



Welcome to the Parish

2nd/3rd May 2026 Year A

The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

5th Sunday of *Easter*

Building for the Future - Parish Finance Council

Due to your solid financial support, we continue to move forward with confidence in the financial stability of our Parish, while several pre-planned and much-needed building maintenance projects have been completed to date, and some are still in the pipeline for completion later this calendar year. Holy Rosary church received an internal re-painting, the working sacristy at St. Patrick's church is being totally refurbished, one of the air conditioning units in the Parish Office is being replaced, and grounds work is being completed at the Catholic Cemetery.

For several years now, the Finance Committee has been considering the options regarding the Holy Rosary presbytery which was constructed in the 1960's. A very positive step was taken several years ago to house our Parish Priests within suburban communities, rather than them living attached to a church building. This decision made the Holy Rosary presbytery redundant. Since then, we have done our best to keep the building in a safe and comfortable functioning condition for rental purposes, while not spending a fortune on it. The building will become vacant within the next few months, so we now have some choices to make. Roof repairs carry a price tag of at least \$100,000, and asbestos removal \$50,000. If we were to refurbish the building so that it is suitable for, say, rental as office space, the additional cost could range between \$150,000 and \$300,000. In the meantime, we are constantly grappling with the problem of having insufficient safe off-street parking for Holy Rosary parishioners, especially for our elderly.

To address this compelling issue, a project to replace the building with eighteen car parking spaces has been fully costed and approved by the Bishop and by the Diocesan Finance Council, and following a meeting with parishioners. This work must be completed during the Christmas school holidays. Engineering design is in progress, and works approval is being sought from the Bundaberg Regional Council, while we finalise quotations for the project.

While dealing with these local matters, I can proudly report that your Parish continues to provide financial support to the Western Parishes. We have assisted them with the cost of long-overdue refurbishing of the Blackall and Longreach Presbyteries, as well as providing the Longreach church with a new sound system. This support is very gratefully received by our fellow parishioners out West, and I'm sure additional support will be needed in the future.

Future-proofing our Balance Sheet is vital for the on-going financial stability of our Parish. This is important because, as the details within this report show, the Parish will always be called upon for capital outlays, as well as acknowledging that, for example, our Cemetery will need financial support way beyond the 60 years of predicted space availability. There is an expectation that families will provide some basic maintenance to the graves of their loved ones, but this is not always possible.

Provided that regular cash flows via your support, and lump-sum inflows by way of bequests and donations continue, you may rest assured that we have the financial capability to fund our day-to-day running costs, as well as dealing with future contingencies as we know them.

With great humility and gratitude, I can report to you that this year's ambitious works program as detailed here has all been fully funded from a recent bequest. Without a late Parishioner's forethought and generosity, the Parish would have to expend substantial cash reserves, thereby possibly weakening our ability to adequately deal with the long-term financial management of our Parish.

Therefore, we continue to acknowledge and to express our gratitude for your support.

Norm Whyte

*Chairperson
Parish Finance Council*

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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 sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au
 www.bundabergcatholic.net.au
 Phone 07 4151 - 6666

Parish News and Announcements

MEMORIAL SERVICE: Thursday night saw family and friends gather to remember loved ones who have passed in the last six months. We would particularly like to thank Browns Funerals for the donation of roses for the Memorial Service.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE-Cancer Fundraising Morning Tea.

The annual CWL Morning Tea for Cancer will be held on **Tuesday, May 5th** in St Patrick's Hall. Doors will open at 9.30am for a **10.00am start**. Scones, jam, and cream along with sandwiches will be served on the day. (gluten free options will be available). A mini cent sale will also be held on the day. Tickets are \$10.00 (payable at the door) and include a Lucky Door prize. **Bookings are essential for catering purposes.** Please contact the Parish Office on 4151 6666. We look forward to seeing you there.



DIOCESAN MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR - Bishop Michael McCarthy DD.

All are invited to attend the Thanksgiving Mass for Bishop Michael McCarthy in celebration of his 12 years of faithful service to our Diocese. Mass will be held at St Joseph's Cathedral on Thursday, May 14th, commencing at 5.00pm. Light refreshments will follow in the Mercy Centre, The Cathedral College.

The event will be livestreamed for those unable to attend in person. <https://www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton>

INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY MASS: Will be held in St Patrick's Church on Monday, May 25th commencing at 9.00am. This will be followed by a short talk from Fr Don White, Adoration and Benediction. Everyone is welcome to attend.

NATIONAL COUNT OF ATTENDANCE: Will be taking place at all Masses over the first four weeks of May. This count happens every five years. Data is collected with the assistance of National Centre for Pastoral Research. We are looking for several volunteers at each Mass to help with the counting. If you can help at any of our Masses please contact the Parish Office 4151 6666.

2026 PRAYER CALENDAR FOR SEMINARIANS AND PRIESTS: Are now available at the doors of all churches. Please take a calendar home and pray for the Seminarians as they continue their journey to Priesthood.

MARY IMMACULATE CHURCH BLACKWATER: Last Tuesday, the Parish of Blackwater lost their church to fire. Our Parish has also been through a similar tragedy. Please keep them in your prayers as they process this loss.

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



Starting early May

To register contact the
Parish Office

MCS 10/14 of
19 Reduna Crescent
Gooberrigee QLD 4600

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

Thank you for your support.



