



Welcome to the Parish

16th/17th May 2026 Year A

The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

The Ascension of the Lord



The word Sycamore for some is synonymous with a tree. For others it has much more significance. In the Bible, Jesus comes to the town of Jericho. A man called Zacchaeus is so curious about Jesus that he climbs a Sycamore tree to get a better view. When he finally meets him, they begin a conversation, and his life is changed forever. The Sycamore tree seems to be the perfect image of something that helps others to get a wider perspective on life and faith. Sycamore is also the name of a course developed by Father Stephen Wang in London. It provides a selection of pathways eg Formation Pathways, Sacramental Pathways, RCIA Pathways, Enquiry Pathways. Currently our Parish is accessing sessions from the Sacramental and RCIA Pathways.

Our Parish is moving towards offering the Sycamore stand-alone enquiry course that is a tool for "primary evangelisation". It is similar in format to the ALPHA program which has been offered in our Parish over recent years. As with ALPHA, each Sycamore session begins with hospitality and involves a short film and time for discussion. There's no pressure and no commitment. People can be themselves without any fear of being judged. There's a real sense of community, a spirit of friendship, some great conversation, and some delicious food. Everyone is welcome.

The Sycamore enquiry informal course is about the Christian faith and its relevance for life today.

The Sycamore enquiry informal course is about the Christian faith and its relevance for life today. It gives space to meet other people, share ideas, explore beliefs, and think about questions that really matter. It creates a space for honest and open discussion about faith and about life in general.

"Sycamore explores the richness of the Christian tradition from a Catholic perspective, connecting the core Christian message with a vision of the sacramental and moral life. The enquiry course seeks to share what is at the heart of the Christian faith. It would also appeal to people from different Christian traditions and backgrounds. The films are presented by Fr Stephen Wang, a well-known Catholic priest and teacher, and they also include vox pop street interviews and testimonies from ordinary Christians."

<https://www.sycamore.fm/>

The Parish Stewardship Council endorses and supports the offering of the Sycamore Enquiry Course. The plan forward is to commence the eight week course in July. If you think you might like to participate in the course, please register your interest by phoning the Parish office on 4151 6666. Everyone is welcome! More details regarding venue and time will be published soon.

SYCAMORE..... What's That?



Kaye Beston

Stewardship Council Chairperson

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.



Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St



PO BOX 79 Bundaberg Qld 4670



sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au

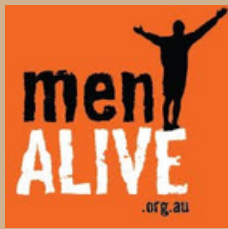


www.bundabergcatholic.net.au



Phone 07 4151 - 6666

Parish News and Announcements



RAISING FATHERS AND GRANDFATHERS.

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

Dads, Grand-dads and Father figures all welcome.

Register at the
Parish Office
by
**Tuesday
19th May**

FRIENDS OF THE CATHOLIC CEMETERY: would like to thank all those who volunteered last weekend to tidy the Cemetery for Mother's Day. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

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>

VISITATION MEETING: The next Visitation meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 20th May** in the Parish Office at **10.00am**. If you are a current Visitation Minister, looking to become a Visitation Minister, or just want to know more, you are most welcome to come along for morning tea and hear from our group.

ANOINTING MASS - Change of Date: Please note the Anointing Mass this month will be held on **Thursday, 21st May** in Holy Rosary Church at **10.00am**. Please stay after Mass for a cuppa and a chat.

CHILDREN'S MASS: Will be held next weekend **Sunday, 24th May** in St Patrick's Church at **9.00am**. After Mass, morning tea will be held. We ask those attending to please bring a plate to share.

PENTECOST CHURCH CRAWL: Sunday 24th May commencing at **2.00pm** from Bundaberg Uniting Church before processing on to Holy Rosary Church, the final church on the Pentecost Crawl will be Christ Church Anglican Church. A short prayer service will be held in each church. Afternoon Tea will be provided at the Anglican Church. Everyone is invited to stay for fellowship and a cuppa.



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.

CHRISTIAN UNITY GROUP: This Eucharistical Group will gather in the Catholic Parish Office **Tuesday 26th May** at **10.00am** for prayer and fellowship. All are welcome.

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



A second collection will be held next weekend **23rd/24th May** for the Blackwater Parish who recently had their Parish Church destroyed by fire.

As a Parish who has also been through the devastation of losing a Parish Church, we also ask that you keep them in your prayers. 



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

Thank you for your support.



