Welcome to the Parish

21st/22ndNov 2026 Year A

The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

Our Lord JESUS CHRIST, KING of the Universe





A King Who Looks Like a Shepherd

Bill Goodwin
Principal St Mary's Primary School

Today we celebrate The Solemnity of Christ the King.

When we hear the word "king," we usually picture palaces, crowns, and armies. Yet as we close out the Church's liturgical year this Sunday, the readings offer us a striking contrast: a King who gets down in the dust to tend his flock.

In our First Reading from the prophet Ezekiel, God promises, "I myself will look after and tend my sheep... The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal" (Ezekiel 34:11, 16). Jesus fulfills this promise completely. He does not rule from a distant throne; he walks beside us, searches for us when we wander, and carries our wounds.

In today's Gospel (Matthew 25:31-46), this Shepherd-King reveals the single standard by which our lives will be measured. When all nations are gathered before him, he will not ask about our status, our bank accounts, or how impressive our resumes look. Instead, he will ask how we treated the vulnerable: Did we feed the hungry? Welcome the stranger? Care for the sick? Visit the lonely?

What makes this Gospel so challenging—and so hopeful—is that Jesus hides himself in disguise. "Whatever you did for one of the least brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). Every time we offer a kind word, share a meal, or show patience to someone in need, we are directly serving the King of the Universe.

As we prepare to begin the season of Advent next week, today's feast invites us to ask a simple question: Where does Jesus reign in my daily life? May we have the eyes to recognize our King in the people around us, and the courage to serve him with generous, open hearts.

An adult faith formation opportunity for Advent.

Everyone is welcome to a one-hour session titled "Praying in Advent" presented in two parts. Firstly, using the Sycamore resource to explore what is distinctive about Christian prayer, especially during Advent, and then secondly, Fr. Don will present a talk on Why St. Thomas Aquinas calls the Lord's Prayer the "perfect prayer."
There will time for discussion and sharing in groups, with a cup of tea or coffee and muffins provided. **Thursday Dec 3rd** commencing **5.30pm-6.30pm** in the Rossolini (Parish Centre) conference room.



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

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PO BOX 79 Bundaberg Qld 4670
sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au
www.bundabergcatholic.net.au
Phone 07 4151 - 6666

Planning is well underway for the 2026 Bethlehem Live



Volunteers needed:

- Construction crew: work as part of the team to support the Construction Coordinator to set up and pack down the event.
- *Street Actors and Soldiers:* Need lots of people to be costumed visitors to Bethlehem, such as beggars, women at the well and walking around and Roman Soldiers (only male soldiers and must be 18 or older).
- Cleaners: to empty bins and keep thing clean. Must have a bluecard.
- Storytellers: to tell some of the more well-known Old Testament stories to the children.

If you are able to assist with any of these roles, please contact the Parish Office. Whether you can volunteer for just one day between 15–18 December or for the entire event, your support would be greatly appreciated.

Pageant of Lights: Please join us on **Thursday 3rd December** and support the Bundaberg Pageant of Lights, the official switch-on of the CBD Christmas lights, followed by the festive Christmas Float Parade. Our parish will once again be participating with a float that shares the true meaning of Christmas—the birth of Jesus Christ. We are looking for volunteers to assist with the parish float. If you would like to be involved or would like more information, please contact the Parish Office.

Christian Unity Group: Will hold an Ecumenical Gathering for prayer and fellowship on **Tuesday 24th November** at **10.00am** in the Catholic Parish Office.

Thank you and Welcome New Parishioners Gathering: The Parish would like to invite new Parishioners who are yet to meet our Parish Team and members of our Stewardship and Finance Council. We also invite those who volunteer in our many and varied ministries to join us on **Thursday 26th November** from **5.30pm-6.30pm** in the Parish Office. This is our opportunity to say thank you. Drinks and nibblies will be provided. **If you plan on attending, please register your name by Monday 23rd November at the Parish Office to help with catering.**

Blanket Buddies Christmas Raffle: Tickets will be available from the Parish Office until Monday 1st December. A Christmas hamper will be first prize and a crocheted blanket will be second prize. Tickets are $1.00 each.

Planning Day: Please note the Parish Office will close from **midday** on Tuesday **24th November** to allow for the planning of the 2027 Parish Calendar.

Carols at St James': *Please join us on Sunday 20th December from 4.30pm as we celebrate this Christmas Season. We especially invite young children to join in the singing and the telling of the Christmas story. A light supper will be provided. The annual St James Christmas raffle will also be drawn with multiple prizes. (Donations are being accepted.)*



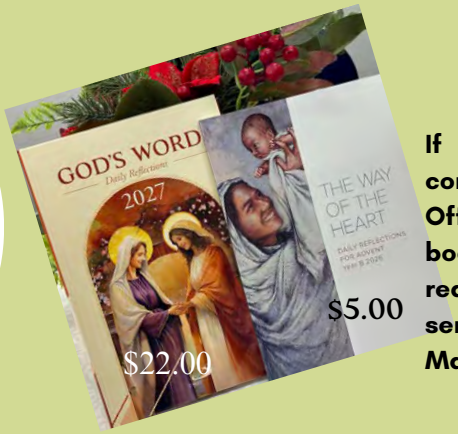
Please note the change of date.

