Welcome to the Parish

28th/29th Nov 2026 Year B

The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the PatronageofMaryMotheroftheChurch

First Sunday of Advent





ADVENT: Atime of Preparation and Anticipation

This weekend we begin our new Church year, Year B, with the First Sunday of Advent. Advent is a wonderful time of year. It can be a time of anticipation and preparing for Christmas meals and sharing. Sometimes, however, it is easy to get lost in the commercial excitement around us. Months before Christmas we see the decorations in the stores and sales everywhere.

Whilst the whole year is a time for each of us to prepare the way for Christ as we go about our busy lives, during Advent we especially, in our own particular ways, give thanks to God for sending us his only Son for our salvation. We each reflect on the choices we've made and how we might do better. We look outward to see who is in need of our help. Prayer, thanksgiving, almsgiving and self-reflection are the foundation of our preparation during Advent, not just for Lent.

In our churches, it is now that we hear and see many things to remind of the real meaning of this season. The Advent themes (hope, peace, joy and love) unfold over the next four weeks. They invite us to pause and re-dire our focus on God's promises.

Our church environment changes to purple, and our Advent wreaths appear. The four Advent Candles, lit one b one each week, mark the four weeks before Christmas - a symbol of our yearning for the Light of Christ. The circle of the wreath, without a beginning and end, symbolises God's unending love for us and reminds us of eternity. The leaves represent growth and hope for eternal life. This all calls us to expectation and reflection o ourselves.

Advent is "a period for devout and joyful expectation" (General Norms of the Liturgical Year and the Calendar 39). The Gloria is omitted during Advent, for example, not because it is a season of penance and abstinence, b so that we might sing this hymn, which echoes the song of the angels heralding the birth of Christ, with renewe joy and vigour on Christmas night.

The Advent season is all about waiting in joyful hope. As we hear the texts of Advent we are drawn into the richness of the Church's liturgy, and into the true spirit and reason for the Advent season. I hope this Advent season gives you an opportunity to pause and focus on Jesus more during the lead up to Christmas.

So, I invite you to each pray:

Dear Jesus,
you are the hope in our messy world.
This Advent, help us slow down,
listen to your voice,
and focus on what's really important.
We place our hope in you
as we prepare our hearts
to celebrate your birth on Christmas.
Amen.

Pauline Leahy
Liturgy and Sacramental Co-Ordinator.

(Dynamic Catholic website)

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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Phone 07 4151 - 6666

Planning is well underway for the 2026 Bethlehem Live



Volunteersneeded:

- 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.

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.







Please note if your children are participating they must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

ON Sale NOW from the Parish Office

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.





Columban Calendars and Christmas cards available now

Calendars $ 8.00
Christmas cards $3.00

Parish News and Announcements

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.



EVENT CANCELATION: The Adult Faith Formation Opportunity advertised for 3rd December has been cancelled due to a scheduling error. We apologise for the change.

From Monday 7th- Friday 11th December and Monday 14th – Friday 18th December the Holy Rosary carpark will be closed. This will allow the demolition of the old Presbytery to start . Particularly the removal of asbestos. Trucks will need to access the carpark to complete this stage of the required work.
Holy Rosary Church will remain open from 9.00am-3.00pm Monday-Friday but will only be accessible by the main front door on Barolin street.
The weekday Masses at Holy Rosary on Wednesday 9th and 16th and Friday 11th and 18th will move to St Patrick's. We apologise for any inconvenience.
All weekend Masses will remain the same.

AVAILABILITY FOR CHRISTMAS ROSTER



We know many people go away at this time of year. If you are available to help with our Masses over the Christmas period, please contact Pauline at the Parish Office. This will enable her to prepare a roster, ensuring all Masses are covered for this period and early notification of Ministers involved.

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.

November: A month of devotion to the Holy Souls

In the Catholic Church, November is traditionally dedicated as the Month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory and a Month of Remembrance for the faithful departed.

- Joseph Ellul, Mary Ellul, Martin Ellul, Warrick Stuart, Anne-Maree Ellul, Kevin McGuane, Daphne McGuane, Barry McGuane.
- Roy and Monica Lally, Lola Osborne, Raymond Bruce Lally.
- Underwood Family, Bartlett Family, Kinnane Family and Clarke Family.
- Deceased members of Bowden Family, Williams Family and Warren Family.
- Cafolla, Family, Crawford Family, Maglicco Family, Borza family, Forte Family, Francis Family, Zuppichiata Family, Aprille Family, Fucsco family, Baxter Family, Bennett Family, McMullen Family, Thorthan Family, Nardone Family.

A celebration of the Church's Funeral Liturgy

Patrick O'Brien — Monday 30th November, 12 noon — Graveside CatholicCemetery



Liturgies

Monday 30 November 2026
St Andrew
9.00 am St Patrick's - Mass
6.00pm Adoration & Penance HR

Tuesday 1 December 2026
8.30am St James' - Penance
9.00am St James' - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 2 December 2026
12.15pm Holy Rosary-Mass

Thursday 3 December 2026
St Francis Xavier
7.00am St Patrick's - Mass
10.00am Holy Rosary
Anointing Mass

Friday 4 December 2026
St John Damascene
10.45am Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 5 December 2026
7.30am St Patrick's - Mass
9.00 Holy Rosary' - Penance
6.00pm St Patrick's - Mass

Sunday 6 December 2026
7.00am St James' - Mass
8.00am Holy Rosary - Mass
Solemn
9.00am St Patrick's –Mass
5.30pm Holy Rosary - Mass
Solemn

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

Baptismal News

This weekend we welcome
Harry Paul Meiers
into our Parish Family.

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
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

MrsLynCallaghan
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



We Pray for our Deceased

RECENTLY DECEASED: Moises da Costa, Patricia Nash, Patricia Stevenson, 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.

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Frank Nella 7.10.2019, Dulcie Schafer 28.10.1995, Barry Sharp 7.11.2025, Bill Della Vedova 12.11.2012, Margaret Mary Cagney 4.11.2007, Renzo Crappa 6.11.2012, Julie Agar (UK), Cesarina Della-Vedova 26.11, Shane Hocking 18.11.2018, Moira Frances Pendleton 17.12.2019, 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,

MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST : Colleen Raines, Alfio Bonanno, Helen Ryan, Margaret Mary Cagney, Terence James Cagney, Sheelah Margaret Cagney, Gloria Mary Collins, Deceased members of the Cagney, Cross, Collins & Martin Families. Joe Galea, Sue Papparlardo & Family, Joe Della-Vedova, Lew Della, Alma Della, Mary Nogarotto, Gerry Walsh, Cameron Hocking, Gerry Newman, Domonic Attard &Family, Zammit Family, Charlie & Phillis Micallef, Lisa Camilleri, Joe Formosa & all the Formosa Families, 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