



Welcome to the Parish

31st Oct/1st Nov 2026 Year A

The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A



Month of the Holy Souls

by: Very Rev Don White PP, VG

November is here and so is the time for our prayers and devotions to the Holy Souls. We begin with All Saints Day (today) and Holy Souls' Day (Monday). We see the call to holiness in the lives of so many who have gone before us in faith.

St. Therese of Lisieux (in her biography) says, "we will only know how great our holiness was in this life, when we see for ourselves from the kingdom of heaven. St. Therese was at the forefront on the thoughts, that every Christian person is called by Christ to holiness – that is simply, close to God.

And today we recognise the holiness of the saints. And their holiness is manifest to us in their prayers for us, and for their companionship. We probably all have a saint to look to for that companionship – for my mother and many in her generation it was Therese of Lisieux. For any of us in recent time, Mary MacKillop, but of course many others inspire us and our heroes and heroines in our faith tradition.

But in the image of the book of Revelation for the solemn feast of All Saint,s they have all washed their robes clean in the blood of the Lamb. Despite this extraordinary holiness, the saints are very relatable. They have known in various ways a struggle against falsehood and temptation, against the injustice of the world, and also a beautiful peace and delight in their fellow human beings and the beauty of creation. They have known often the comforting presence of God, and in other times lived in darkness searching for God in an honest and prayerful way. Some were martyrs, others teachers, farmers, artists; married lay people and some, popes, bishops, priests, and religious; some were hoghly intellectuals and other practical 'doers'; some had been holy all their lives while others became converts from sinful lives, and most we find somewhere in between.

What unites them all, in their diversity, is that they have lived the Beatitudes, they lived in union with Christ. They have lived the Gospel and reveal to us the beautiful challenge, the glorious, transformative journey of the Christian vocation.

And comforting to know that the saints stand with us every time we gather at God's altar and celebrate the Eucharist. Especially in the Sanctus, or "Holy, Holy" that we joyfully sing before entering into the paschal mystery once again, we recognise the saints are with us as our companions in this most sacred moment. Saints of God, pray for us, all holy men and women, pray for us.

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



PO BOX 79 Bundaberg Qld 4670



sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au



www.bundabergcatholic.net.au



Phone 07 4151 - 6666

November: A month of Devotion to the Holy Souls

In the Catholic Church, November is traditionally dedicated as the Month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory and a Month of Remembrance for the faithful departed.

- For Masses for deceased family members and friends to be offered throughout November please use the November envelopes.
- During November the book of Remembrance will be available in our churches for the general observance of our prayers for the Holy Soul. The book will be in our churches from 7th November.



*Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

Amen



Interested in Becoming Catholic?

If you would like to learn more about the Catholic faith or are considering becoming Catholic, please contact Pauline at the Parish Office for a chat or more information. From infants right through to adults of all ages, we would love to support you on this important step in your faith journey for yourself or for your children.

Journey for 13-17 year olds – A program is starting now after school for children who are 13-17 years old. Contact the Parish Office this week for details.



Summer Camp 2027

Ignite Summer Camp Diocesan Group

When: 13-17 January, 2027

Where: QCCC Mapleton (Sunshine Coast)

Who: Any 2027 high school students

Ignite Summer Camp is back in 2027, with four days of huge outdoor games, amazing rallies, 200 new mates and connecting with Jesus. Our diocese will be taking a group to Summer Camp, providing transport to and from the event and even providing an extra night's accommodation so we will be ready to go when the camp begins on the morning of the 14th of January. To register with our diocesan group, scan the QR code or go to <https://rok.catholic.net.au/services-agencies/youth-ministry/summer-camp/>. For more details contact Mick at youth@rok.catholic.net.au or 0433 897 973.



Save the Date for Eucharist28!



From 24 September to 1st October 2028, Australia will come together to celebrate the 54th International Eucharistic Congress, a moment of renewal for all. Eucharist28 will be a truly transformative moment of renewal centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. A Theological Symposium will precede the Congress from 20th to 22nd September 2028. This is a once-in-a-generation moment for the Church in Australia. Will you be there in two years' time? Mark your calendar, share the news, and join the journey. To begin planning your journey with the Official Group Travel Operator, Harvest Journeys, head to eucharist28.org.