Anointing Mass: The next Anointing Mass will be held on **Thursday 3rd December** at **10.00am** in Holy Rosary Church. Please stay for morning tea in the Novakoski Centre. This will be the last Anointing Mass for 2026.
We look forward to seeing you all again in 2027.



AVAILABLE NOW

ON Sale
NOW
from the
Parish Office



Columban Calendars and
Christmas cards are now available

If you are unable to come to the Parish Office to collect your book, please phone and request the book be sent to your weekly Mass Centre.



Calendars $ 8.00
Pack of 8 Christmas cards
$3.00

The first Sunday of Advent is on 29th November. Get your Advent booklet now

Parish News and Announcements

Summer Camp 2027

Ignite Summer Camp Diocesan Group

When: 13-17 January, 2027
Where: QCCC Mapleton (Sunshine Coast)
Who: Any 2027 high school students

Ignite Summer Camp is back in 2027, with four days of huge outdoor games, amazing rallies, 200 new mates and connecting with Jesus. Our diocese will be taking a group to Summer Camp, providing transport to and from the event and even providing an extra night's accommodation so we will be ready to go when the camp begins on the morning of the 14th of January. To register with our diocesan group, scan the QR code or go to https://rok.catholic.net.au/services-agencies/youth-ministry/summer-camp/. For more details contact Mick at youth@rok.catholic.net.au or 0433 897 973.

World Youth Day Korea 2027: All young adults born in the years 1991-2008 are invited to join our diocesan pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Korea next year. Join with over a million Catholics from around the world and Pope Leo himself! The pilgrimage will be led by Bishop Danny and will travel to Hong Kong and then Busan, Jeonju and Seoul in South Korea. The dates for the pilgrimage are the 29th of July to the 10th of August. Partial sponsorship is available for a limited number of people. For more details and to express interest go to our diocesan website (*rok.catholic.net.au*) or scan the QR code.

Theology of the Body & Art Immersion Course in January:
The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton is offering sponsorship for an individual from our diocese to attend Theology of the Body & Art: The Way of Beauty Immersion. This course is being presented by the Theology of the Body Institute in partnership with the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, and will take place on 17-22 January 2027 at the Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Gorse Vale (NSW).

The cost of the course is $2100 but the diocese will completely cover this cost for the successful applicant. The successful applicant will still need to arrange for their own transport to and from the event.

Applications for sponsorship will close on the 29th of November and the successful applicant will be notified shortly after.
To apply for sponsorship or for more information go to https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/cFwVsjTvvc or scan the QR code.

A celebration of the Church's Funeral Liturgy

Hugh O'Malley	Monday 23rd November 11.30am	Holy Rosary Church
Marion Szigmund	Monday 23rd November 2.00pm	St Patrick's Church
Catherine Galea	Tuesday 24th November 12 noon	St Patrick's Church
Kevin Morrisey	Wednesday 25th November 10.00am	Graveside Bundaberg Lawn Cemetery
Patrick O'Brien	Monday 30th November 12 noon	Graveside Catholic Cemetery

Liturgies

Monday 23 November 2026
St Clement I & St Columban
9.00 am St Patrick's - Mass
6.00pm Adoration & Penance HR

Tuesday 24 November 2026
St Andrew Dung-Lac
8.30am St James' - Penance
9.00am St James' - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 25 November 2026
St Catherine of Alexandria
8.00am Shalom - Mass
12.15pm Holy Rosary-Mass

Thursday 26 November 2026
7.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Friday 27 November 2026
11.00am Holy Rosary - Exposition
11.30am Holy Rosary - Penance
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass
6.30pm St Patrick's
Malayalam Mass

Saturday 28 November 2026
7.30am St Patrick's - Mass
9.00 Holy Rosary' - Penance
6.00pm St Patrick's - Mass

Sunday 29 November 2026
7.00am St James' - Mass
8.00am Holy Rosary - Mass
9.00am St Patrick's –Mass
5.30pm Holy Rosary - Mass

SCRIPTURES
First Reading
Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1,3-8
Second Reading
1 Cor 1:3-9:
Gospel
Mark 13:33-37:

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

AFTER HOURS
Anointing of the Sick
for Medical Emergencies
Phone 07 4151 6666
& follow the prompts.

