



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

4th SUNDAY OF LENT

22 MARCH 2020

FOCUS by Fr Peter Tonti

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK

A major health issue like COVID-19 creates all sorts of responses ranging from the overwhelming fear and panic buying to the “She’ll be right mate” and lack of taking responsibility for the health of self and others.

Australia is prepared for major incidents like pandemics. Already we have seen the State and Territory Governments join with the Australian Government where they share information and provide the best possible care. The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) ensures the approach is consistent and integrated across our country. The AHPPC is made up of Chief Health Officers from each State and Territory, the Chief Medical Officer and representatives from key departments.

The AHPPC meet daily to assess the risks to Australia and recommend public health actions. The government emergency response plan has now been endorsed. The relevant resources are being provided and support packages are being distributed throughout our nation.

In other words we are in the best possible care.

But we need to respond! We need to:

- ◇ Stay informed through the Government **COVID-19 health alert** which is updated every day.
- ◇ Ensure your family and friends are well.
- ◇ Take steps to protect yourself and others, such as practising good hygiene and quarantining yourself if you are sick.
- ◇ Be a smart traveller – read the COVID-19 government advice for travellers.

PARISH RESPONSE

Following is an extract from Bishop Michael’s letter on 19 March 2020:

I am writing to advise that I hereby suspend all regularly public Masses and liturgies effective immediately until further notice. This will include all Holy Week ceremonies.

I dispense all the faithful of their obligation to be present at Sunday Mass and a Decree will follow to support this.

* * *

A pastoral letter and Decree from Bishop Michael to all parishioners is available along with this Bulletin.

This Sunday, at Holy Rosary Church, St Patrick’s Church and at St James’ Church, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM, there will be Exposition for private adoration

All Churches will be open daily for private prayer.

FOR REGULAR PARISH UPDATES:

Facebook Page: thecatholicparishbundaberg

Website: bundabergcatholic.net.au

Weekly Parish Bulletin will be available in each of the Churches.

Continuation on page 2...

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

Ms 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 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

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

 www.bundabergcatholic.net.au

Continuation of FOCUS...

While COVID-19 is of concern, it is important to remember that most people displaying symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat or tiredness are likely suffering with a cold or respiratory illness.

Latest Advice, Information and Resources contact: www.health.gov.au

As we move into the cooler months the suggestion is there will, most likely, be a rise in the spread of the virus before we reach the recovery stage. It is important we take the necessary precautions.

This is a great opportunity to be creative in the way we assist those in need.

Let us know of your suggestions. Some ideas include:

- ◇ Ensuring those who are elderly or vulnerable have the necessary food and supplies.
- ◇ Upgrading and teaching those in need how to access the excellent modern forms of social communication (e.g. Zoom, Facetime, Skype etc.)
- ◇ Take the opportunity to check your Contacts page and make a call to those you generally skip over.
- ◇ Reflective reading and viewing. Our Parish Library is filled with books and DVDs that would love to be employed. If you know a book or DVD that is not in the library and you think should be there, let us know!
- ◇ Spend some time with the Lenten Program and enjoy the riches!

Make your own list and put it into action. This is a great opportunity for our church to put into practice what we preach. Let us pray that we grow in Wisdom through these uncertain times and experience and understand that all people, across all nations, are truly children of God. Our God who holds us in the palm of his hand. ***I am with you ALLWAYS!***

SOUL FOOD

Did you now that the word 'quarantine' comes from the Italian words "quaranta giorni" meaning 'forty days' It is dated back as far as 14th century when there were plague outbreaks and the ships coming from ports were required to remain in harbour for 40 days as a measure of deadly diseases prevention (*Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, 2012*).

KEEP CALM.

LISTEN.

It is not an accident that we are within the 40 days of Lent. We may be in isolation but we are not isolated. Instead, we're surrounded. God is in our midst. This is our time with Him. Keep calm. Listen.

© Bro. Audee Villaraza, *The Feast Philippines*

YOUTH MINISTRY

Due to the current health situation surrounding COVID-19, the youth team has made the difficult decision to POSTPONE the launch of all youth groups. This decision will be reassessed before the beginning of Term 2 and will be advertised as such. CHAOS, BLAZE, SHALOM and SALT (18-30) will not run at this stage. Hour of Power within 24 Hours for the Lord will be held next Friday, 27th March, 8.00pm lead with adoration, prayers and worship. We ask you to take your personal health into consideration when considering attending. Please contact the youth team through the parish office with any questions or concerns.

