



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

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

8 September 2019

FoCuS by Fr Peter Tonti

PARISHIONER PARTICIPATION

DIOCESAN: You will be aware that one of the outcomes of the 2019 Diocesan Assembly was the identification of the need for greater involvement of parishioners in the governance structures of our Diocese. Bishop Michael McCarthy had already put in place a Governance Review of the Diocese in 2017-18 and workshops by Mr David Hutton in 2019.

One of the outcomes has been the establishment of a number of Post-Assembly task groups focussing on governance structures, roles, leadership formation and co-responsibility for mission. This year we have seen the establishment of the different Regional Pastoral Councils (Our Southern Regional Pastoral Council meets for the first time this Saturday 7th September in Gladstone). The establishment of the Diocesan Pastoral Council is planned for 2020.

Opportunities for parishioner recruitment, formation and participation will be offered in the coming months. Judith Gardiner, Executive Officer Bishop's Office will be conducting these sessions. Watch this Space!

PARISH: The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg has enjoyed, for a number of years, wonderful participation by the parishioners. I am reliably told the focus on parish co-responsibility dates back to Father Frank Gilbert days! We have been well led with our pastoral focus: *We are a stewardship parish gifted by God, grateful of heart, using our gifts and talents to serve.* Our Parish Mission Statement is listed on our parish bulletin every week (please read) and our **Stewardship Prayer** is:

Heavenly Father we thank you for the gifts you have given us.

You ask us to develop these gifts and share them with others.

Help us to recognise the gifts of others, so that, together we may respond to the call of Jesus

To spread the Good News in our communities.

May the spirit of Love guide us on our journey. Amen.

PARISH PLANNING GROUP

The Parish Planning Group (PPG) has recently been established, under the direction of our Parish Stewardship Council, to determine how, as a parish, we can ensure the governance structures, roles, leadership formation and co-responsibility for mission will be relevant today and into the future. The PPG will be seeking your assistance and participation. Watch this Space! Please pray the Stewardship Prayer for the success of this venture. Let all of us truly respond to the call of Jesus and spread the Good News in our communities and beyond.

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

Ms Anne Carlsen
Parish Safeguarding Representative

Mr Norm Whyte
Business Manager

Mr Jeffrey Caluag
Administration & Finance
Co-ordinator

Mrs Raquel Arriola
Reception

Bundaberg NET
Youth Ministry

SCHOOLS

**St Joseph's Catholic
Primary School**
Principal: Mrs Kaye Beston
sjbgrok.catholic.edu.au
Ph: 4151 4771

**St Mary's Catholic
Primary School**
Principal: Ms Madonna Davitt
stmarysbundaberg.qld.edu.au
Ph: 4152 2167

**St Patrick's Catholic
Primary School**
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
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 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

AFTER HOURS

**Anointing of the Sick
for Medical Emergencies**

Phone 4151 6666
& follow the prompts.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Reach Out in Love

We are all called to be accountable to one another. As brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, we have a responsibility to reach out in love when we see someone lost and to offer support when the need is the greatest. In that same regard, we must never stand between a loved one and him. Our goal when it comes to those we love is to lead them toward heaven and eternal life with the source of all love, Jesus Christ.

This is the "why" of our stewardship. Our generosity and our giving of very selves back to God need to bear witness to the transforming power of Jesus. It is easy to fall into the trap of loving someone so much that we place them before God. We make our human relationships the main thing and ultimately make decisions that keep our loved ones away from that which they need the most. If we truly love another, we will offer them the example of how we love God even more than them.

