

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.



The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

Office Hours: 9.00-3.00pm Monday to Friday

Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St

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07 4151 6666

Welcome to the Parish



6th/7th January 2024

Manifestations of God

In common parlance we speak of “light bulb” moments – moments when we have an insight or an inspiration; moments when something that was hazy in our minds becomes perfectly clear; moments when something is made manifest and leaves a deep, lasting change in our behaviour and lifestyle. Sometimes the “moment” is part of a pleasurable experience and sometimes it may result from a painful intrusion in our lives.

This week we celebrate two such manifestations – The EPIPHANY and the BAPTISM of Jesus.

The Epiphany commemorates the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus where Jesus’ divinity is made manifest to the Gentiles – the non-Jewish world. It spells out for us that Jesus came into this world for all nations and all peoples. His was not an exclusive mission. He came to save all “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” Matthew 28.19

For us, although spiritually Semites (our religion has its basis in a Jewish/Abrahamic culture), we too are part of the Gentile races. This Feast is our Feast. We share, with the Magi, the coming of God into our world and although a vulnerable infant was the person they saw, they knew (we knew) and they were (we are) in awe of God present among us.

Today let us celebrate the manifestation of Jesus to the whole world. May we rejoice in God present among us.

Following on directly from this Feast is the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan by St John the Baptist.

The four Gospels (Matthew 3: 13 – 17, Mark 1: 9-11, Luke 3: 21-24, John 1: 32-34) record the Baptism of Jesus. Although each writer words it differently, the commonality includes the “coming of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove” and (excluding John’s Gospel) a voice from heaven proclaiming, “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.”

God manifests God’s Son to the world at the time of His baptism. St John the Baptist knew while he was still in the womb who Jesus was. In Luke 1: 44 St Elizabeth greets Mary, “As soon as the sound of your (Mary’s) greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.” St John as the prophet who came to prepare the way for the Lord reluctantly baptises Jesus and thus this manifestation of his divinity is made clear.

In our present times Jesus is made manifest if we have eyes to see and a heart to respond. It is not necessarily found in miraculous events or in the lightning and thunder of storms, but Jesus is manifest in the ordinary connections we make with people and all of creation.

Christmas has just been with us. Its memory is of the joy, love, togetherness, giving and reconciliations we experienced. What a pity it would be if we reserved these gifts for just one day of the year.

May the Feasts of Epiphany and Jesus’ Baptism inspire us to see God present in all: to be open to God surprising us in the little ordinary things of our daily existence; and, let each of us be worthy of hearing the Fathers’ voice, *this is my beloved daughter, my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.*

by: *Br Ted Magee*
Executive Officer

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 our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Don White PP
Parish Priest

Rev Sijo George
Associate Pastor

Br Ted Magee
E.O/ Visitation, Property & Stewardship

Ms Pauline Leahy
Lit, Mus, Sac & RCIA Co-ordinator

Mr Jeffrey Caluag
Finance, Marketing & Property Officer

Mrs Jan Aplin
Safeguarding Representative &
Bereavement Co-ordinator

Mrs Sandra Fox
Receptionist

PARISH STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Dr Preshy Varghese
Chair

Mrs Kaye Beston
Deputy-Chair

Ms Nadene Pettett
Secretary

Members:

Mr David Batt

Mr John Begea

Ms Madonna Davitt

Mr Michael Walker

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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

St Mary's Principal
Mr Bill Goodwin
smbg@rok.catholic.edu.au
Ph: 4152 2167

St Patrick's Principal
Mrs Kim O'Shea-Hard
spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au
Ph: 4152 1380

Shalom College Principal
Mr Dan McMahon
shalomcollege.com
Ph: 4155 8111

CHURCHES

Holy Rosary Church
Corner Barolin & Woongarra Streets

St Patrick's Church
14 Powers Street

St James' Church
38 See Street Bargara

Parish News and Announcements

RE-INTRODUCTION OF HOLY COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS: Communion under both kinds will be offered at weekend Masses (Saturday evening and Sunday) for the present.

BULLETIN SURVEY: Thanks to the one hundred parishioners approx. who completed the survey.

Just over half receive the Bulletin electronically and 80% take home a hard copy.

The most-read sections are the articles/news etc which changes weekly, with Liturgies of the following week, news and announcements, and the front-page focus rating the highest approval.

The monthly Calendar was much appreciated.

There were some requests for larger print of some sections of the bulletin.

The addition of brief reports of ministries received a positive 75% response.

The addition of Scripture readings received a 50% positive response.

There were approximately 20 individual written responses as to what could change.

As the year progresses, we will take on board the above and trial some small changes.