SAFEGUARDING

Under the present circumstances relating to the Coronavirus (COVID 19), all Safeguarding face to face training has been POSTPONED until further notice. The Diocesan Safeguarding is exploring options to deliver training by other means and will be in contact again soon.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Sr Anthony Mary (Rockhampton), Helena McIlwaine (Brisbane), Reina Adlawan (Philippines), Denis Donovan

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIOCESAN OFFICE CLOSED TO PUBLIC: As of Thursday, **19th March** the Diocesan Office will not be open to the public and staff are being encouraged to work from home until the coronavirus situation subsides. They will still be providing support during normal business hours via the regular phone contacts and email and they will have the capacity to undertake most of their regular work from home. Thank you for your support and understanding in this matter.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC: As of Monday **23rd March**, the Parish Office will not be open to the public. We will still be providing support between 8.30 AM and 3.30 PM each weekday via the regular phone contacts and email. We are in a time of change and compromise, and there will come a day when we can return to normal life. In the meantime, thank you for your support and understanding in these difficult times.

CHRISM MASS: Thursday, **26th March**, 11.00am in St Joseph's Cathedral, Rockhampton. During this Mass all the sacred oils are blessed or consecrated before distribution to parishes throughout the diocese. There will be a livestream via St Joseph's Cathedral YouTube

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD: Friday, **27th March** to Saturday, **28th March** from 12:15pm in Holy Rosary Catholic Church. Please place your name on the roster at the front door of all our churches so that we know that there will always be someone before the Lord during this special time.

HOLY THURSDAY GIFTS FOR THE POOR: In conjunction with the **Passionists Family Groups** we invite you to donate appropriate items or money to the Jeremiah House Men's Shelter. Your donations will be brought up as our offering for the poor during the procession of gifts on Holy Thursday night. Bring your donations and place them in the baskets at the parish office. They will be kept safely until Holy Thursday after which the Family Groups will deliver them to the Men's Shelter.

POSTPONEMENTS and CANCELLATIONS

The recommendations surrounding COVID-19 are continually changing and this necessitates the following postponements until further notice:

- ◇ MenALIVE Breakfast
- ◇ Passionist Family Group Get-together
- ◇ Blanket Buddies: If yarn is needed, contact Anne 0459 573 733 or Zita 0428 596 132
- ◇ Palm Sunday Cross Working Bee
- ◇ Children Sacramental Program
- ◇ Mass of Reconciliation



Fourth Sunday of Lent
22nd March 2020



Barry grew up in a tough environment. With the support of a program from Caritas Australia's partner, Red Dust Healing, Barry has overcome many of life's challenges. He is now an inspirational father to his four girls and a leader in his community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help vulnerable people like Barry, so that they are empowered to assist members of their communities in Australia.

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

I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you. - Isaiah 43:1-2



This Sunday,
at Holy Rosary Church,
St Patrick's Church
and at St James' Church,
between the hours of 8:00
AM and 11:00 AM, there will
be Exposition for private
adoration.

