

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: 9.00-2.00pm Monday to Friday

📍 Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St

📧 PO BOX 79 Bundaberg Qld 4670

✉️ sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au

🌐 www.bundabergcatholic.net.au

☎️ 07 4151 6666

Welcome to the Parish

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

27th/28th September 2025

JUBILEE OF CATECHISTS

by: *Pauline Merefield*
R.I Co-ordinator

Throughout this Year of Jubilee, the Catholic Church has provided a calendar of various Jubilees for us to recognise and celebrate. Some events have been rather obscure. The 4-5th May was the Jubilee of Entrepreneurs. 10th-11th May was the Jubilee of Bands and Popular Entertainment. These events probably didn't make it to our collective consciousness. However there have also been several we have recognised formally, such as the Jubilee of Families, Children and Grandparents on Sunday 1st June. This weekend Friday 26th to Sunday 28th September, we are recognising in a formal way the Jubilee of Catechists.

In Rome the celebration includes a Pilgrimage to the Holy Door and a prayer Vigil in St. Peter's Basilica on the Friday. A Jubilee audience with the Holy Father on the Saturday and the 10.00 am mass presided over by the Holy Father in St Peter's square with the institution of new catechists. It would be wonderful to be there. One of the State School RI catechists from the Capricorn Parish will be there for the event and I'm looking forward to hearing a firsthand account of the experience, on her return.

The Bishop, is the primary catechist in his Diocese, one which he shares with his presbyterate, or to the particular responsibility of parents for the Christian formation of their children. Recognition is also given to those lay women and men who feel called by virtue of their baptismal call to cooperate in the work of catechesis. Here in our Parish, Catechists refers to those who volunteer in State School RI, those who lead Children's liturgy and those who work in the Sacramental and RCIA ministry. We all have a role in passing on the faith in particular children. Every Catechist must be a witness to the faith, a teacher and mystagogue, a companion and pedagogue, who teaches for the Church.

The Jubilee of Catechists is an opportunity for the Church to recognise and thank catechists for their crucial role in transmitting the faith, teaching and witnessing to Christ. Here in Bundaberg, we are dedicating the 12.15 mass on Friday 26th to our local catechists, followed by a shared lunch. Recognition of their work will also be mentioned during the various masses over the weekend.

If anyone is interested in being a catechist in any of the ministries mentioned, please contact the Parish Office.

PRAYER

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists. We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church.

Grant them wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.

Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them the wisdom to know what to teach; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgement about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son.

We pray this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

(from the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn)

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.

Parish News and Announcements

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Don White PP
Parish Priest

Rev Anthony Nguyen
Associate Pastor

Grant Sutherland
Seminararian

Mr Jeffrey Caluag
Operations Manager

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

Mrs Jan Aplin
Safeguarding Representative

Ms Judy Pidcock
Pastoral Care Practitioner

Mrs Sandra Fox
Receptionist

PARISH STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Mrs Kaye Beston
Chair

Ms Madonna Davitt
Deputy Chair

Ms Nadene Pettett
Secretary

Members:

Dr Ken Avenell

Mr Steve Jenés

Miss Clare O'Rourke

Mrs Helen Stanley

Dr Preshy Varghese

Mr Matthias Visona

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

Cnr Barolin & Woongarra Streets

St Patrick's Church

14 Powers Street

St James' Church

38 See Street Bargara

MIGRANT AND REFUGEE SUNDAY: Come and join us next weekend **4th/5th October** as we celebrate Migrant and Refugee Sunday. To celebrate the diverse cultures we have in the Parish we would like to invite everyone to bring a plate from your native country to morning tea after the following Masses on **Sunday 5th October**.

St James Bargara 7.00am

Holy Rosary 8.00am

St Patrick's 9.00am

PARISH THANKYOU: On behalf of the Priests, Parish Office Staff, and Parishioners we would like to thank Jan Aplin for her dedication to the Bereavement Ministry which she has served in with compassion, care and love. We wish Jan all the very best in her much deserved retirement.

FINAL ALPHA: Our final ALPHA for this 2025 Year of Jubilee concluded with a celebratory pizza and cake enjoyed by all. Weekly, hosts Carmel, Denice, Helen and Kaye welcomed guests whose participation and engagement in the course was positive and joyous. A very special thank you to Trish and Peter who offered hospitality of drinks and nibbles in greeting participants each week. They were very generous in opening up their home for our first 'home' ALPHA which was very successful. We were all very grateful for prayers offered by parishioners during the 8 week course.



