



# The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

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

Parish Office: Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St

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

**Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church**

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C)

17 March 2019

*FOCUS by Fr. Ronaldo Rodriguez SVD*

## LENT IS 'GIVING UP' AND 'GIVING WAY'

Lent is traditionally characterised with fasting, prayer and almsgiving, and I assume, it is still the same concept for us Catholics in the modern world. But, it is being lived out in various ways.

In 1975 when I was in the spiritual formation year (Novitiate), we, fifty-one novices had prepared ourselves for the upcoming Easter by following the same traditional practices. We were encouraged by our Novice Master to do fasting, to enter into deep prayer and to offer charitable action for the poor through Project Compassion.

This is what we did then. Part of our weekly consumption is soft drinks. In one of our class meetings, we decided to do fasting and almsgiving. We fasted from soft drinks throughout the Lenten season and collected the monetary value of the soft drinks and then gave the money to Project Compassion. We raised a good amount of money. Everyone was happy and the Novice Master highly commended our efforts.

I used to think of fasting as 'giving up' things that I like, such as: chocolates, good meal, branded clothes, etc. for a greater spiritual cause. Here is one of my experiences. While I was still a seminarian, at Ash Wednesday, I decided not to eat lunch. I went to my room, read a book and at 4 pm I was very hungry. My stomach was complaining. So, I went to the kitchen and looked for a left over. Luckily, I found some and straightaway devoured them. Then, I felt guilty because I broke my fasting. I failed. I wasn't happy. I wondered whether or not God was happy with my fasting.

At present, my understanding of fasting has changed a bit from giving up something physical or material to something emotional, intellectual and spiritual. Now I define fasting as the 'GIVING UP' of my unproductive and/or bad habits.

On the one hand, during this Lent, I am trying to focus on giving up procrastination, putting people in a box, blaming others except myself, etc. I know it's a big challenge to give up what's maybe in my blood. But, if I am firmly resolved, dedicated, persistent and guided by the principle of "Never Give Up" plus the grace of God, I believe I can change and hope for the better and hopefully can have a happy celebration at Easter. On the other hand, I do believe that the duration of Lent is not realistic enough to achieve my goal of 'giving up' my bad habits. Surely, it is a long process. I may fail over and over again but it is in my failure that I will try harder to succeed.

The other side of Lent as I put it is, 'GIVING WAY'. Here is my experience. Sometime ago, I drove to Shopping Centre's underground parking area to park. I found one. Suddenly, someone was quicker to park than me. I was angry. My 'blood pressure' was up. I went out from my car and confronted him. We had a heated argument. Eventually, I 'gave way' to his argument and within myself I forgave him. I felt peace.

In one of the mornings last week, I was cruising at 75 km/hr. under the pouring rain on Bargara Road to the Parish Office. An incoming vehicle indicated to turn right at the intersection. I did not 'give way' because I was on the road right of way. Suddenly the headlights of his car flashed on high beam. My 'high blood pressure' was a little bit up. I said to myself, JUST RELAX!, Ronaldo. Then, I prayed for the driver.

In my journey of life and quest for lasting fulfillment and happiness, I realised that there's a greater value and/or good benefits in 'giving up' and 'giving way.'

## PASTORAL TEAM

**Rev Peter Tonti PP**

Parish Priest

**Rev Jomon Poothara**

Associate Pastor

**Rev Ronaldo Rodriguez SVD**

Associate Pastor

**Mrs Anne Sheehan**

Liturgy & Sacramental Co-ordinator

**Mrs Denise Tuzes**

Visitation & Bereavement  
Co-ordinator

**Mr Norm Whyte**

Business Manager

**Mr Jeffrey Caluag**

Administration & Finance  
Co-ordinator

**Mrs Raquel Arriola**

Reception

## SCHOOLS

**St Joseph's Catholic  
Primary School**

Principal: Mrs Kaye Beston

[sjbgrok.catholic.edu.au](http://sjbgrok.catholic.edu.au)