Parish News and Announcements

Liturgies

Monday 2 November 2026

6.30 am Cemetery - Mass
9.00 am St Patrick's - Mass
5.30 pm St James' - Mass
6.00pm Adoration & Penance HR

Tuesday 3 November 2026

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

Wednesday 4 November 2026

St Charles Borromeo
8.00am Shalom - Mass
12.15pm Holy Rosary-Mass

Thursday 5 November 2026

7.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Friday 6 November 2026

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

Saturday 7 November 2026

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

Sunday 8 November 2026

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

SCRIPTURES

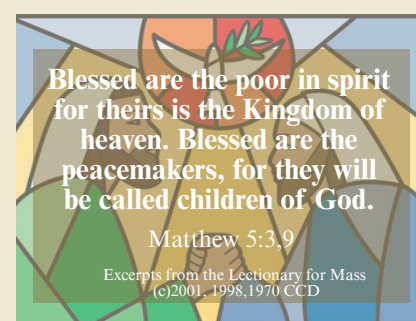
Wis 6:12-16

Second Reading

1 Thess 4:13-18

Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13:



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.

All Souls Day Mass: Monday 2nd November. A Mass will be held in the Catholic Cemetery commencing at 6.30 am. This will be followed by tea, coffee and light refreshments. Please bring a chair. We look forward to seeing you there. Also:

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

St Joseph's Cathedral Appeal: Next weekend, **7th & 8th November**, our annual St Joseph's Cathedral Appeal will be held in support of the Sanctuary Renewal Project. This important project will help create a permanent and fitting sanctuary within our Cathedral, enhancing both its beauty and its role as the spiritual heart of our Diocese. We thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous support.

Memorial Service: A Memorial Service is scheduled for **Wednesday 11 November** at 6.00pm in Holy Rosary Church for all who have lost loved ones, especially those that bereaved over the past six months. Light refreshments will be served in the Novakoski Centre afterwards. Everyone is welcome.

Head, Heart & Hands - 40 Years On (1986-2026): Join the Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton for a reflection gathering commemorating Saint John Paul II's historic 1986 address to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Saturday 14 November 2026, 1:00pm - 5:30pm, Kevin Castles Conference Centre, Rockhampton. All welcome. Registration essential. Register:

<https://app.tickets.org.au/CDOR/HeadHeartHands2026>

Pageants of Lights: Thursday 3rd December. Come along and support the Bundaberg Pageant of Lights, the official switch-on of the CBD Christmas lights, followed by the festive Christmas Float Parade. Our parish will once again be participating with a float that shares the true meaning of Christmas—the birth of Jesus Christ. We are looking for volunteers to assist with the parish float. If you would like to be involved or would like more information, please contact the Parish Office.

Bethlehem Live: 15th - 18th December, Central State School. Planning is well underway for the 2026 return of Bundaberg Christmas Festival. If you would like to be part of this bi-annual event, please contact the Parish Office at 07 4151 6666.

150years Celebration Merchandise: Commemorative merchandise celebrating the 150th Anniversary is still available for purchase. A range of items can be purchased at the Parish Office as a special keepsake of this milestone year.



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!!

Congratulations

Patrick James Connolly

Ella Nyree Cislowski

as they commit to each other in the eyes of the Lord this weekend.

1st November 2026 3.00pm
Holy Rosary Church

A celebration of the Church's Funeral Liturgy

Helen Ryan

Monday
2nd November 10.00am
St James' Church
Bargara

Delma Hardstaff

Wednesday
4th November 3.00pm
Des Allen Chapel

Catherine Castelli

Wednesday
4th November 10.00am
St Patrick's Church

Montana Pearce

Friday
6th November 9.30am
Holy Rosary Church

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
☎ 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