Monday 4 May 2026

9.00am Holy Rosary Church

Tuesday 5 May 2026

9.00am St James' - Mass
5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Wednesday 6 May 2026

8.00am Shalom-Mass
12.15pm Holy Rosary-Mass

Thursday 7 May 2026

7.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Friday 8 May 2026

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

Saturday 9 May 2026

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

Sunday 10 May 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 8: 5-8, 14-17
Second Reading
1 Peter 3:15-18
Gospel
John 14:15-21



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.



MOST REVEREND MICHAEL McCARTHY
Apostolic Administrator of Rockhampton



INVITES YOU TO THE

SOLEMN MASS OF INSTALLATION

of
Bishop Daniel Meagher
as the 11th Bishop of Rockhampton

THURSDAY 28 MAY 2026
Commencing 10.30am

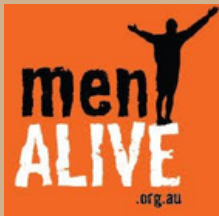
ST JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL
Cnr William & West Sts, Rockhampton

YOU ARE ALSO INVITED TO ATTEND THE SOLEMN VESPERS WITH LITURGICAL
RECEPTION AT 5.00PM, WEDNESDAY 27 MAY, AT ST JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL

EVENTS LIVESTREAMED: Both events will be streamed live on the St Joseph's
Cathedral, Rockhampton YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton>

This will remain there for later viewing. This will be a joyous celebration for the
Diocese as we welcome Bishop Meagher. Let us continue to pray for him as he
prepares to shepherd the people of the Rockhampton Diocese.



RAISING FATHERS AND GRANDFATHERS.

Join Robert Falzon (Founder of menAlive) in the Parish Office
on **Saturday, May 23rd**, for breakfast **7.00am @ \$20.00pp.**

Register at the Parish Office 4151 6666 **by Tuesday May 19th.**
Payment can be made on the day (Cash Only).

Dads, Grand-dads and Father figures all welcome.

Join the Conversation

YOUNG ADULTS CONVERSATION GROUPS

If you are aged between 17 to 35 years old,
you are invited to come along to the
Parish Office every Sunday at 6.30pm.
The group shares food,
fellowship and conversation
about the Catholic Faith.

New members are warmly welcome!!

Celebration of the life of

Lorenza Caruana

Holy Rosary
Catholic Church

Monday 11th May
11.30am



ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL BUNDABERG: If you or your
family have a connection or prior history with St Joseph's Primary
School, they would love to hear from you. Please click on the link.

<https://forms.gle/VR8hGL9t2woVy>

St Joseph's Primary School



150
Years

Thanksgiving Mass
Holy Rosary Church
10.30am

Open School
Visit classrooms,
memorabilia,
student artworks.
Food and drink vans
Souvenirs for sale

A Dinner will be held in the evening at Brothers Sports Club

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



We generally approach life with the question, "What can this do for me?" We try a new workout, a low-carb diet, intermittent fasting, or a new career path, hoping it will make us healthier, stronger, happier. The assumption is that if I invest in this, I'll eventually reap some benefit, or I won't do it.

It is easy to think of faith the same way: if I really practice my faith, what will it do for me? Will it make me calmer, more moral, more successful?

But in today's Gospel, Jesus says something astonishing. He doesn't present himself as a teacher who shows us the way to life. He says, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life." (John 14:6) He is not merely a guide toward some higher benefit. He is the benefit itself. To know him is to know Life.

Thomas Aquinas explains that every desire in the human heart — love, joy, meaning, all of our restless cravings — is really an indirect cry for life. Even despair testifies to this longing: people despair precisely because they feel they are not, and might never be, fully alive.

The good news is that Jesus is not simply the means to a better life; He is Life itself. To believe in him is to share in God's own eternal vitality. Not simply later but even now. Faith is not a transaction that produces results — it is a union that fills us with joy. To be in communion with Christ is to be truly, fully alive.

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: Helen Chapman (Gladstone), John Flemming (Dublin Ireland), Rosetta Vial, Evelyn Grohn, Mary Anne Borg (Emerald), Kaylene Smith, Dra Bebe Clarita Bajarias Alcantara (Philippines), Jomon Joseph (India), Verity Jane Hubbard, John McConville, Kevin Hunter, Roy Byrne, Elaine Seary.

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: James Stevenson 30.05.2025 (N Ireland), Rene Nella 23.04.2018, Rhian Elsmore 8.04.2010, Br Ted Magee 28.04.2025, Gerry Walsh 14.04.2025, Willemina Drent 6.04.2019, Ron Cook 5.04.2006, 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, John Wildenberg 1.04.1982, Mary Elizabeth Fordham 27.03.2023, Albi Modolo 4.04.2019, Leonard "Len" Schneider 8.04.2021, Marcus Roberts 3.11.2014, Virginio Zorzan 12.02.2013.

MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST: Sheelah Margaret Cagney, Terence James Cagney, Margaret Mary Cagney, Gloria Mary Collins, Deceased members of the Cagney, Cross, Collins & Martin Families, All our Soldiers who have fought and died, Gerry Walsh, Peter Borovac, Ramond Andres, Rosa Andres, Ron Cook, George Zillah & Gregory, Stanley Green, Dulcie Schafer, Siebert Schafer, Antonia Evancia Cutas, Dominique Attard, Deceased members of Attard & Zammit Families, Princess Diana, Zillah Geiger, George Geiger & George Jnr, Ingabeth 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
Principal

✉ 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.rok.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