brothers and sisters, in the faces of our neighbours, in the faces of those at our side."

Converting Pope Francis' words into effective actions will always be our desire and our challenge.

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

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.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

We Are Called to Be Saints

Catholics often are drawn to saints due to their profession, hobbies, or ethnic background. One's patron saint serves as an example of how to live a life of holiness and service to God. We hold up the saints of the Church in high regard. However, we can sometimes make the mistake of seeing them as the subject of stories in print and not real living people. We can assume that their level of devotion and holiness is unattainable. In fact, we are all called to be saints.

Our world needs more living saints living out their stewardship in a radical manner. Stories are valuable, but when others get to see disciples of Jesus Christ answering their call in person, consider the impact. There is a reason why lay witnessing is so important in cultivating a stewardship culture in a parish community. The people we can see and hear are alive right in front of us. Some will say that to truly be humble means to act anonymously, but we are not speaking here of actions that call out, "Look at me!" We are talking about acting in a way that people see not you and me, but Jesus instead.

We are to be models and examples to one another. We are to build up one another and make the Body of Christ strong. Don't sit back wishing you had the strength to be a saint. You have already been given the gifts needed to be the saint you are called to be. Maybe people will read about you later, but the Church needs you now! - Tracy Earl Welliver

FROM POPE FRANCIS "LAUDATO SI"

Why should this document, addressed to all people of good will, include a chapter dealing with the convictions of believers? I am well aware that in the areas of politics and philosophy there are those who firmly reject the idea of a Creator, or consider it irrelevant, and consequently dismiss as irrational the rich contribution which religions can make towards an integral ecology and the full development of humanity. Others view religions simply as a subculture to be tolerated. Nonetheless, science and religion, with their distinctive approaches to understanding reality, can enter into an intense dialogue fruitful for both.

LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

Universal Children's Day

On 20th November 20 1959, the UN General Assembly adopted the *Declaration of the Rights of the Child*. It is also the date in 1989 when the UN General Assembly adopted the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*. The Convention, which is the most widely ratified international human rights treaty, sets out a number of children's rights including the right to life, to health, to education and to play, as well as the right to family life, to be protected from violence, to not be discriminated against, and to have their views heard. Universal Children's Day offers each of us an inspirational entry-point to advocate, promote and celebrate children's rights, translating into dialogues and actions that will build a better world for children.

SAFEGUARDING

From 1st January 2020 as per recommendations from the Catholic Professional Standards Ltd, Level One training is now **MANDATORY for all church workers** (clergy, religious staff and those who volunteer/work in any position with the parish). Date for training is 2nd April 2020. Two sessions 10.00 am - 12.00 noon and 6.45 pm - 8.30 pm.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Baptised: Louis John Zunker, Eliza Marie Magner, Halle Jade McGibbon

Recently Deceased: Eugene Thomas Cairns, Margaret Smith (King), Barbara Hancock, Asuncion Dayon (Philippines), John "Des" Drinan, Martina Durnin, Mary Josephine McIntyre, Mary Patricia Stanley, Bernard Charles Luton White, Chantal Thiele (Melbourne), Agnes "Nessie" Ryan (Toowoomba).

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: For those who are not able to attend the Sunday session for PARENTS ONLY, there is another session on Wednesday, **20th November**, 5.30pm. All sessions are held at the parish office. Contact Anne Sheehan for more information 4151 6666.

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.

BLANKET BUDDIES CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Tickets for the Christmas raffle will be on sale at the parish office from **Wednesday, 20th November** at \$1.00 per ticket. The raffle will be drawn at our breakup morning tea on Wednesday, 18th December. Prizes include a Christmas hamper and a beautiful handcrafted rug. Thank you in advance for your support.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER GROUP FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: For NOVEMBER ONLY, the date has had to be changed to the **21st November**. The rest remains unchanged, 10.00am at the north transept of Holy Rosary followed by fellowship in Novakoski Hall. Perhaps we may see you there. (Cathryn King)

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.

DATE CLAIMERS:

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.

PAGEANT OF LIGHTS - THURSDAY, 5TH DECEMBER: The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg will be again entering a float in the Christmas Parade. If you have a child who would like to participate in the parade, or if you, yourself would like to walk as part of the parish community, please contact the parish office.