Ph: 4151 4771

**St Mary's Catholic  
Primary School**

Principal: Ms Madonna Davitt

[stmarysbundaberg.qld.edu.au](http://stmarysbundaberg.qld.edu.au)

Ph: 4152 2167

**St Patrick's Catholic  
Primary School**

Principal: Mr Mark Fox

[saintpatricks.qld.edu.au](http://saintpatricks.qld.edu.au)

Ph: 4152 1380

**Shalom College**

Principal: Mr Dan McMahon

[shalomcollege.com](http://shalomcollege.com)

Ph: 4155 8111

## CHURCHES

**Holy Rosary Church**

Cnr Barolin & Woongarra Sts

**St Patrick's Church**

16 Powers St

**St Mary's Church**

Cnr Barolin & Boston Sts

**St James' Church**

38 See St Bargarra

## 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

## AFTER HOURS

**Anointing of the Sick  
for Medical Emergencies**

Phone 4151 6666  
& follow the prompts.

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship as a way of life requires us to take seriously what it means to be a "citizen of heaven" (cf Phil 3:20). We are called to follow the laws of the land we live in on this earth, but we are called to adhere to an even greater authority. Whether it be our call to act with charity and love or to follow the precepts of the Church, we must take seriously our status as citizen.

Unfortunately, many don't take seriously their citizenship on this earth either. People have given their very lives so that we may have to freedom to be citizens of our country and our state. Of course, many people have died for the citizenship of heaven as well. So it comes down to the question, who are you and to whom do you belong? -Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## FROM POPE FRANCIS

My predecessor Benedict XVI likewise proposed "eliminating the structural causes of the dysfunctions of the world economy and correcting models of growth which have proved incapable of ensuring respect for the environment" He observed that the world cannot be analyzed by isolating only one of its aspects, since "the book of nature is one and indivisible", and includes the environment, life, sexuality, the family, social relations, and so forth. It follows that "the deterioration of nature is closely connected to the culture which shapes human coexistence"

## LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

National Harmony Day is this Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March. It is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians regardless of their culture or beliefs, as we sing in 'We are Australians', We are One. *It's also a time when we can help eliminate racism and be aware that all people are imprinted with the image and likeness of God and are equal in dignity and human rights.*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Recently Baptised:** Enzo Miguel Cedergreen, Elea Marie Neverio, Alexander Roy Pekin

**Recently Deceased:** Roy Dawkins, Jeanette "Jane" Eileen Dalton, Stephanie Anne Formosa, Judith Mary van Dalen

## PLEASE NOTE

**RITUAL OF BELONGING:** This weekend during all Masses we celebrate a Ritual of Belonging with the children who are preparing for the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. The children who celebrated their First Reconciliation on Wednesday night are now ready to turn towards completing their initiation. Initiation is belonging to a community. They will ask you to pray for them and give a Prayer Card to some in particular. Please keep them all in your prayers.

**CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:** Next session: Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 10.30am, or Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March 5.30pm. Family Session on Confirmation.

**HOLY THURSDAY GIFTS FOR THE POOR:** "At the beginning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist, there may be a procession of the faithful in which gifts for the poor may be presented with the bread and the wine." (The Roman Missal, Order of Mass #21) On Holy Thursday, this same invitation is given. The service and charity that is ritualized through the Washing of the Feet and the calling to God with the needs of the world verbalized in the Universal Prayer, are embodied by the members of the assembly when they bring gifts for the poor in procession. This easily overlooked suggestion is a clear ritual action shared by the assembly that brings to life the intention of the Washing of the Feet.

In preparation for The Mass of the Lord's Supper this year we ask that you donate one non-perishable item of food or a gift card per family, to be brought up as our offering for the poor during the procession of gifts on Holy Thursday night. Beginning next weekend bring your donations and place them in the baskets at the doors of the church. They will be kept safely until Holy Thursday after which we will donate them to St Vincent de Paul.

