



Welcome to the Parish

11th/12th April 2026 Year A

The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church



Divine Mercy Sunday

Catholics and the Call to Justice

Social and Ecological Justice Working Party

“*As Catholics, we are called to put our faith into action. Following the example of Jesus, we are invited to stand with the poor; care for the vulnerable, and protect God’s creation. Scripture reminds us that loving God is inseparable from loving our neighbour, especially those most in need.*”

Members of the Social and Ecological Justice Working Party form a small sub-committee of the Parish Stewardship Council. We are interested in finding ways to put our faith in action in a way that makes a difference to others in our community.



Finding ways to develop an authentic relationship with our First Nations community and foster a deeper awareness of their culture is an important aspect of our role. This is reflected in our Reconciliation Action Plan. First Nations team members from Shalom and St Joseph’s help us to connect to activities happening in our schools, such as Harmony Day and NAIDOC Week.

Other outreach activities involve assisting seasonal workers in settling into a new environment and providing useful items, such as clothing and a warm invitation to our Catholic community. We are hoping to build a stronger relationship with Vinnies to find out if there are some other practical ways we can support their work.



Recognising and raising awareness of a variety of social justice actions for our parishioners is also an important aspect of our mission. A calendar of yearly events can be found on the Caritas

[website - www.caritas.org.au/resources/parish-materials/](http://www.caritas.org.au/resources/parish-materials/)

Catholic Social Teaching guides this call through principles such as the dignity of every person, the common good, care for creation, solidarity, and a preferential option for the poor. These teachings remind us that social and ecological justice are not optional extras of our faith—they are essential ways we live the Gospel.

Whether through caring for our local community, supporting charities, or making environmentally responsible choices, each of us is invited to help build a more just and compassionate world. In doing so, we honour God’s creation and become witnesses of Christ’s love in action.

If you would like to join the Social and Ecological Justice Working Party, you are most welcome. Our group meets monthly on the 3rd Monday between 4.00-5.00 pm in the Parish Office.

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 respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

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 PO BOX 79 Bundaberg Qld 4670
 sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au
 www.bundabergcatholic.net.au
 Phone 07 4151 - 6666

Congratulations!

During the Easter Vigil we welcomed Desilva and Thomas who were Baptised; and Emily, Jason, Jocelyn and Mukai who joined them in celebrating Confirmation and receiving Eucharist for the first time.

It is with great joy that we welcome them as they enter new life with Christ, and into the fullness of the Catholic Church.

Please pray for them as they continue their journey of faith, and are drawn ever close to God throughout their life.



Thank you

Fr Don would like to extend his sincere gratitude to all our dedicated volunteers who generously gave their time and talents to support our Easter celebrations. Your commitment and service helped make our liturgies prayerful, welcoming, and meaningful for our parish community. We are deeply grateful for all that you do.



Harmony Week at Shalom was a strong and vibrant celebration of culture, connection and belonging, with our whole school community coming together to recognise and respect diversity. Students and staff engaged in a variety of inclusive activities across the week.

A special Harmony Week assembly began with a Smoking entrance, followed by First Nations students delivering a powerful Gooreng Gooreng song and dance. We were honoured to have Traditional Owners Uncle Everett Johnson, Uncle Taurean Roe and Cadell Blackman join us to share their cultural knowledge. Outstanding performances were delivered from our Indian and Polynesian students, and Olympic BMX Gold Medallist Saya Sakakibara, spoke about her multicultural journey and the importance of embracing identity.

Thank you to all students, staff and families who contributed to making Harmony Week a respectful and meaningful celebration.

HARMONY WEEK

Social and Ecological Justice Working Party

Thank you and Welcome!

The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg is deeply grateful to Bishop Michael for his faithful leadership, pastoral care, and devoted service to the Diocese over the past twelve years. We also warmly welcome Bishop Danny as the new Bishop of the Diocese of Rockhampton and assure him of our prayerful support as he begins his ministry among us.

We pray that God richly bless Bishop Michael in the next chapter of his ministry and grant him peace and strength. We also pray that Bishop Danny may be guided by the Holy Spirit with wisdom, compassion, and courage as he shepherds the people of our Diocese.



Bishop Michael McCarthy



Bishop Danny Meagher

If you wish to make a donation, please scan the QR code and follow the prompts.

Thank you for your support.



Parish News and Announcements

VISITATION MEETING: The Visitation meeting will be held in The Parish Office on Wednesday 15th April at 10.30am. Current Visitation Ministers and those wanting to know more about this ministry are encouraged to come along for a cuppa and stay for the meeting.

CEMETERY PRAYERS: The Cemetery prayers will take place in the Catholic Cemetery on Thursday 16th April at 9.30am. All are welcome.

ANOINTING MASS: All parishioners are warmly invited to attend the Anointing Mass, which will take place on Thursday 23 April at 10.00am in Holy Rosary Church. Morning Tea will follow in the Novakoski Centre, providing an opportunity for fellowship and companionship. Everyone is welcome.

CHILDREN'S MASS: The Children's Mass will be celebrated at the St Patrick's Church 26th April at 9.00am. Those attending are encouraged to bring a plate to share.

THE AUSTRALIAN VOICES CONCERT: Holy Rosary Church welcomes the nationally acclaimed choir 'The Australian Voices' in concert on Saturday 18 April at 7.00pm. The ensemble is led by Artistic Director John Rotar, a Bundaberg local, returning home to perform. A beautiful evening of choral music in our church. Tickets are available at their website: <https://theaustralianvoices.com/concert/bundaberg/>

MEMORIAL SERVICE: A Memorial Service is scheduled for Wednesday 29 April at 6.00pm in Holy Rosary Church for all who have lost loved ones, especially those bereaved over the past six months.