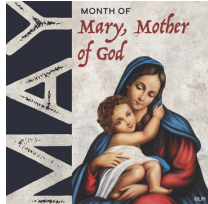
Parish News and Announcements



This week from **18th-24th May**, we celebrate National Volunteers Week. The theme this year is **"Your Year to Volunteer"**.

We are very blessed in this Parish to have so many long-serving, hard-working volunteers who make our Parish what it is. If you would like to make this year your year to volunteer, please contact the Parish Office. Not all volunteers are visible. See if we have a Ministry suitable for you?

WELCOME: This weekend we welcome Michael Otto, Diocesan Officer for Families and Vocation. His visit this weekend forms part of his preparations for ordination as a deacon. He will give a reflection in place of the homily at the 8.00am and 5.30pm masses this weekend.



CHILDREN AND FAMILY ROSARY

Will be held in Holy Rosary Church on Thursday 21st May at **3.30pm**. Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate Mary, Mother of God this May.

Please Note: The regular Thursday weekly 5.30pm Rosary will still be held in Holy Rosary.

Liturgies

Monday 18 May 2026

St John I

9.00am St Patrick's
6.00pm Holy Rosary
Adoration

Tuesday 19 May 2026

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

Wednesday 20 May 2026

St Bernardine of Siena
8.00am Shalom-Mass
12.15pm Holy Rosary-Mass

Thursday 21 May 2026

St Christopher Magallanes
7.00am St Patrick's - Mass
10.00am Holy Rosary
Anointing Mass

Friday 22 May 2026

St Rita of Cascia
11.00am Holy Rosary - Exposition
12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 23 May 2026

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

Sunday 24 May 2026

Pentecost Sunday

7.00am St James' - Mass
8.00am Holy Rosary - Mass
Solemn Mass
9.00am St Patrick's - Mass
5.30pm Holy Rosary - Mass
Solemn Mass

SCRIPTURES

First Reading
Acts 2: 1-11
Second Reading
Cor 12:3-7, 12-13
Gospel
John 20:19-23


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

EVENT LIVESTREAMED: This event 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.

Baptismal News

Chloe Louise McKay
Hugh Darcy McKay
Jed Michael McKay

We welcome
through the waters of
Baptism

Solomon James Fiorenza
Enoch Jesse Fiorenza



Colin Robert Heale



Funeral

Bundaberg
Lawn Cemetery



Friday 22nd May
11.30am

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Don White PP,
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



Laudato Si' Week is a celebration held annually from 17th to 24th May to mark the anniversary of Pope Francis's landmark encyclical on caring for our common home.

The theme for 2026 is **From Hope to Action.**

Laudato Si' Week 2026 invites us to move from hope to action. Hope is not passive; it is lived and shared through daily decisions, community life, prayer and concrete acts of care.

Shalom, is marking the week with daily Eco Challenges to help the community live out Care for Our Common Home in simple, practical ways eg Switch off, Battery Recycling Day, Pen Recycling, Plastic-free lunch, Pizza Box Recycling.

Hopefully these challenges will grow into lasting habits that continue well beyond this week, helping care for our planet one small action at a time.

Some extra ideas... Choose one or more!

- # Plant native trees or pollinator plants,
- # Support local charity winter appeal.
- # Buy nothing new. Look for second hand or upcycle.
- # Refuse single-use plastics. Bring your own container.
- # Learn something new about renewable energy or waste management.
- # Read a chapter of Laudato Si' or Laudate Deum.

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 Presly Varghese

Mr Matthias Visona

Mr Michael Walker

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

We Pray for our Deceased

RECENTLY DECEASED: Dymphna Denoon (Nth Ireland), Maryanne Borg, Jane Pendleton (Sydney), Agnes Moran, Ian Campbell, Lorenza Caruana, Robert Narranore, Helen Chapman (Gladstone), John Flemming (Dublin Ireland), Rosetta Vial, Evelyn Grohn, Mary Anne Borg (Emerald), Dra Bebe Clarita Bajarias Alcantara (Philippines).

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Elvena Bycroft 28.05.2025, Carmelina Lemura 16.05.2024, Damien Gambley 27.05.2024, Ronald Fitzpatrick 16.05.2004, Norman Dutton 23.05.2023, Norma Brosnan 4.05.2022, William Drent 8.05.2011, Lawrence Formosa 2.06.2014, 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, Virginio Zorzan 12.02.2013.

MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST: Paul Formosa, Formosa & Grima Families, Sue Boisen, 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, 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.

CHURCHES

Holy Rosary Church
Cnr Barolin & Woongarra Streets

St Patrick's Church
14 Powers Street

St James' Church
38 See Street Barga

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