



The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Office Hours: 8:30 - 3:30 Monday to Friday

Parish Office: Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St

Ph: 07 4151 6666 PO Box 79 Bundaberg QLD 4670

Email: sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au

*AFTER HOURS: Anointing of the sick for medical emergencies
phone 4151 6666 and follow the prompt*

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

23 February 2020

FOCUS

by Trish Byrne

A Parish Chaplain

Through the Ashes, We are Called to Follow...

For everything, there is a season...

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance. (Eccl 2:1, 4-5)

For our Parish of Bundaberg, especially the St Mary's Mass Community, it is indeed a time of mourning. We grieve the loss of a sacred building that connected us to our God and to each other. So many of our sacred stories and memories are connected to St Mary's Church.

Our whole community watched in shock and grief as we viewed the video of St Mary's Church burning. At the end of last weekend's Masses, another wave of deep shock and grief had us standing in unified silence as we beheld a photo of the charred tabernacle.

Such deep grief can trigger memories of other losses and we may find waves of grief washing over us in the following weeks, perhaps even overwhelming us at times. This is a common human response to tragic loss. It is also a time when we need the support of each other. We gather to tell our stories and share our grief. When we do, we find the burden of grief shared is lightened a little. Our heartfelt thanks to Fr Peter and the whole Parish Team for the brilliant way they have responded and worked hard to care for this grieving community, providing gatherings and rituals that helped us process our initial grief.

Last weekend, Fr John reminded us that suffering is part of life, that we are called to pick up our cross and follow Jesus through the suffering. To follow Him is to accept this pain and sadness as part of our human journey, and to trust that God is with us on this path. *Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.* (Mt 5:4)

Sometimes, when we've been knocked off-balance or are overwhelmed with grief, it helps to talk one-on-one. We all need the support of others in times like these. There are trained Chaplains in the Parish, Counsellors at Centacare, and Home Visitation Teams available to support you on your grief journey. **If you would like some one-on-one support, please contact the Parish Office or Centacare 1300 523 985.**

Fr Peter, Fr Terry and Fr John have all reminded us that we, the people, are the church. Through the fire, St Mary's Mass Community and the whole Parish has been tested. I can see already the enduring gold of true community emerging from the ashes, being refined through the pain of loss, comforted by God's compassionate presence in our grieving hearts, and strengthened by the Spirit of Faith, Hope and Love that endures in us, the church.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. (Jer 17:7)

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Peter Tonti PP

Parish Priest

Rev Gasper Peruvellil

Associate Pastor

Mrs Anne Sheehan

Liturgy & Sacramental Co-ordinator

Mrs Denise Tuzes

Bereavement Co-ordinator

Mrs Marcia Sharp

Visitation Co-ordinator

Ms Elizabeth Kelly

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Maddison Devine

Assistant Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Mrs Jan Aplin

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 (no longer in service)

139 Barolin St (Cnr Barolin & Boston Sts)

St James' Church

38 See St Bargaara

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



[thecatholicparishbundaberg](https://www.facebook.com/thecatholicparishbundaberg)



www.bundabergcatholic.net.au

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Going the Extra Mile

So often in life, people are concerned about the minimum requirements. What is the minimum I must do to get a certain grade? What is the minimum I need to do to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? What exactly do I have to do to make my boss happy?

This concern does not stop with everyday life but continues into our relationship with God. What exactly is required of me for salvation? How much time, talent, and treasure are enough? Jesus does not call us to this way of life, but instead to a life of unbounding generosity and surrender.

Jesus said, "If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with Him two miles." The minimum requirement is one mile; however, we are not to be disciples of minimum requirements and checking off boxes. We are to go the extra mile because that is how we bear witness to the transforming power of Jesus Christ. That is how we change lives and share the grace and love we have received in abundance. Nothing ever changes by doing the minimum. There is no real glory given to God by responding to His call with the minimum.

Imagine a world where all of us good stewards give without ceasing and go far beyond the minimum requirements. Our world would be a very different place. So, what is stopping us? - Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

LIVING LITURGY

This Wednesday begins the season of Lent. The ashes we received on Ash Wednesday remind us of our mortality and symbolise the spirit of penance that marks the Lenten season. By being marked with ashes, we are recognised as one who has chosen to repent and believe in the Good News. The two-fold focus of Lent is repentance and renewal of our baptismal commitment to Christ, as we journey with those who are preparing for baptism at the Easter Vigil. That is why in some churches the symbol of the ashes is placed near the baptismal font or at the entrance to churches near the small water fonts.

RULES OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year (CCL 97, 1251 - 52).

