

The Most Holy BODY and BLOOD of CHRIST

Welcome to the Parish

18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>June 2022

# "The measure of a great society ......

You will recall at the height of the COVID pandemic that we were forced to close our churches for approximately six months. This exacerbated the trend of declining numbers of regular Mass attendees. On a Diocesan basis, 58% fewer people are regularly attending Mass in 2022 than were attending in 2001. Part of that decline is due to natural attrition, but it also relates to the fact that some parishioners are happy to watch a Mass on their TV.

Demographically, 60% of our regular Mass-attending parishioners are aged 50 years and over.

We would probably not need to discuss parish finances if our costs kept in line with numbers of Mass-attendees. However this is of course not the case. In the face of these challenges to carrying out our Mission and Vision, we continue to bring to life the positive message in our Mission Statement: "....we go out.... To welcome and share God's love respectfully, with all people."

Some of our current activities which serve our church community and outreach include:

- Continuing to offer 12 Masses per week, depending on availability of our Priests;
- Assisting 72 students this year with their First Communion and Confirmations; •
- Reaching out to our Youth
- Continuing with our very supportive Funeral Ministry and Memorial Services;
- Our Visitation Ministry supporting our isolated and ill Parish family;
- Donating forty \$250 food vouchers to needy Bundaberg families;
- Donation to a local refugee family from Ukraine;
- Financially assisting a Shalom student from PNG;
- Substantial financial support to struggling parishes within our Diocese;
- Commencing a Community Grants program to help the needy and disadvantaged in our community;
- Ongoing support to our Blanket Buddies for their great outreach work;
- Continuing support to our 25 different parish-based prayer groups;
- Ongoing Adult Education and Alpha programs;
- Maintaining a strong and vibrant parish office Team who can assist when and where needed.

This list is by no means exhaustive. Your Planned Giving monies and your donations are very efficiently put to good use, and help to reach far and wide with the message of good will to "all people". Remember the words of Pope Francis: "The measure of greatness of a society is found in the way it treats those most in need."

Over the next couple of weeks, you will have the opportunity to tell us how you want the parish to allocate your Planned Giving contributions. We can then report every six months on how your contributions are supporting these outreach activities, such as those in the list above.

At the same time, our Parish Finance Council will give the date for our next Open Finance meeting. These meetings have always been a success in the past. Come along and let us hear your plans and dreams for the Parish. Your regular financial support constitutes the backbone to our Parish budget.

> Norm Whtye Property Officer

The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg respectfully acknowledges the Taribelang Bunda, Gooreng, Goreng, Gurang, and Bailai Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the country in which we live. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

## PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Peter Tonti PP Parish Priest Rev Sijo George

Associate Pastor Mrs Anne Sheehan Liturgy & Sacramental Co-Ordinator

Mr Jeffrey Caluag Administration & Finance Co-ordinator

Mrs Marcia Sharp Visitation Co-ordinator

Miss Elizabeth Kelly Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Mrs Jan Aplin Safeguarding Representative & Bereavement Co-ordinator

Mr Norm Whyte Property Officer

Mrs Sandra Fox Reception

#### PARISH STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Dr Preshy Varghese Chair

Mrs Kaye Beston Deputy-Chair

Ms Nadene Pettett Secretary

Members: Mr David Batt Mr John Begeda Ms Madonna Davitt Mrs Maryanne Taylor Mr Michael Walker

### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St Joseph's Principal Mrs Monica White sjbgrok.catholic.edu.au Ph: 4151 4771

St Mary's Principal Mr Bill Goodwin stmarysbundaberg.qld.edu.au Ph: 4152 2167

St Patrick's 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 Corner Barolin & Woongarra Street

**St Patrick's Church** 14 Powers Street

**St James' Church** 38 See Street Bargara

## PARISH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**REFUGEE WEEK :** is Australia's peak annual activity to promote greater awareness of refugees, the issues they face, and the contributions refugees are making to the Australian community. The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office and the Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace are inviting you to participate in an online prayer service to pray for asylum seekers and refugees and mark Refugee Week from Sunday 19 June to Saturday 25 June 2022. The theme for the week is "Healing". Register now at: https://bit.ly/RefugeeWeek2022Prayers

We urge everyone to read the insert in this weekend's Bulletin. REFUGEE Myths & Facts.

**MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT 2021:** "Many of us think of slavery as a thing of the past. However, millions of people around the world continue to be affected by slavery through its modern manifestations, such as human trafficking, debt bondage and forced labour. The Catholic Church in Australia, as the largest employer and procurer of goods and services in the country outside the public sector, has an obligation to do its part to eradicate modern slavery. The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton, as one part of the Church, takes seriously its responsibility to act; work that Pope Francis reminds us will require courage, patience and perseverance. I commit the Diocese to continuing its efforts to eradicate modern slavery from its operations and supply chains." (Letter from Bishop Michael, 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2022) A diocesan working group has produced a statement outlining their initiatives so far and plans for 2022 and beyond. This statement is able to be viewed on our website's Home Page or from the diocese' website https://rok.catholic.net.au/2021-modern-slavery-statement-issued/

**PLENARY COUNCIL CONCLUDES:** The four-year journey of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia will reach the second, and final, assembly from July 4 – 10 in Sydney. On June 1, the Framework for Motions document that will be considered at the second assembly was published. It contains 30 motions across eight mission areas that the 277 Members – clergy, religious and laity – will vote on next month. Bishop Michael, Fr Peter, Loretta McKeering, Peter Doherty, and Catherine Simmonds will represent our Diocese at the Council. Our job is to pray earnestly for the Holy Spirit's guidance and grace for the members who will gather and for ourselves and the Church, that we may have the courage to follow where God is leading us.

FILIPINO INDEPENDENCE DAY: We acknowledge the many Filipino families and individuals who have made Bundaberg and this parish their home. We thank them for their contribution to our parish in prayer and ministry. The Filipino ladies have organised a morning tea after the 8.00am Mass this Sunday to celebrate their Independence Day which was June 12. All are welcome.

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE:** The Winter edition is available free at the doors of our churches. This publication is generously donated by SVDP.

**WORD AMONG US:** The July/August edition is available for collection at your nominated church.



WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES: Time is running out to register for the World Meeting of Families! Join together with Catholics from around the diocese at Coolwaters Holiday Park in Yeppoon on

June 24<sup>th</sup>-26th for fellowship, fun, formation and prayer as we look at how we can best live out our vocation to holiness. All are welcome, whether you're married or single, parents or grandparents. For more info or to register scan the QR code or go to



## PARISH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FR TERRY STALLARD:** Will be away from this weekend, MInistering to The Valley Parish. Fr Terry will return Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June.

**CWL JUNE MEETING:** Will be held June 21<sup>st.</sup>. For further details contact Maureen on 0407 964 753.

**AUSTRALIAN STRING QUARTET:** Will perform in Holy Rosary Church on Tuesday June 21<sup>st</sup> at 6.00pm –7.00pm. Doors will open at 5.30pm. The Program will include Haydn, Beethoven, Ades, Dessner, Stanhope and Britten. Tickets will be available on line at <u>https://asq.com.au/liveconcerts/australian-string-quartet-in-bundaberg/</u> or at the door. **Please Note Holy Rosary Church will be closed from 3.00pm on 21st June to allow for set up.** 

**BEREAVEMENT GROUP:** The June meeting for the Bereavement Group will be held on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June** in the Parish Office at 11.15am.

**RELAY FOR LIFE:** The Catholic Parish has entered a team in the Cancer Council Queensland's Bundaberg Relay For Life at the Bundaberg Recreational Precinct from 1.00pm-10.00pm on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August. The event is CCQ's major annual fundraiser, raising funds to help in the fight against this terrible disease and provide education and support services. Team members walk in a relay around the track for 8 hours (apart from when the track is closed for 1 hour for Candlelight Ceremony which remembers those who have lost their battle with Cancer). Only one team member has to be on the track at all times, so you may only have to walk for 30 minutes, or not at all if you can't, or longer if you wish. Cost to register is \$30 for Adults or \$15 for Youth. Registration on 5<sup>th</sup> August. Team members are also asked to help with team fund raising. We would love to have a large team with people of all ages to again represent our Parish at this important community event. You can register for the Catholic Parish of Bundaberg Team at www.relayforlife.org.au// register/bundaberg-fraser-coast-2022#content There will be a team meeting at the Parish Office this Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 4pm and if you are interested, we would love for you to come along. Cancer Survivors & Carers are also welcome to come along for the Opening Ceremony, to walk the opening lap (if you can) and a free Afternoon Tea at 1:15pm on the day, even if you do not register for the event. Any queries or for more information, please phone Team Captain Vince Habermann on 0407 606266 or Margaret Lloyd-Jones, who won the Spirit of Relay Award last year, on 4159 2066.

TIME AND TALENTS FORMS: Thank you to those who completed a commitment form in April indicating your interest in being involved in our parish life. It has taken considerable time since then to re-write the database and enter details by, yes, a volunteer. Ministry coordinators now have access to this information and will be in contact with you as soon as possible. From there, ministry training can be organised, if required. We apologise for the delay.