Feedback written by guests at the conclusion of last Thursday's Alpha was positive and encouraging....

- "Home environment was friendly, relaxed... conducive to discussion groups".
- "I love the small groups and the fact that an afternoon rather than evening made Alpha more accessible".
- "It was run very professionally. Positive- no pressure".
- "I had been hesitant about joining a group that had discussions but I discovered that it was a relaxed, non-threatening group".
- "Everyone finds different aspects that can challenge and affirm".

SEASON OF CREATION-1st September- 4th October: Mater Hospital Project.

The entrance gardens at St Joseph's Ward, Mater Hospital, have recently been cleared in preparation for a fresh new look. This revitalisation project aims to enhance the visual appeal of the ward's entry and create a peaceful outdoor space where patients can relax and recuperate. A dedicated group will be responsible for maintaining the garden, ensuring it remains a welcoming and restorative environment for all.

PARISH FLOAT IN PAGEANT OF LIGHTS: If you missed last Thursday's meeting but are interested in working with the team, please leave your name at the Parish Office and you will be contacted.

WOMENS RETREAT: Join us with Sabrina Stevens (First Nations Ministry Coordinator) for a gentle, uplifting morning as we explore what it means to live with hope and walk with light. Rooted in Catholic Faith, inspired by World Mission Day and St John Paul II's Letter to Women, this retreat is a sacred time for connection, renewal and reflection. Through prayer, storytelling, and community, we will honour the hope carried by generations of women and renew our own mission to be Christ's light in the world.

More details in next weekends bulletin.

Date: **Saturday October 25th** Time: **10.00am - 2.00pm**

Venue: **St James Church, Bargara** Cost: **\$20.00**

DIRECT DEBIT GIVING: If you wish to make a donation to our parish, please scan the QR code and follow the prompts. **Thank you for your support.**



Parish News and Announcements



VIETNAMESE MASS

Last Friday night in Holy Rosary Church, the Vietnamese community celebrated Mass with Fr Anthony and Fr Don. After Mass the community gathered for a shared meal.

EUCHARIST MINISTER TRAINING:

Thank you to those who came to the Eucharist Minister training in the Parish Office last Monday. Fr John presented the training and was supported by Fr Don and Fr Anthony. It was appreciated by current and new Ministers of the Body and Blood.



WHY BECOME CATHOLIC?

Every year we have adults in our parish who have chosen to become Catholic, and each has their own story. Each has been drawn to the Church by varied reasons and experiences in their life. Are you, or someone you know, interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith?

The **RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)** is a wonderful journey for adults who wish to learn more about the Catholic Faith, and become one with the Church. It is a time when people can ask questions in a safe, informal environment. Why not contact the Parish Office this week? Ask for Pauline, and have a chat.

PRAYERS: Please keep in your prayers, Fr Brian Hanifin as he continues his recovery from Surgery.



WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

RECENTLY DECEASED: Victor Delarmente (Philippines), Ubaldo Baretta, Ruth Creron-Frame (Scotland), Mario Crawford (Nth Ireland), Fr John Chalmers, Veronica Evans-nee Novakoski (Gold Coast), Suzanne Ostermann.

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Augustin Kunan 29.09, John Edward Clarke 25.09.1969, Leopoldina De Araujo 7.03 2019, Joseph Anton Jendra 24.09.2007, Ken Bennett 6.09.2024, Jim Dunphy 10.09.2018, Siebert Schafer 13.09.2002, Dulcie Schafer 28.10.1995, Mila Schneider 30.08.2024, Malcolm Bell 5.09.2012, Judith Renshaw 22.08.2024, Stan Bryant 19.07.2023.

MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST: Gerry Walsh, Zillah & George Geiger and Georgey Junior, Colin Mooney, Anthony Mooney, Lawrence Galea, Paul Galea, Joseph Attard, Ann Shamly, Kevin Goldsworthy (Canberra), Liz Strathdee, Paul & Lawrence Formosa & Grima Families, Kathleen & Stanton Saroff, Santa Leonardi, Pat Higgins, Fr Pat Mooney, Attard & Zammit Families, Janine Wylie, Joyce Galea, Br Ted Magee, John Boniface Edwards, Joseph Galea, Giuseppe Matteo Marin, Forte & Theresa Galea, Mick and Mary Galea