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 has six themes to be addressed. People across Australia have been listening to the wisdom of the Holy Spirit and each other and discerning ways to address each theme particular to their diocese. The six areas being addressed begin with the question "How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is:"

- Missionary and Evangelising
- Humble, Healing and Merciful
- Inclusive, Participatory & Synodal
- Prayerful and Eucharistic
- Open to Conversion, Renewal and Reform
- Joyful, Hope-filled and Servant Community

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Anne Andrewartha (Hervey Bay), Timothy Tyrrell, John Thomas Lynch, Joan McCusker, Esther Chepnetich (Kenya)

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: Next session 'Reconciliation' this Sunday, **23rd February** 10.30am OR Wednesday, **26th February** 5.30pm for parents ONLY. All sessions are held at the parish office.

MINISTRY TRAINING AND FORMATION SESSIONS: As advertised in last week's bulletin, unfortunately are cancelled, EXCEPT Children's Liturgy leaders and assistants - **Tuesday, 25th February, 5.30pm**. Anyone who would like to be involved in liturgical ministry as a new minister, please contact the parish office.

POSITION VACANT - DIOCESE SAFEGUARDING AND PASTORAL RESPONSE CO-ORDINATOR: For position description please visit the Diocese of Rockhampton website <https://rok.catholic.net.au/our-diocese/employment> or email hr@rok.catholic.net.au directly. Applications close Monday, **24th February** 5:00pm.

CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER GROUP MEETING: Thursday, **27th February** 10.00am at Holy Rosary north transept. All welcome.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday during Lent (beginning **28th February**) 5.00pm at St James' Church Bargara, 7.00pm at St Patrick's Church and 5.30pm at Holy Rosary Church led by the Indian Community.

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS: Friday, **6th March** 5.30pm at the parish office conference room. Please RSVP to parish office by Monday, 2nd March.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - PRAYER FOR ZIMBABWE: Friday, **6th March** at St Patrick's Church, 10.00am and Coral Coast Christian Church (596 Windermere Road) at 9.30am.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND: Childers Parish is hoping to organise a Pilgrimage to The Holy Lands early in 2021. At this stage we are seeking an expression of interest from at least 25 people. Detailed information session will be held mid-March. If you are interested in finding out more please email your full name and phone number to Barry Cochrane at thecockos@bigpond.com by the end of February.

Date Claimer:

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD: Friday, **27th March** from 12:15pm in Holy Rosary Catholic Church.

MenALIVE BREAKFAST: Saturday, **28th March** 7.15am for 7.30am at the parish office.

"JOURNEY TO EASTER", a Lenten Reflection

Presented by Fr John Daly

Thursday, **5th March**, 5.30pm at the parish office
Please ring the parish office to RSVP



PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

23rd February 2020



Please take home a Project Compassion set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "**Go Further Together**". Your generosity will assist some of the world's most vulnerable communities to lift themselves out of poverty. **When we Go Further Together in love and compassion, the whole world thrives.**

You can donate through parish boxes and envelopes, or by phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion.

LITURGIES

Monday 24 February 2020

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 25 February 2020

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

Wednesday 26 February 2020

Ash Wednesday

6.30am St Patrick's - Mass
7.00am St James - Mass
8.00am Shalom - Mass
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Thursday 27 February 2020

6.30am St Patrick's - Mass
10.00am St Patrick's - Anointing Mass

Friday 28 February 2020

12:15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 29 February 2020

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

NEXT SUNDAY

1 March 2020

1st Sunday of Lent
Year A (2)

7.00am St James'
8.00am Holy Rosary
9.00am St Patrick's
12.00pm Baffle Creek
5.30pm Holy Rosary

SCRIPTURES for next Sunday

First Reading

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

PARISH LIBRARY AT THE PARISH OFFICE

Open: Monday - Friday
10:00 am - 2:00 pm



SCRIPTURE REFLECT and RESPOND

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

God's command to the ancient Israelites to be holy is inextricably linked to love of neighbour. What obstacles make this call to holiness so difficult to achieve?

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Paul sees believers as "the temple of God" (holy) and warns believers, "Let no one deceive himself." What are the voices in our society that try to deceive us of our identity?

Matthew 5:38-48

In speaking about non-retaliation and love of enemies, Jesus challenges His disciples to "be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." Why do you think Jesus would issue such a seemingly impossible command?