Your feedback is always valued.

GOD'S WORD 2024: The Parish Office has received more copies of God's Word (\$22.00). If you missed out or know of someone wanting a copy please contact the office.

ANNUAL GOOD NEWS: Copies of the Good News are available at the Church door. The Annual is a great record of the events of the year as well as reports/articles from our Parish Team and Council. Congratulations Jeffrey on a great effort in producing this publication.

ORDINATION OF DEACON PETER DOHERTY: Bishop Michael has announced,

The Ordination will be in **St Joseph's Cathedral**

Thursday morning, 22nd February at 10.00am,

All Parishioners are invited to attend the Ordination.

If you would like to travel to Rockhampton by bus please contact the Parish office to express your interest as soon as possible. (Please note this will be a day trip only)

If numbers dictate we will look at arranging a bus to Rockhampton for this special occasion

On the Friday morning, 23rd February, Fr Peter will celebrate a

Mass of Thanksgiving in St Joseph's Cathedral at 9.00am.

Please keep Peter in your prayers and thoughts as he prepares himself.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING - FOR ALL IN MINISTRY IN THE PARISH: We still have ministers in the parish yet to complete the yearly safeguard training. A new presentation is available to watch for those who are yet to fulfill their requirement. The new presentation can be viewed at the Parish Office and only takes 30 minutes. Please phone 4151 6666 to make a suitable time to view.

LOOKING TO ENRICH YOUR FAITH? THE PARISH OFFICE HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

The Parish office is not just for the administration of the Parish

but also offers Faith enhancing services through:

- The **Parish Chapel** - available for personal prayer and meditation;
- The **Parish Gift & Bookstore**— providing items that include Bibles, Sunday and Weekday Missals, Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation gifts, rosary beads, prayer cards and more;
- The **Parish Library**, which has a range of books and videos for borrowing and special educational videos, which may be viewed at your leisure within the Library.

RIDDLE ME THIS: Why did Noah have to punish the chicken's on the Ark?
Because they were using fowl language.



DIRECT DEBIT GIVING: If you wish to make a donation to the Parish by direct debit, please scan the QR code and follow the prompts. **Thank You.**



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, "This place is boring. I want to go somewhere." So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, "Where am I truly at home?"

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, "**They were overjoyed at seeing the star.**" This star will bring them home, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.

If you're a teenager or older, you probably know by now that every physical home we have is temporary. So, we look up at the countless stars in our proverbial skies: things which bedazzle and beckon us to follow toward peace. The Gospel invites us to behold that — at long last — God has sent us a star to follow home, one that whispers, "Follow me! I will take you home!" Perhaps that star is your spouse. A friend. An opportunity. A cause. An intuition about a new direction. A prayer group. What is it for you? How will you know? It will lead you to Mary and Joseph and their son, and you will be home.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

LITURGIES

Monday 8 January 2024

The Baptism of the Lord

9.00am St Patrick's -Mass

Tuesday 9 January 2024

8.30am St James' - Penance

9.00am St James' - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 10 January 2024

11.45am Holy Rosary – Penance

12.15pm Holy Rosary – Mass

Thursday 11 January 2024

7.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Friday 12 January 2024

11.00 am Holy Rosary– Exposition

11.30 am Holy Rosary– Penance

12.15 pm Holy Rosary—Mass

Saturday 13 January 2024

7.30am St Patrick's –Mass

9.00am Holy Rosary– Penance

6.00pm St Patrick's –Mass

Sunday 14 January 2024

7.00am St James' - Mass

8.00am Holy Rosary - Mass

9.00am St Patrick's- Mass

5.30pm Holy Rosary– Mass

SCRIPTURES

First Reading

1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20

Gospel

John 1:35-42

Parish News and Announcements

Recently Baptised: Margaret Ann Greensill.



FUNERALS

David Wright Holy Rosary (Mass) Saturday 6th January 11.00am

Martin Ghirxi Branyan Gardens Chapel Monday 8th January 2.00pm

Leonie Makiol Holy Rosary (Mass) Wednesday 10th January 2.00pm

"The Lord is my Shepherd, there is nothing I shall Want."



WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED IN PRAYER

RECENTLY DECEASED: David Wright, Leonie Makiol, Mary Rough, Norah Gallagher, Martin Ghirxi, Doreen Baker, Genoveffa & Sebastiano Lituri, Iven Emmitt (Atherton), Sean Chard (Brisbane), Marjorie Canero Thoms (Gladstone), Michael McBride, Betty Pengelly (Brisbane), Grahame McEnergy.