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Don White PP VG
Parish Priest

Fr Anthony Nguyen
Associate Pastor

Mr Jeffrey Caluag
Operations Manager

Ms Pauline Leahy
Liturgy, Music, Sacramental & RCIA Co-ordinator

Ms Judy Pidcock
Pastoral Care Practitioner

Mrs Jan Aplin
Safeguarding Representative

Mrs Sandra Fox
Receptionist

Mrs Lyn Callaghan
Bereavement Coordinator

PARISH STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Mrs Kaye Beston
Chair

Ms Madonna Davitt
Deputy Chair

Ms Nadene Pettett
Secretary

Members:
Dr Ken Avenell
Mr Steve Jenes
Miss Clare O'Rourke
Mrs Helen Stanley
Dr Preshy Varghese
Mr Matthias Visona
Mr Michael Walker

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Mrs Monica White
Principal
sjbg@rok.catholic.edu.au
☎ 07 4151 4771

St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Mr Bill Goodwin
Principal
smbg@rok.catholic.edu.au
☎ 07 4152 2167

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School
Mrs Kim O'Shea-Hard
Principal
spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au
☎ 07 4152 1380

Shalom College
Mr Dean Wearmouth
Principal
shalom@shalomcollege.com
☎ 07 4155 8111

CHURCHES

Holy Rosary Church
Cnr Barolin & Woongarra Streets

St Patrick's Church
14 Powers Street

St James' Church
38 See Street Bargara



It's a little ironic that, when Pope Pius XI instituted the Feast of Christ the King, he did so in a world that was growing awfully weary of kings.

The year was 1925. World War I had ended only seven years before. Most of Europe's monarchies were torn asunder in the conflict, yielding to other forms of government more deferential to popular opinion.

But there was a problem. The kings were gone, but still the world did not know peace — and it certainly didn't know justice. The Pope was unflinching in his words: "discord," "rivalries," "insatiable greed," "selfishness," "neglect (of) duty…society in a word, shaken to its foundations and on the way to ruin," he lamented in his encyclical Quas primas, describing the state of the world.

Americans are very proud that we've never bent the knee to a monarch, and I, for one, am a big fan of democratic republics like ours. But I don't think tyranny is inherent to — or prevented by — any particular form of government. I think any human can become an oppressor if they make the choice to.

The question was never what prevented tyranny. The question was who. And the answer is: only a king who "demands of (his) subjects a spirit of detachment from riches and earthly things, and a spirit of gentleness," wrote Pope Pius XI. A king whose subjects "hunger and thirst after justice" and who "deny themselves and carry the cross."

There has only ever been one such king. There has only ever been one such kingdom.

Today, we bend the knee.

We Pray for our Deceased

RECENTLY DECEASED: Marion Szigmund, Quintin Weber (USA), Monica Hunt (Townsville),Catherine Galea, Elio Stocco, Hugh O'Malley, Patrick O'Brien, Adele San Andres, Hanna Doreen Cruz (Philippines) Catherine Castelli, Patricia Stevenson, Rosalina Laruan, Giuseppe Evorio Caniglia (Cleveland Ohio), Montana "Monica" Pearce, Helen Ryan, Esther Harte (Brisbane).

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Cesarina Della-Vedova 26.11, Shane Hocking 18.11.2018, Moira Frances Pendleton 12.12.2019, Marie Mooney 4.11.2016, Eve Doreen Forte 6.11.2024, Vittorio Cafolla 13.11.1948, Flora Maria Cafolla 20.11.2015, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Len Potter 23.11.2019, Ernie Woods 19.11.2025, Giorgio Asnicar 12.11.2016, Renzo Crappa 6.11.12, Bill Della Vedova 12.11.12, Richard Rosolen 1.12.2024, Giorgio Asnicar 12.11.2016, Dulcie Schafer 28.10.95, Barry Sharp 7.11.2025, Frank Nella 7.10.2019, Sheelah Cagney 20.10.1995.

MASS OFFERED FOR HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY: Joe Della-Vedova, Lew Della, Alma Della, Mary Nogarotto, Gerry Walsh, Alfio Bonanno, Cameron Hocking, Gerry Newman, Domonic Attard &Family, Zammit Family, Charlie & Phillis Micallef, Lisa Camilleri, Joe Formosa & all the Formosa Families, Raimondo De Bernardinis, Giuseppina De Bernardinis, Deceased members of the Cross, Cagney,Collins & Martin Families, Sheelah Margaret Cagney, Terence James Cagney, Margaret Mary Cagney Gloria Mary Collins, Fetrin Family, Paul Galea, Joyce Galea, Joseph Galea, Forte & Theresa Galea,Mick and Mary Galea, deceased relatives of the Galea, & Zahra Families, Kevin and Doris Whalley.

The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton abides by the principles of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (2022), 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/our-diocese/safeguarding/
To view the Diocesan Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk commitment statement and policy: www.rok.catholic.net.au/safeguarding-policies.html

OTHER CONTACTS

Graham White: 07 4887 3080
Diocesan Safeguarding Manager

Catholic Care: 1300 523 985
St Vincent de Paul: 4339 3700
Ozcare: 1800 692 273
Mater Hospital: 4153 9539