We live in a world where romantic and parental love are seen as the highest forms of affection. Stories are often told in books and on the screen of how nothing will keep someone from his or her beloved. Although we are called to love one another, we must never be trapped into the portrayal of love that comes from the world. We are gifts from God to one another, and like all other gifts given to us, we are accountable to God for that which He has given. If you can give a loved one back to God completely, then you are worthy of their love in the first place. - Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

FROM POPE FRANCIS "LAUDATO SI"

In assessing the environmental impact of any project, concern is usually shown for its effects on soil, water and air, yet few careful studies are made of its impact on biodiversity, as if the loss of species or animals and plant groups were of little importance. Highways, new plantations, the fencing-off of certain areas, the damming of water sources, and similar developments, crowd out natural habitats and, at times, break them up in such a way that animal populations can no longer migrate or roam freely. As a result, some species face extinction. Alternatives exist which at least lessen the impact of these projects, like the creation of biological corridors, but few countries demonstrate such concern and foresight. Frequently, when certain species are exploited commercially, little attention is paid to studying their reproductive patterns in order to prevent their depletion and the consequent imbalance of the ecosystem.

LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

This week we remember both Child Protection Day and World Suicide Prevention Day. All human beings are created in the divine image and have an inherent dignity which must always be upheld. Human life is therefore sacred. *Let us respond to our children and those in distress as we open our eyes to 'see and hear' their joys and sorrows.* In this Season of Creation today we celebrate Flora and Fauna in the 'Web of Life'. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it. - Laudato Si' 139

BUNDABERG NET TEAM

Last week, the Bundaberg NET Team travelled up to Yeppoon with Shalom students to participate in the Diocesan Year 10 ACTS Camp. Students from all across the diocese gathered to hear the message, inspired from the book of Genesis that "indeed, you are very good", exploring noble values from the gospel and the dignity of the human person. The team had the pleasure of assisting Donna Power in co-facilitating through leading small groups and mingled with students, sharing the gift of music through singing around the campfire. Later on in the week, the team's supervisors Danielle and Cameron joined them in Yeppoon to lead the team through some faith formation, personal development and team building activities in Bundaberg. It was a great weekend of team bonding and exploring Bargara and its surrounds.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Arogyamma (Mary) Kodavatikanti, Agostino "Gus" Asnicar, Pearl Agnes Phelan, William Desmond Anderson, Charles Geoffrey Hall, Joseph Formosa, Brian Francis Nicolson

NOTICES

ALTAR SERVER: Training session on Monday, **9th September** 5.30pm at Holy Rosary Church. We look forward to your attendance.

CWL YOUNGER SET: Tuesday, **10th September** 6.30pm at Sabrosa Steakhouse. Any ladies who would like to join us would be most welcome. Please contact Maureen 0407 964 753 for further information or if you are attending by lunchtime on Tuesday.

EL SHADDAI PRAYER GROUP: Saturday, **28th September** from 1.00pm. For venue details please contact Lee 0423 480 744.

ANNOUNCEMENT: JACQUELINE MAREE RAMSEY (Sr Mary Dominica), formerly from Goovigen, will make her Vow of Perpetual Profession in **7th October**, at St Brendan's Church in Ganmain, NSW 11.00am. She is the 3rd daughter of John and Trudy Ramsey, sister to Daniel, Kate, Bernadette, Patrice, Thomas, Joseph, Benjamin and Gina, and a former student of St Josephs Catholic School, Biloela.

ENCOUNTER MYANMAR: Still two places left on an enlightening journey with the Executive Director of Palms Australia. Travelling **16-19 November**. Enquire via email palms@palms.org.au or call 02 9560 5333.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL BUDDIES DAY: If you would like to volunteer or refer a child for the Buddies Day please call 3010 1073 or email youth@svdpqld.org.au. For more information please see notice on the noticeboard.

ST VINCENT PALLOTTI SCHOLARSHIP TRUST: The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and Applications Forms are available on our website <http://www.pallottine.org.au/scholarships/stvincentpallottischolarshipforlayministry.html>. Closing Date 18 October 2019.

PARISH CHRISTMAS MAGAZINE: The Annual "Good News" Magazine Project is underway, with the focus this year "Care for Our Common Home". The Magazine Committee would again appreciate your monetary sponsorship, either in big or small amounts. Please consider helping in this way. Sponsorship forms available at the Parish Office.

CWL OLD DROUGHT RELIEF FUNDRAISING: Raffle tickets are available from the Parish Office.

