



Welcome to the Parish

25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> July 2026 Year A

# The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

## Catholic Education Week at St Patrick's

This weekend marks the beginning of our Catholic Education Week celebrations, and we are excited to embrace this year's inspiring theme, **"Share Your Light, Inspire Others."**

As Catherine McAuley encouraged those who followed in her footsteps:

*"We should be shining lamps, giving light to all around us."*

— Catherine McAuley

These simple yet powerful words remind us that every member of our community has the capacity to bring hope, kindness and encouragement to others through their words and actions. To celebrate Catholic Education Week, St Patrick's has commissioned local artist Paul Perry to work alongside our students in creating a special "Mercy Place" mosaic. This artwork will honour the story of faith that travelled across the seas through Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy, whose commitment to faith, compassion and service continues to shape our school community today.

The mosaic will serve as a lasting reminder that we are all called to share our gifts and be a light for others. At St Patrick's, we often describe this as "spreading the shamrock green." Students and staff regularly acknowledge one another for spreading the green throughout our community, becoming examples of what it means to live the St Patrick's way. These moments of kindness, courage and service are known as "Mercy Moments" because they reflect our Mercy Education values of Courage, Service, Justice, Hospitality, Respect and Compassion.

At the heart of our story is a chain of inspiration that continues to this day: Jesus inspired Catherine McAuley; Catherine McAuley inspired the Sisters of Mercy; and the Sisters of Mercy inspired our own little Catholic educational place in space. Through this rich heritage, we continue to nurture young people who are called to be people of faith, learning and service.

We look forward to joining with our parish community on **Sunday, 26th July at 5:30pm** at Holy Rosary Church for a special Catholic Education Week Mass. Together with our sister schools, we will gather in thanksgiving for the gift of Catholic Education and celebrate the many ways it enriches the lives of our children, families and communities.

Thank you for your continued support of St Patrick's and Catholic Education. Together, may we continue to share our light and inspire others through lives of faith, hope and service.



Kim O'shea-Hard

*Principal - St Patrick's  
Primary School*



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 respect to their Elders, past, present, and emerging.



Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St



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[www.bundabergcatholic.net.au](http://www.bundabergcatholic.net.au)



Phone 07 4151 - 6666



# SYCAMORE

YOU ARE INVITED

4.00 pm  
Loyola Centre Shalom College

Last Thursday session 1 of the  
Sycamore enquiry course commenced

space to meet other people

share ideas

explore your beliefs



It is not too late to register and join  
Please register at the Parish office on  
4151 6666

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18  
*Rejoice* always, *pray* without  
ceasing, *give thanks* in  
all circumstances

## Can you be a Prayer Partner



You are invited also to participate in the **Sycamore** course, as **prayer partners** over the 7 week program. As prayer partners you will form a vital backbone for the course, praying for the guests, the leaders and helpers. The importance and power of prayer in supporting the presentation of the Sycamore course cannot be underestimated.

## CELEBRATING 150YRS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN BUNDABERG 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:

This year we celebrate 150 years since the first Catholic Church was erected in Bundaberg with a resident priest. The weekend will include - Mass with Bishop Daniel Meagher presiding.  
Memorabilia Display  
"Do it for Cancer Luncheon"  
Multi-Cultural Morning Tea.



Multi-draw Raffles  
Table Games  
Trivia



## "Do it for Cancer" Luncheon

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2026  
11.00am  
Brothers Sports Club

Two Course Luncheon  
Lucky Door Prize  
Entertainment



Tickets  
\$40.00pp  
Available  
soon

Entertainment  
provided by  
Catholic School Students

This year our annual Cancer Fundraiser will be held in conjunction with our  
**150years Celebrations.**

## 150 YEARS CELEBRATION-HELP REQUIRED:

The small and dedicated organising committee are looking for volunteers to help with the activities in the lead up to and over the weekend of 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> October to make these celebrations a success. The following activities will need help:

- **Historical Display** - If you have items of historical significance and memories to share, can help with the collection of items and set up of display. We would also be looking for volunteers when the display is open.
- **Historical Handout** - If you can help with the gathering of stories to go into a booklet.
- **Annual Fundraiser Luncheon for Cancer** - This is being held in conjunction with our 150 yr Celebration to highlight this Parish's commitment to outreach in the wider community. Tickets will be on sale soon.

We are now looking for donations towards the Multi-Draw Raffle. If you have a business, donations are always welcome. If you would like to call on local businesses for prize donations, the Parish Office can give you a letter of introduction. If you would like to donate a prize please drop it into the Parish Office. **All help is greatly appreciated.** Please contact the Parish Office 4151 6666

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

*Thank you for your support.*



CELEBRATING  
**150** years  
1876  
2026

# Parish News and Announcements

**2026 HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARY APPEAL:** Will be held on this weekend, **25th/26th July**. Envelopes can be found at the end of the seats and at the doors of the churches. We thank you for your generosity as you support this special ministry.

**CHRISTIAN UNITY GROUP:** Will hold the next prayer and fellowship meeting on **Tuesday, 28th July at 10.00am** in the Parish Office. We look forward to welcoming new members.

**UNITED HEARTS CHARISMATIC GROUP:** Will hold their next meeting in the Novakoski Centre on Tuesday, 4th August at 6.00pm. Everyone is welcome.

**ST JOSEPH'S 150 YEAR CELEBRATION DINNER:** Will be held on **Saturday, 8th August** at Brothers Sports Club. Anyone with a connection to St Joseph's are warmly invited to purchase tickets from the School Office. \$85.00 per person for a three-course meal and entertainment. **Numbers need to be finalised by 31st July.**

## DIOCESAN CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL CONFERENCE:

Will be held from 6.00pm Friday, 28th August to 1.00pm Sunday, 30th August at Our Lady's Hall, The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

Guest Speaker will be Fr Steve Fletcher, Moderator of the Missionaries of God's Love. NET teams from Rockhampton and Darwin will be attending the conference. Children's Ministry will be available throughout the conference.