FUNERAL: The celebration for the life of John McConville will be held at St Patrick's Church on Wednesday 15 April at 11.00am.

Liturgies

Monday 13 April 2026

9.00am St Patrick's Church

Tuesday 14 April 2026

8.30am St James' - Penance

9.00am St James' - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 15 April 2026

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Thursday 16 April 2026

7.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Friday 17 April 2026

11.00am Holy Rosary - Exposition

11.30am Holy Rosary - Penance

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 18 April 2026

7.30am St Patrick's - Mass

9.00am Holy Rosary' - Penance

6.00pm St Patrick's - Mass

Sunday 19 April 2026

7.00am St James' - Mass

8.00am Holy Rosary - Mass

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

5.30pm Holy Rosary - Mass

SCRIPTURES

First Reading
Acts 2:14, 22-23-33
Second Reading
1 Peter 1:17-21
Gospel
Luke 24:13-35

Baptism News

We give thanks for those recently baptised in our parish and pray that God's love will guide them always.

- Le V Lily
- Reuben Alexander Cooke
- Josephine Jayne Clarke
- Mihail Aster Rivera
- Larry George Ringtonton
- Penelope Anne Henry
- Ada Joy Fichera
- Eloise Georgia Fichera

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.

 United Hearts Catholic Charismatic Group Bundaberg

The Grace of Baptism Retreat
led by NET Team

Saturday 2nd May - 9.30-4.00pm
Holy Rosary Church & Novakoski Hall

All are welcome

RSVP 29th April
Parish Office 07 4151666


Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
RCIA

Do you know anyone interested in becoming a Catholic?

A Journey in Faith

Everyone's journey is unique... just like yours...

For more information, please contact Pauline at 07 4151 6666



 Caritas AUSTRALIA | **PROJECT COMPASSION**

Thank You!

Caritas Australia sincerely thanks you for your generous support of Project Compassion this Lent.

If you still have your Project Compassion box or donation envelope at home, please return it next week at Mass. Every contribution, no matter the size, helps to bring hope and opportunity to people experiencing poverty and injustice.

Together, we are Uniting Against Poverty and walking alongside vulnerable communities as they build stronger, more sustainable futures.

 **UNITE AGAINST POVERTY** this Lent

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.



DIVINE MERCY Sunday

Hour of Mercy Sunday

12 April 2026 3.00-4.00pm
Holy Rosary Church

During the Holy Hour, there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and an opportunity for Confession. You are invited to join in this special day to experience the Divine Mercy of God.

More information about Divine Mercy devotions
<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/novena>

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Don White PP, VG
Parish Priest

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

Mrs Lyn Callaghan
Bereavement Coordinator



When I first read Homer's *Odyssey* as a teenager, one scene captured my imagination: Odysseus finally returning home after 20 years, yet no one recognized him. Disguised as a beggar, he speaks with his wife, his son, and even his enemies. He is fully present, yet hidden. Only at the right moment does he reveal himself, and everyone realizes he has been with them all along. I was struck by the mystery that he could be so close to his loved ones, and yet they simply could not identify him.

A similar mystery is at the heart of today's Gospel. Two disciples walk the road to Emmaus with Jesus, but "their eyes were prevented from recognizing him." (Luke 24:16) He listens, teaches, and eats with them, yet they remain blind until he breaks the bread. Suddenly their eyes are opened – and at that very moment, he vanishes. His disappearance is not absence. Rather, it is revelation. The Risen Lord is now present in a new way, in the breaking of the bread and in the life of His Church.

Faith is this shift of vision. Instead of searching for a visible Jesus as if he were absent, we learn to recognize him unveiled in hidden ways – in Scripture proclaimed, in the Eucharist, in the sacraments, in the very life of the Church.

And what is true of him is true of us. Just as he disappears into the mission of his Body, we too are meant to be hidden in him. When we live hidden in Christ, we are seen for who really we are.

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

We Pray for our Deceased

RECENTLY DECEASED: Jomon Joseph (India), Verity Jane Hubbard, John McConville, Evelyn Grohn, Kevin Hunter, Roy Byrne, Elaine Seary, Mario Luigi Calligaris, Tony Swanton, Helen Andrews.

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Sharlie Arkinstall 19.04.2023, Phil Marano 5.04.2018, Mariantonia Cafolla 12.04.1984, Michele Grosso 4.04.2007, Teresa Brillante 27.04.2009, Graham Haines 21.03.2008, Jim Fitzgerald 25.03.1995, John Wildenberg 1.04.1982, Mary Elizabeth Fordham 27.03.2023, Albi Modolo 4.04.2019, Leonard "Len" Schmeider 8.04.2021, Br Ted Magee 28.04.2025, Joe Formosa (Malta), 2.04.2025, Catherine Therese Harding 18.04.2025, Leone Munckton 29.03.2023, Helen Johnston (Cairns) 3.04.2004, Rita Hyde 27.04.2024, Marcus Roberts 3.11.2014, Jim Roberts 23.04.2025, Daryl Roberts 28.04.1987, Virginio Zorzan 21.02.2013.

MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST: Antonia Evancia Cutas, Dominique Attard, Deceased members of Attard & Zammit Families, Ron Cook, Princess Diana, Paz Alesna, Giovanni De Zotti, Liza Camilleri, Zeppa Formosa, The Formosa Families, Gerry Walsh, Zillah Geiger, George Geiger & George Jnr, Ingabritth Geiger, Feltrin Family (Italy), Paul Galea, Joyce Galea, Joseph Galea, Forte & Theresa Galea, Mick and Mary Galea, deceased relatives of the Galea & Zahra Families, Kevin and Doris Whalley, Holy Souls in Purgatory.

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

✉ 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

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: 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