DATE CLAIMERS:

- ⇒ Tuesday, **8th October** Cherish Life AGM, 7.00pm at the Rockhampton Leagues Club
- ⇒ Public Rosary, Saturday, **12th October** 1.00pm at St Mary's Church ground and Sunday, **13th October** after the 8.00am Mass at Holy Rosary Church
- ⇒ Tuesday, **22nd October**, Carinity Kepnock Grove Bumper Cent Sale commencing 9.30 am at Kepnock Grove Community Centre
- ⇒ Monday, **23rd October** Parishioner Participation Workshop, 5.30pm to 7.00pm at the Parish Centre
- ⇒ Sunday, **27th October**, Parish Multicultural Social Function, 10.00 am St Mary's Church ground

CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY

The Parish of Bundaberg and the Diocese of Rockhampton are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention



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LITURGIES

Monday 9 September 2019

St Peter Claver, priest

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 10 September 2019

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

Wednesday 11 September 2019

8.00am Shalom - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Thursday 12 September 2019

The Most Holy Name of Mary
6.30am St Mary's - Mass

Friday 13 September 2019

St John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass
2.30pm Pioneer - Anointing Mass
7.00pm St Mary's - Mass
(Malayalam)

Saturday 14 September 2019

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
7.30am St Mary's - Mass
9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance
6.00pm St Patrick's - Mass

NEXT SUNDAY 15 September 2019

**24th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Year C (I)

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

SCRIPTURES for next Sunday

First Reading
Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

Second Reading
1 Timothy 1:12-17

Gospel
Luke 15:1-32



SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

Wisdom 9:13-18

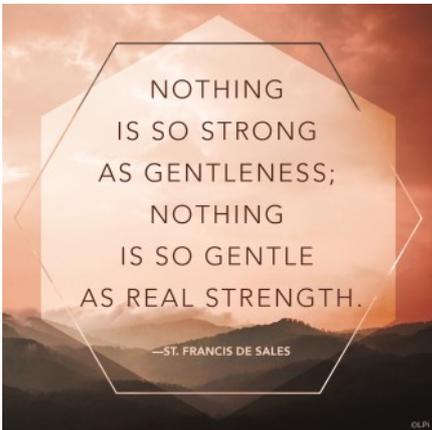
How does your prayer and faith life nurture wisdom?

Philemon 9-10, 12-17

Paul advocates to Philemon for the runaway slave, Onesimus, who has now come to believe in Christ. How do you imagine Philemon reacted to Paul's request?

Luke 14:25-33

Jesus taught the crowds that the renunciation of all possessions is required for true discipleship. How do you try to live out this command?



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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



23rd Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." - Lk 14:27

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

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GOSPEL REFLECTION

It's said that upon reading the Gospels, Gandhi commented that he very much liked Jesus Christ. It was Christ's followers he found troublesome. One wonders who Gandhi had met and if these Christians had truly counted the cost of their faith. Following Jesus, really following Jesus, is much more challenging than we may think. He emphasizes this with strong language in this Sunday's Gospel. He compares discipleship to the carrying of one's own execution device - "his own cross" - and for the need even to "hate" what could disrupt one's commitment. Some of this is standard hyperbole, exaggeration for effect common to the time period. Some of this should make us wonder how deep our discipleship goes.

"Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost?" Jesus imagines this construction project gone wrong. Someone may lay the foundation but not have enough resources to finish. We've received the firm foundation of the sacraments - our baptism, for one, along with weekly Mass attendance and regular confession. Yet how often do we find ourselves too distracted, exhausted, or uninterested to truly build our lives on our faith? We have all met such Christians. Some days, we may be those Christians ourselves. We become the incomplete tower that confuses and baffles the onlookers. "This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish!"

For some of us, our cross may feel heavier than we expected upon the first lift. Building a tower means laying stone upon stone. It's a process. We don't arrive at completion overnight. Grace is always sufficient to provide the resources, but we need to keep saying yes to the task. This week, consider your own discipleship. What is one area where you've become distracted or discouraged? How can that improve this week? Let God lay another brick on the tower.