You can expect a Spirit filled experience of praise, worship, teaching, prayer and healing. Families are encouraged to attend.

To register <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1569770>

OR scan the QR Code for Early Bird prices



## FR JOHN MAIN CHRISTIAN MEDITATION BUNDABERG:

Fr John Main recovered this way of silent prayer from the 4th century writings of John Cassian's 9th and 10th conference.

- **Tuesday** Meditation from **10.00 am to 10.30 am** in the Parish Chapel. It includes recorded teaching, but the important part is to join silent meditation.
- Online zoom meditation for Bundaberg from 7.00pm to 7.30pm. Simple guided format.

Please contact the Parish office for further details.

**CLEANERS REQUIRED FOR ST PATRICK'S CHURCH:** If you can spare an hour or two, weekly, fortnightly, or monthly to help with the vacuuming, mopping, dusting, cleaning of seats and the altar, we would be very grateful. Times are flexible. If you can assist, contact the Parish Office on 4151 6666.



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!!



## Liturgies

### Monday 27 July 2026

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

### Tuesday 28 July 2026

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

### Wednesday 29 July 2026

Sts Martha, Mary & Lazarus  
8.00am Shalom - LWC  
10.00am Mater-Mass  
12.15pm Holy Rosary-Mass

### Thursday 30 July 2026

St Peter Chrysologus  
7.00am St Patrick's - LWC

### Friday 31 July 2026

#### St Ignatius of Loyola

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

### Saturday 1 August 2026

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

### Sunday 2 August 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

Isaiah 55:1-3:

### Second Reading

Romans 8:35, 37-39:

### Gospel

Matthew 14:44-52:

## 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.

## Funeral Mass

Frank Castelli

St Patrick's Church  
Wednesday 29th July  
9.30am



## 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

## 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](mailto:sjbg@rok.catholic.edu.au)

☎ 07 4151 4771

**St Mary's Catholic  
Primary School**

**Mr Bill Goodwin**

Principal

✉ [smbg@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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](mailto:spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au)

☎ 07 4152 1380

**Shalom College**  
**Mr Dean Wearmouth**

Principal

✉ [shalom@shalomcollege.com](mailto: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



Around the time that the gold rushes ended in the nineteenth-century West, a curious phenomenon arose in New England known as money diggers. These were men who roamed the countryside with shovels, divining rods, and superstitious hope, convinced that treasure lay buried beneath their feet. Surely there must be gold under our feet. But there was not. The craze of these wild goose chases caused many to lose farms, families, and sanity.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus inaugurates a new era of spiritual money digging. He announces, "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field." He invites us to become treasure seekers who search in the right place. What is of greatest value is not money beneath our feet, but the infinite treasure hidden deep in the humanity of Jesus himself, God's own blessed life. The glory of heaven lies veiled in his ordinary life, his teaching, his suffering, his Church.

This teaching about the Kingdom changes things. Now we see the Church's doctrinal and moral teachings are not arbitrary rules. They are a treasure map. Follow them, and we will uncover divine happiness. Ignore them, and we will wander aimlessly, spade in hand, digging in empty fields, discouraged.

Where have we wasted energy seeking treasure in the wrong places? How have we given up on seeking the treasure of truly finding God's love for us? If so, let us repent of both. Then let us dust off our shovels and get back to digging deep into the field of Christ Jesus and his Church. After all, He never ceases seeking his treasure in us.

## We Pray for our Deceased

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Ian Ward (Nambour), Monica Allery, Ross Shmrek, Frank Castelli, Mary Ann List (Monto), Mary Attard, Daphne Harriott, Katie Hall (New York), Neil (Benny) Bennewith (Townsville), Shannyn Connor, Kevin Lines, Joe Gatt, Frederick Kitching, Emily Dingle Rudd (Gosford), Petrin Family (Italy), Bishop Emilio Batacla (Philippines), Norberto Saporne (Philippines), David Barnes, Myrl Naske.

**MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES:** Bonifacio Alcala 27.06.1998, Mario Martins Snr 28.07.2012, Justino Rafael Alcala 28.07.2014, Lilia Alcala 28.07.2016, Norio Cafolla 19.07, Guisippe Cafolla 21.07.1987, Augustus Cafolla 4.07.1960, Joe Formosa 11.08.2019, Beatrice (Beattie) Gill 16.07.1982, Barry Southern 18.07.2025, Joyce Galea 17.07.2023, Mary Mathew 15.07.2025, Virginio Zorzan 22.03.2023, Marie Schneider 05.07.2024, Ann Baxter 3.06.2025, Olivia Cafolla 4.07.2019, Margareta Fitzgerald (Gladstone) 13.06.2000, Joe Della-Vedova 20.06, Kathleen Clarke 17.06.2012, Ronald John Pizaro 29.06.2024.

**MASS OFFERED BY REQUEST:** Karl Frazer, Felza-Ana Cutas, Wancho Alesna, Abiel Alcoseba, Formosa Family, Fetrin Family, Rev Fr Aurelio Ocarol Jr, Ernesto Fernando Aguila, Cesarina Della-Vedova, Alma Della, Lew Della, deceased members of the Geiger, & Cook Families, Paul Galea, Joyce Galea, Joseph Galea, Forte & Theresa Galea, Mick and Mary Galea, deceased relatives of the Galea, & Zahra Families, Kevin and Doris Whalley.



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](mailto: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](http://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