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Antoinette Bromwich 01.01.2023, Corrado Barazza 01.01.2019, Gino Barazza 13.01.1990, Mario Brillante 30.12.2008, Giuseppe Matteo Marin 19.12.2004, Cyril Terence Crawford 30.12.1979, Annuziata (Nancy) Crawford 15.12.1991, Beatrice McArdle 12.12.2021, Marco Cafolla 13.12.2010, Maria Magglicco 15.12.1970, Len Potter 23.11.2019, Susan Bromwich 11.04.2013, Paul Formosa 5.03.2021.

MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST: Fermo and Teodolinda Benvenuto, Renza and Elio Franz, The Geiger and Cook Family, William Mollard, Mary Mollard, Giovanna De Papi, Romeo De Papi, Gina De Papi, Irene Bot, Susan Boisen, The Cook Family, Margareta Fitzgerald, Claire Fitzgerald, James Fitzgerald, Betty Pengelly, Arthur Dagg, Leone Munckton, Phil Marano, Joe Attard, Frank Attard, M'Angelo Theuma, Mary Jane Theuma, Joyce Galea, Mick and Mary Galea deceased relatives of the Galea & Zahra Families. Kevin and Doris Whalley.



John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus.

— Jn 1:35-37

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

PRAYER GROUPS

ADORATION & EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

St Patrick's Church
1st Sunday 2.00pm-5.00pm
3rd Sunday 3.00pm-5.00pm

UNITED HEARTS CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

1st and 3rd Tuesday monthly
Novakoski Centre
(Behind Holy Rosary Church)
7.00pm

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: pssadmin@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.rock.catholic.net.au/safeguarding-policies.html

OTHER CONTACTS

Ms Judy Pidcock: 4887 3080
Diocesan Safeguarding

Catholic Care: 1300 523 985

St Vincent de Paul: 4339 3700

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

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH OPEN HOURS

Some security has been put in place.

Holy Rosary Church will be open **weekdays from 9.00am – 3.00pm.**

On weekends and Public Holidays, it will be open a short time before and closed soon after any liturgies or rituals in the Church.

WELCOME PAULINE

Hi, I'm Pauline Leahy and I'm very excited to join the team here in the *Catholic Parish of Bundaberg*.

Whilst I've been away for some years, Bundaberg has always been my "home". I remember attending St Joseph's Primary School when it was old "Queenslander" style buildings, and then St Patrick's High School (before Shalom College existed). Yes, I'm really that old! My mother, Jan, and two sisters and their families still live here and they're happy I've returned to Bundaberg.

During the past 20 or so years I've been working for the St Vincent de Paul Society and Catholic Care (which was then called Centacare) in Rockhampton, and for the Stella Maris Parish on the Sunshine Coast. My deep love of Liturgy, the Sacraments and RCIA has always led me to focus on these during my life, both as a personal ministry and within my career.

We all have times of renewal in our lives and during our recent time of Advent preparation, I was especially conscious of "new beginnings" and personal reflection on my life as I prepared for Christ's birth. As we enter into a new year I again ask myself "Who am I, and what path God has called me to follow?" In the busy-ness of life I sometimes fail to pause and listen, in the silence, to what God is asking of me, however I'm finding my home in your parish very quickly and am grateful for your welcome.

I'm also grateful for all the work Anne Sheehan has done over the many years to ensure your parish is a vibrant and welcoming community. I've got some big shoes to fill! Once I've settled in I'm keen to meet you all, old friends and new.

May 2024 bring each of you God's love, peace and joy.

CHILDRENS SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:

(Register now. Dates and more details will be available soon)

When you asked to have your child Baptised you embarked with them upon a journey that would lead them towards Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. If your child is now 8 years of age, or older, you are now invited to enrol your child into the Sacramental program, where we will journey with you and your child in preparing for these lovely occasions when they will receive these three Sacraments.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation helps us to be aware of the loving mercy of God in our lives and to have the confidence to know that there can always be fresh starts with God and each other when we need them. During the Sacrament of Confirmation, the gifts of the Holy Spirit are received, which strengthens our ability to love God and others more deeply, and to live out a life of faith. In the reception of Holy Communion, we receive Jesus so that we can know the closeness of God and be strengthened to be children of God, witnessing to his love in all the ups and downs of our lives.

Our commitment to the program and to attending the meetings and celebrations will enable the children to have the best possible experience and our working jointly as a family and parish is one of the great strengths of our Catholic community. Together we can ensure that this is a memorable and a blessed time for you and your family.

To register now see below.

Sacramental Preparation 2024



Children 8+ years

Registration are being taken now.

Register online: <https://form.jotform.com/222899018048060>

Phone the parish office

☎ 07 4151 6666

OR