## NOTICES

**LENTEN RETREAT "WALK WITH ME":** Presented by Fr John Daly. Monday, **18<sup>th</sup> March** 5.30pm to 7.30pm at the Parish Office.

**24HRS WITH THE LORD:** The 24 Hours for the Lord will take place on Friday, **22<sup>nd</sup> March** to Saturday, **23<sup>rd</sup> March** beginning in Holy Rosary Church at 12.15pm. Please place your name on the roster at the front doors so that we know that there will always be someone before the Lord during this special time.

**POST FUNERAL SUPPORT GROUP MEETING:** Friday, **22<sup>nd</sup> March** from 11.30am.

**2019 CHRISM MASS:** Bishop Michael McCarthy invites you all to join our Priests for the very special and solemn celebration of Chrism Mass which will be celebrated on Thursday, **28<sup>th</sup> March** at 11.00 am at St Joseph's Cathedral. The Mass will be live-streamed : <https://www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton>

**DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY INVITATION:** The Rockhampton Diocesan Assembly is being held in Rockhampton on **Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March**. Invitations to the Assembly are now being offered to those who have attended at least one of the Assembly Listening Sessions held in Gladstone. **If you have not received your invitation and would like to participate in the Assembly, please contact Alison Austin at the Diocesan Office.** Contact number: 4887 3070

**DATE CLAIMER:** Working Bee to make Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday, Friday, **12<sup>th</sup> April**, beginning at 9.00am in the Novakoski Centre. BYO Lunch.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE GATHERING:** For those committed to a Gospel-based response to injustices, beginning 6.30pm, **5<sup>th</sup> April – 6<sup>th</sup> April**, Duhig Centre, Bishop's Office, West St, Rockhampton. RSVP 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Contact Sr Pat Wood rsm, 0419203677, [marypatricia.wood@gmail.com](mailto:marypatricia.wood@gmail.com), or locally, Sr Margaret Schofield 4153 4631. Registration forms available at the Parish Office.

**ECUMENICAL LUNCHEON:** It's on again! Mark your diaries. Saturday, **24<sup>th</sup> August** 11.00a.m., R.S.L Bundaberg. More details closer to the time.

**CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE AUSTRALIA:** The CWL would like to thank all our supporters who helped to make our celebration of St Patrick such a success. *Maureen Ewing – President*

**NET TEAM:** The team began the week by attending mass at St. James and Holy Rosary, followed by relaunching our Echo Junior and Echo Senior youth groups, with the theme "Welcome Home". Through RE classes at St Josephs and St Mary's we assisted students in understanding how we can do "good deeds" to others. For the remainder of the week we were at Shalom, and assisted with Mass, RE Classes on topics such as Palm Sunday & Ignatian Spirituality, the Eucharist and Prayer. The team also facilitated the school based youth group "VISION" on Wednesday at lunch. Our week concluded with a social night with the young adults of the community in the youth centre.



**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**

**Second Sunday of Lent  
17<sup>th</sup> March 2019**



Tati lives in the remote forest of Indonesia. She is a mother of three who was earning an income working in a local rubber plantation. Since taking part in eco-tourism training with Caritas Australia and its partners, Tati can now afford to send her children to school. With new hope and commitment Tati aspires to a future free from poverty for her family.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help lift communities in Indonesia out of poverty, and give them hope to protect our common home.**

**Lives change when we all give 100%.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

### ***The Mater Hospital needs your help.***

Are you an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist? Could you commit to taking Holy Communion one Sunday a month to patients in the hospital?  
If so, please contact Marie Norlander at Mater Hospital Pastoral Care  
Ph 4153 9487 Monday - Wednesday 8.30am to 12noon