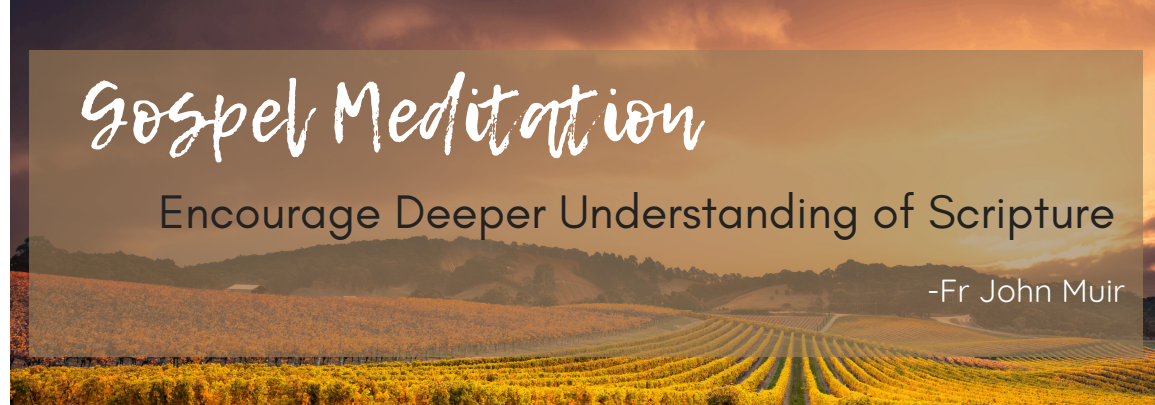
✉ shalom@shalomcollege.com
☎ 07 4155 8111

CHURCHES

Holy Rosary Church
Cnr Barolin & Woongarra Streets

St Patrick's Church
14 Powers Street

St James' Church
38 See Street Bargara



At the end of her short life, my hero, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, found herself in a curious position. Audaciously, she was convinced that she would become a great saint and would be loved by many after her death. At the same time, she insisted that she was weak, impatient, and ordinary. She became arguably the greatest saint in modern times. How is it possible that an ordinary and imperfect person can also be a great saint?

On this All Saints' Day, Jesus overturns our assumptions about holiness. He says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3). The blessed are not the impressive or the self-sufficient, but the poor in spirit, the meek, the merciful, and the persecuted. These are not heroic traits by normal standards. They are signs of a heart that has learned to rely on God rather than itself. That's what St. Thérèse, and all the saints, are all about.

All Saints' Day is not a celebration of spiritual elites. Rather, it announces what grace can do in our ordinary lives. The saints are not those who avoid weakness or suffering, but those who allow these things to deepen their trust. What good news for us! The smaller and weaker we are, the more qualified we are to be great saints.

We Pray for our Deceased

RECENTLY DECEASED: Catherine Castelli, Patricia Stevenson, Rosalina Laruan, Giuseppe Evorio Caniglia (Cleveland Ohio), Montana "Monica" Pearce, Helen Ryan, Esther Harte (Brisbane), Mary Nogorotto, Delma Hardstaff, Annette Francks (Perth), Colleen Geiger, David Allen, Alfio Bonanno, John Eagleson (Nth Ireland), Henry "John" Senini, Colleen Gahan.

MASS OFFERED FOR ANNIVERSARIES: Richard Rosolen 1.12.2024, Giorgio Asnicar 12.11.2016, Dulcie Schafer 28.10.95, Barry Sharp 7.11.2025, Frank Nella 7.10.2019, Sheelah Cagney 20.10.1995, Antonio De Zotti 20.10.2020, Sam Camilleri 15.10, Lawrence Formosa snr 30.10, Carmen Grima 4.11, Brian Fordham 15.10.2025, Gena Mode Bennett 16.10.1980, Elizabeth Maria Maglicco 22.10.2002, Frank Cafolla 29.10.2004, Lawrence Galea 1.10.2022, John S.V (Val) Gill 30.10.1987, Anthony Eric Arkinstall 30.10.1971, Olympia Cagatin 24.10.2024, Assunta Borza 30.09.1990, John Edward Clarke 25.09.1969, Eric Chapman, Cath Dwyer

MASS OFFERED FOR HOLY SOULS IN THE PURGATORY: Lisa Camilleri, Raimondo De Bernardinis, Giuseppina De Bernardinis, Alfio Bonanno, Deceased members of the Cross, Cagney, Collins & Martin Families, Sheelah Margaret Cagney, Terence James Cagney, Margaret Mary Cagney Gloria Mary Collins, Betty O'Keefe, Gerry Walsh, Formosa and Grima Families, Antonette Nordone (Italy), Alife Cafolla (Italy), Holy Souls in Purgatory, Holy Souls, Gino Troiani, Enio Troiani, Emma and Johnny Carossi, Fetrin Family, 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, 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