**ALL CHURCHES
WILL BE OPEN
FOR PRIVATE PRAYER**



SCRIPTURES for next Sunday

First Reading
Ezekiel 37:12-14
Second Reading
Romans 8:8-11
Gospel
John 11:1-45



PARISH LIBRARY
AT THE PARISH OFFICE
Open: Monday - Friday
10:00 am - 2:00 pm



SCRIPTURE REFLECT and RESPOND

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

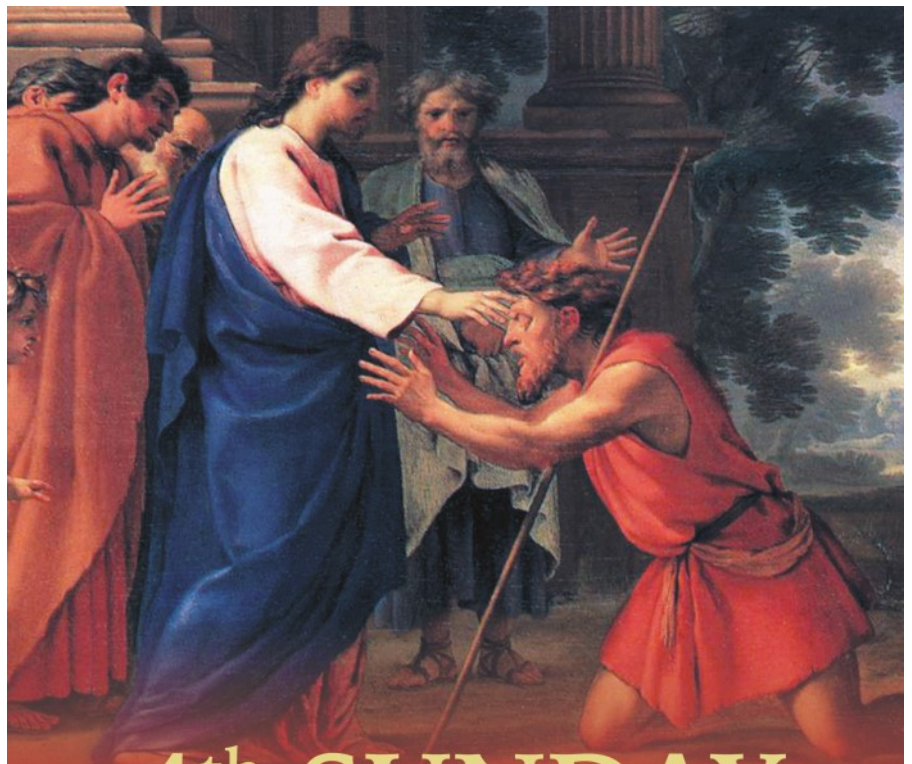
In the story of the prophet Samuel anointing the young David as the next king, neither Samuel nor David's father, Jesse, foresaw David to be God's anointed. When have you been surprised by God in your life?

Ephesians 5:8-14

Paul taught the Ephesians that as believers in Christ, they need to live as "children of light" and "learn what is pleasing to the Lord." From your own life experiences, what do you think pleases God?

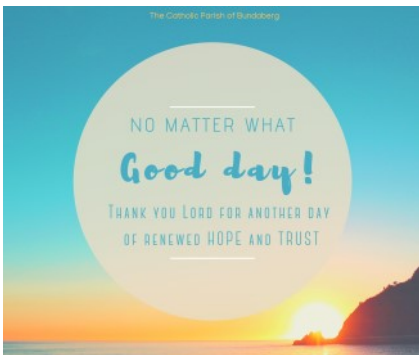
John 9:1-41

Jesus' healing of the man born blind exposed the blindness of some of the Pharisees of Jesus' day. How do we prevent ourselves from being blind to God's presence in this season of Lent?



4th SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. —Jn 9:37-38



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

"Do you believe in the Son of Man?" Jesus wants to motivate each one of us to see the truth. After developing a relationship with Jesus, the blind man "sees" as someone very special. The Pharisees, due to the blindness caused by their ignorance, prejudice, and need for self-preservation, still remain blind. Presuppositions, prejudices, assumptions, and our needs can easily blind us to truth. We see what we want or need to see and not what is really there. In addition, our stubbornness continues to convince us that we are right and that our vision is perfect. Only God can complete the picture.

Look around at our world. So much of what is happening today is due to the reluctance of folks to allow themselves to be stretched and brought to see what is really there. Many react to what life presents to them more with the lenses of ignorance than lenses of clarity. The Gospel carries great transformative value. With it, God corrects our vision and replaces our limited sight with the fullness of his sight. God opens our eyes so that we can see that it is not about preserving what we have created but of living in the immensity and wonder of God's kingdom.

Through a simple, loving relationship with God, we can break through the tethers of prejudice, eradicate fear, dispel the darkness of hatred and sin, discover freedom, live in peace, work for justice, be effective stewards of creation, assist the migrant and the immigrant, and safeguard our economic systems and policies so that they truly serve all of God's children. What we see is often an artificial lie. Our truth is much bigger than what our limited sight believes it to be. Allow God to work in and through you. Do not be afraid. Be open and be humble enough to know that you need help. Many human beings are living with severe cataracts that produce sight that is at best blurred. Are you one of them? ©LPi