> Nourished by Word and Sacraments, we go out, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to welcome and share God's Love respectfully, with all people

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

Recently Baptised: Louis Mitchell Weller and Clara Grace Barsby.

**Recently Deceased:** Lola Bragg, Steve Hanlon, Bruna Zanon, Valma Burridge, Lorna Perryman, Merv McGrane, Rolando Masil (Philipines), Annette Sutton.

## LITURGIES

#### Monday 20 June2022

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

#### Tuesday 21 June 2022

#### **St Aloysius Gonzaga**

9.00am St James' - LWC Followed by Rosary and Adoration

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

## Wednesday 22 June 2022

St John Fisher & St Thomas More

8.00am Shalom- Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's-Mass

#### Thursday 23 June 2022

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

Friday 24 June 2022

12.15pm Holy Rosary-Mass

#### Saturday 25 June 2022

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

# NEXT SUNDAY

26 June 2022 Year C(2)

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

## SCRIPTURES For next Sunday

First Readings Kings 19: 16, 19-21 Second Reading Galatians: 5: 1, 13–18 Gospel Luke 9:51-62

**FUNERALS THIS WEEK:** Valma Burridge, Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Holy Rosary Church 2.00pm Bruna Zanon, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Holy Rosary Church 1.30pm

### **PRAYER GROUPS**

**ROSARY GROUP:** The Rosary Group meets every Tuesday and Thursday at Holy Rosary Church 5.30pm.

ADORATION IN ST PATRICK'S CHURCH: Every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, 2.00pm - 5.00pm and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 3.00pm - 5.00pm. All are welcome!

**CCR UNITED HEARTS PRAYER GROUP:** Takes place every 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month **7.00pm** in the Novakoski Centre.

Monthly prayer groups will be advertised in the bulletin the week prior

## The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton

abides by the principles of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (2013), and is committed to safeguarding, with a specific focus on protecting children and vulnerable adults. For further information or support please contact the Diocesan Professional Standards and Safeguarding Office:

#### Response Line: 1800 830 113 (free call)

Email: pssoadmin@rok.catholic.net.

Diocesan website for more information:

https://rok.catholic.net.au/ourdiocese/safeguarding/

To view the Diocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults commitment statement and policy:

> www.rok.catholic.net.au/ safeguarding-policies.html

### **OTHER CONTACTS**

Mrs Judy Pidcock: 4887 3080 Diocesan Safeguarding

Catholic Care: 1300 523 985 St Vincent de Paul: 4151 5455 Ozcare: 1800 692 273 Mater Hospital: 4153 9539 Towards Healing: 1800 337 928

AFTER HOURS Anointing of the Sick for Medical Emergencies Phone 4151 6666 & follow the prompts

# **GOSPEL REFLECTION**



esus went to those most in need. He forgave the sinner, ate with the outcast, defended, and fed those who were poor and hungry. He worked for true justice, risked being unpopular, willingly accepted suffering and death, and always stayed connected with his Abba, Father. Jesus also consistently reminded folks that God's compassion, love, and mercy trump everything, even the law. This is the Christ that the Eucharist calls us to be. As we look around our churches, our towns and cities, and our world, there are many people who need to see the face and body of Christ. Some of those most in need may be right within our families. But it is always in the poorest of the poor and those most vulnerable that we find the greatest need. There are many who cannot function on their own. When the gift of the Eucharistic Christ takes root in our hearts, we can more readily see the face of Christ in others.

Many people are vulnerable. Highest on that list are the homeless. They show us the face of Christ. Whatever the cause, to have no place to go and no place to call home takes a toll on the human spirit. For Jesus when there were hungry people, they were fed. God asks us to do the same ... feed people. There are many who are hungry physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Gifted by the Eucharistic presence of Christ, we can bring them Christ. Who are the hungry around us and how can we feed them?

When someone is hurting, you comfort them. When someone is hungry, you feed them. When someone needs clothes, you provide them. When someone is cold, you warm them. When someone is in prison, you visit them. With over a million people who are homeless and over a quarter of them children, it is important to ask the question, "why?" and strategize for ways to lessen or alleviate the problem. Nevertheless, we are not off the hook for responding to the immediate needs that present themselves at our doors. Whether a person's current station in life is self-imposed or the result of being victimized, they are sacred vessels. We cannot lock the door and send them away and still believe we bear the Eucharistic presence of Christ. It doesn't work like that.