LITURGIES

Monday 29 Sep 2025

Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael
9.00am St Patrick's - Mass
6.00pm Holy Rosary
Adoration and Penance

Tuesday 30 Sep 2025

St Jerome
8.30am Penance
9.00am St James' - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's

Wednesday 1 October 2025

St Therese of the Child Jesus
12.15pm Holy Rosary-Mass

Thursday 2 October 2025

The Holy Guardian Angels
7.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Friday 3 October 2025

11.00am Holy Rosary- Exposition
11.30am Holy Rosary- Penance
12.15pm Holy Rosary- Mass

Saturday 4 October 2025

7.30am St Patrick's- **Mass**
St Francis of Assisi
9.00am Holy Rosary- Penance
6.00pm St Patrick's -Mass

Sunday 5 October 2025

7.00am St James' - Mass
8.00am Holy Rosary-Mass
9.00am St Patrick's-Mass
12.00pm Baffle Creek- Mass
5.30pm Holy Rosary- Mass

SCRIPTURES

First Reading

Habakkuk 1: 2-3; 2:2-4

Second Reading

Timothy 1-6-8, 13-14

Gospel

Luke 17: 5-9

PRAYER GROUPS

CHRISTIAN UNITY

PRAYER GROUP:

Will gather for Prayer and fellowship

on **Tuesday, September 30th**

at the Christ Church,
Anglican Church

commencing at **10.00am.**

All are welcome.



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.rock.catholic.net.au/safeguarding-policies.html

OTHER CONTACTS

Graham White: 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

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.

PARISH OFFICE RESTRUCTURE



Some months ago, sadly, Br. Ted Magee passed away, and we had to say farewell to him. In his funeral Mass we acknowledged our affection for him and gave thanks for all that he gave to our parish community.

With the passing of anyone who holds a significant leadership role in a community, Br. Ted left a gap as he worked across so many areas of parish life. To work through our loss, I asked Fr. Neil Muir, Rector of Holy Spirit Seminary, Brisbane to lead a review of our parish leadership positions and structures.

Fr. Neil consulted widely, receiving several submissions with suggestions to consider for the future. On July 14th he presented a report to the parish through the Parish Stewardship Council, the Parish Finance Council, the parish team, and myself. I am very grateful to Fr. Neil for his leadership and contribution to this process and for the wise discernment of those who participated in the review.

Fr. Neil made two key recommendations.

- I. “The present finance, property, and marketing role evolves into the role of an operations manager, retaining present responsibilities but reporting more, and directly to, the parish priest to keep him in touch with operational matters, but in a way that does not draw the parish priest into the detail of daily management. Try to keep the vision that the parish priest has governance responsibilities, but he ought not to be the manager.”
- II. “Alongside an operations manager, to explore and develop a new role of pastoral care support and coordination. Perhaps the newly formed role of the Pastoral Care Practitioner could be widened to align with such a role. This role would involve both delivery and support for pastoral care in constant collaboration with priests on staff.”

After much reflection on Fr. Neil’s report, and with the parish budget in mind, and after hearing a wide range of advice, I agreed to accept the report’s recommendations as a way forward for the parish’s leadership roles and structures.

In addition, Jan Aplin has decided to retire from her role of Bereavement and Safeguarding Co-ordinator. We thank Jan for her dedication to the parish in this role and acknowledge all that Jan has done over her years of service to journey with people in their time of loss and her leadership in the safeguarding area. I am grateful to Jan that she will continue as the Parish Safeguarding Representative.

Considering these changes, it is timely to outline the outcomes of the review of the parish leadership and structures.

Jeffrey Caluag steps into the role of **Operations Manager** and to his finance, property, and marketing roles will have responsibility for the day-to-day management of the parish.

Judy Pidcock, who has been on the parish team since March as **Pastoral Care Practitioner** with a special focus on our hospital and visitation ministries will also assist in the support of the bereavement ministry, and the application of the stewardship approach and the safeguarding policies to volunteer ministries.

Sandy Fox and Pauline Leahy continue in their roles with some adjustments to give support especially to the priests’, rosters and other organisational aspects of parish life.

I am grateful to the Parish Team for their dedication to enriching the life of the parish by accepting these changes in their roles, and to all who are involved in ministry across so many aspects of the mission of the parish. Thank you for all that you do in bringing Christ to others. May the Lord help us to continue to answer his call in this part of the Church’s family,

In Christ,

Fr. Don White., P.P., V.G.