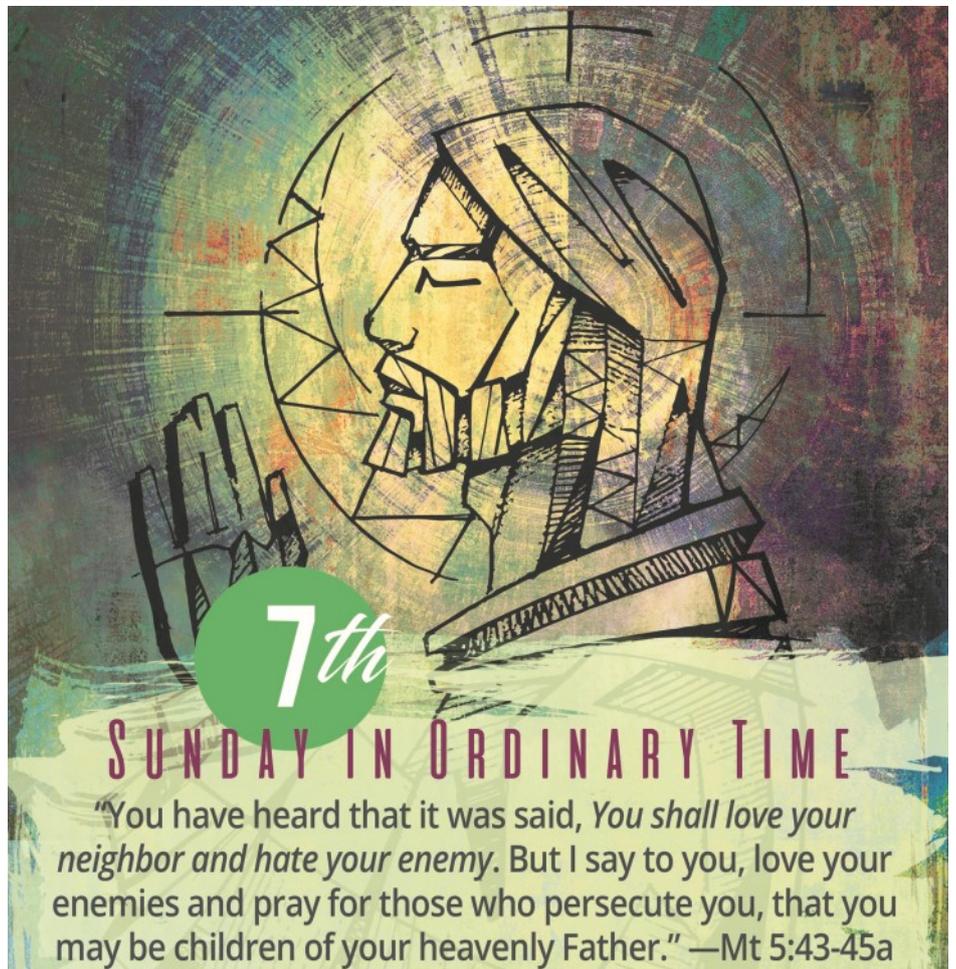
PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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

CHRISTIAN GIFT and BOOKSTORE AT THE PARISH OFFICE

Open: Monday to Friday
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

In association with the
Rockhampton Cathedral
Gift and Bookstore



GOSPEL REFLECTION

The Gospels continue to challenge us to the core. This is especially true in the way our social relationships have developed. Feeling safe and secure in the world are not things that come easily these days. Actually, we may find ourselves feeling more reservation, caution, reluctance, and fear than ever before. In a moment's notice, life can drastically change. When someone has been intentionally and violently hurt, especially someone we love, we can all too easily find ourselves very attracted to the Old Testament philosophy of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." Intellectually, we know this is not what Jesus wants us to do. But on some level it just seems to make practical or even political sense. After all, why should we allow someone to get away with a heinously violent act? Yet, Jesus cannot be any clearer than He is with this! Offer no resistance to one who is evil. Turn the other cheek as well. When pressed into service, go two miles. Do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. Love your enemies. Now, take a moment to reflect on all of this. Consider a horrible act of violence committed against someone you love. Listen. Think. Be honest. Can you do as Jesus directs?

We want to be holy, but we are more comfortable with a definition of holiness that can keep us saying our prayers and on our knees in church. We are not comfortable with a definition of holiness that has something to say about to how we react to and negotiate life. We like to keep a sharp and strong line between the secular and the sacred. In fact, we would prefer that the doors between them be kept closed. God wants us to be holy as He is holy. If God sees this one way and we see it another, then where does this leave us on our journey to God?

Our minds like the practical, worldly, and secular answers to things. They are more black and white and at first glance appear to make more sense. Holiness wells up from our souls and is beyond reason. It cannot be explained. It is something we just simply know comes as a result of deep prayer. The truly contemplative eye knows inwardly that what Jesus asks is true and then willingly does it. It may not be easy. ©LPi