## LITURGIES

**Monday 18 March 2019**

*St Patrick, bishop*

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

**Tuesday 19 March 2019**

*St Joseph, husband of Mary*

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

**Wednesday 20 March 2019**

8.00am Shalom - Mass  
5.30pm Holy Rosary - Mass

**Thursday 21 March 2019**

6.30am St Mary's - Mass  
10am St Mary's - Anointing

**Friday 22 March 2019**

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

**Saturday 23 March 2019**

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

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**24 March 2019**

**3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Year C (I)**

**Hours of the Sunday  
Psalter Week 3**

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

**SCRIPTURES**

**for next Sunday**

**First Reading**

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

**Second Reading**

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

**Gospel**

Luke 13:1-9

**LENT**

**Ash Wednesday** and **Good**

**Friday** are days of fast and

abstinence. The law of fasting

binds those who have

completed their eighteenth

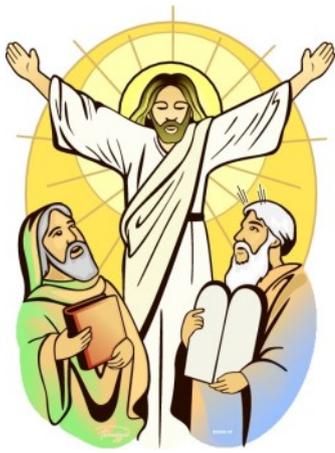
year, until the beginning of their

sixtieth year; the law of

abstinence binds those who

have completed their fourteenth

year (CCL97, 1251-52).



## SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

### Genesis 15:5-12, 17-8

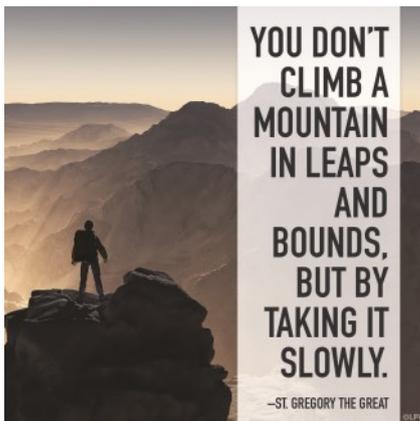
Abraham's trust in the covenantal promises of the Lord was deemed an act of righteousness. When have you had to completely trust the Lord?

### Philippians 3:17-14:1

Paul urges believers in the Philippian community to see him and Timothy as models of faith in Jesus Christ. To whom do you model your faith in Christ?

### Luke 9:28-36

In the transfiguration, the divinity of Christ was revealed to Peter, John, and James. Why do you think the apostles initially



## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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



## 2nd Sunday OF LENT

While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. - Lk 9:29

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

### 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

As we march through Lent, it can be easy to think it's all about sacrifice. No chocolate, no alcohol, no meat on Fridays. Yet here, only in the second week of Lent, we have the story of the transfiguration. This reading reminds us of the "why" behind what we do. We don't fast from dessert to lose weight. We don't donate money or serve others because it's merely a nice thing to do. Lent is about transformation!

Peter, James, and John trudged up the mountainside behind Jesus. This must have been a difficult hike, because when they reached the top, "Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep." Despite our best efforts, perhaps we, too, can be asleep to the deeper meaning of the Lenten season. Jesus is transfigured while they slumber, but eventually they become "fully awake, [and] they saw his glory and the two men standing with him."

This is no small thing! The disciples witness Jesus in his divine splendour and see the miraculous apparitions of Moses and Elijah. The entire mountain becomes a spiritual breakthrough. "A cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud." These symbols are present in the Old Testament. They are present on Mount Sinai when Moses prayed alone and received the 10 Commandments. Elijah had a similar experience when he prayed alone before God. But here are ordinary men, former fishermen, who have been drawn up into an adventure beyond their wildest expectations. Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah, the fulfillment of all that came before. But Christianity is not the religion of the elite, where only the select few are allowed to participate. We are all invited into spiritual transformation. Lent is a privileged time for this!