CHRISTMAS MASS MINISTRIES: To all Liturgical Ministers who are here this Christmas, please write your name on the lists at the doors of the church. Rosters for the Christmas Masses need to be compiled now. Thank you.

"NO EUTHANASIA SUNDAY" - 16th to 17th NOVEMBER

This weekend we celebrate "Dying Peacefully - No Euthanasia" Sunday in all parishes across the Diocese. Celebrating together in this way offers a powerful common witness to our people and political leaders, showing clearly that life-and-death decisions cannot hold sway due to apathy, misinformation and misunderstanding.

To support this celebration, a number of resources are available to assist you prepare. They are available at the parish office or you may download them from the parish website www.bundabergcatholic.net.au/

To contact your State Government Member, Mr David Batt , phone 4111 3100 or email bundaberg@parliament.qld.gov.au

NOVEMBER
*The month of the
Holy Souls*

ARE YOU A NEW PARISHIONER? We'd love to meet you. Please write your name and details in the new parishioners book at the church door or contact the parish office at 4151 6666.

LITURGIES

Monday 18 November 2019

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 19 November 2019

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

Wednesday 20 November 2019

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

Thursday 21 November 2019

6.30am St Mary's - LWC

Friday 22 November 2019

St Cecilia, virgin, martyr
12:15pm Holy Rosary - LWC

Saturday 23 November 2019

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

NEXT SUNDAY

24 November 2019

**34th 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
2 Samuel 5:1-3

Second Reading
Colossians 1:12-20

Gospel
Luke 23:35-43



SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

Malachi 3:19-20

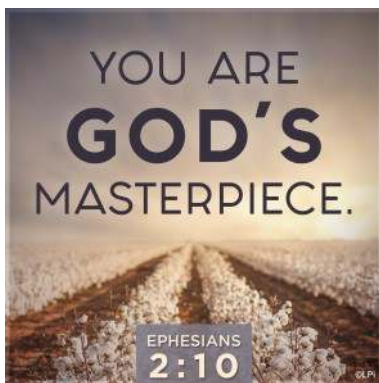
These closing remarks from the book of the prophet Malachi speak of the approaching end-times and God's judgment upon the world. Malachi teaches us that those who "fear" God's name will be saved. How do you show your fear of the Lord?

2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

Paul presents himself, Silvanus, and Timothy as "models" of the faith for the Thessalonians. Who from your faith community do you regard as a model to emulate?

Luke 21:5-19

Jesus speaks about the end-times in today's Gospel, the destruction of the Temple, false messiahs, and coming persecution. Jesus emphasizes the importance of perseverance. What do you see as key to persevering in the faith?



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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



33rd Sunday

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

"You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed." - Lk 21:16-18

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Where would you go if the world was ending? What would you do? The last decade has seen a rise in doomsday prepping, the marketing of survival techniques, and a sea of products designed for you to weather the apocalypse. "The days will come when there will not be left a stone upon another that will not be thrown down," Jesus warns in today's Gospel. On the one hand, He is referring to the literal downfall of the city of Jerusalem. Indeed, many of his prophecies here have come true over the last few millennia. Nations have indeed "rise[n] against nation[s]," kingdoms against kingdoms. Surf any world news website today alone, and you will see stories of "powerful earthquakes, famines, and plagues." Jesus' advice to his disciples, however, isn't to build a bunker. It's to persevere in faith ... which won't be easy.

"They will seize and persecute you... you will be handed over... you will be hated because of my name." This warning, too, has come to pass in the Church throughout history in state-sponsored persecutions and martyrdoms. Jesus is the Messiah, but his first coming was not a coming of earthly victory. Any disciple of his can expect a challenge. The coming of Christ didn't disrupt our free will. Evil still exists and sometimes even appears to triumph. This does not mean God has abandoned His people!

Jesus reminds the disciples and us of his constant presence. "I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking." In other Gospel passages, Jesus promises and sends the Holy Spirit upon his followers. The presence of God is real in our lives, no matter what trials come our way. It's tempting to be distracted or dismayed by natural destruction and moral evil in the world. But the Church has weathered greater storms. The sacredness of the human person endures. We can have hope! This day and every day, we can persevere in hope and trust in God.