



# Hervey Bay Catholic Parish

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Address: Bryant St, Pialba Q 4655  
PO Box 3250, Hervey Bay Q 4655  
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am – 4pm

**31<sup>st</sup> January / 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**

***The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time***

## **Our Parish Churches**

**St Joseph's Church**

*Bryant St, Pialba*

**St Patrick's Church**

*82 William St, Howard*

## **Mass Centre**

**St Peter the Fisherman**

*Burrum Heads Rd*

*Burrum Heads*

## **Parish Priest**

Fr. Jacob Kalu

[kaluj@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:kaluj@bne.catholic.net.au)

## **Parish Staff**

Audrey Yu

**Pastoral Ministry Coordinator**

Winnie Mujunen

**Parish Secretary**

Nimal Abeywardena

**Finance Officer**

Gary Varley

**Safeguarding Officer**

Naomi Kidd

**Chaplain – OzCare**

## **Schools**

**Star of the Sea School**

*33-35 Hughes Rd*

*Wondunna, Hervey Bay*

*PH: 4125 1220*

**Principal:** Nathan Wilson

**Outside School Hours Care**

*Star of the Sea School*

*Wondunna, Hervey Bay*

*PH: 4125 6051*

**Childcare (6wks – 5yrs)**

*Wondunna, Hervey Bay*

*PH: 4194 6155*

**Xavier Catholic College**

*Eli Waters, Hervey Bay*

*PH: 4197 1177*

**Principal:** Simon Dash

## **Welfare Groups**

**St Vincent De Paul:**

*21 Liuzzi St Pialba*

*4338 5850*

**Centacare:**

*3324 3800*

This Sunday's readings: R1: Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13 | R2: 1 Cor 1:26-31 | G: Mt 5:1-12

## **Dear Parishioners & Visitors,**

What we call the eight beatitudes in today's gospel, is like a summary of Jesus' teaching. It is the gospel in a condensed form and, therefore, requires a great deal of teasing out to get to the simple point-by-point message that it contains.

We are all familiar with political manifestos. These are statements about where the political party is at, what they stand for, what is in it for you if you vote for them, and what they intend to achieve if you elect them. Today's gospel is Jesus' Manifesto. The important thing for us to remember is that, in the words of Jesus, "heaven and earth will pass away before my word passes away." In other words, this is a manifesto in which he certainly will keep his side of the bargain.

There is a lot of teaching contained in this gospel, and to put the beatitudes into simple ordinary words, these might help us. They are blessed who are detached, and have a humble attitude. Even if they have great riches, the riches do not possess them, nor are they boastful and proud about them. Grief is the price you pay for love, so, if you have any capacity for love, then you will need to carry some tissues with you. If you never want to cry at a funeral, do not ever love anyone. The meek and the gentle are the opposite to the bully, and they are the ones who are really powerful.

They are good people who have a real desire for justice and fair play, and who are prepared to ensure that this is available to others. As you treat others, so you yourself will be treated, so if you want mercy, forgiveness, and compassion, then you must begin by giving these to others. A pure heart is not devious, deceitful, selfish, and cunning. A pure heart reflects an aspect of God.

Jesus did not say that they are blessed who have peace. Rather, he commends those who build bridges of peace and reconciliation between others, and between themselves and others. Jesus warns us that, if we follow him, we will be treated like he was, and following him means taking up the cross. Right from the beginning when Simeon took the child in his arms in the temple, he announced that Jesus would be a sign of contradiction. Everything he said, everything he did, and everything he stood for, was a contradiction to this world and its values. Those with power, prestige, and control were threatened by him. The religious leaders who ran the show, and who were the final arbiters as to what was right and wrong, were so threatened by him that they planned and succeeded in killing him.

There is a certain sense of cleansing in today's gospel. It is about letting go of things in our lives that are not life giving, and about becoming wholesome and free. It is a programme for living, a blueprint for inner peace and happiness. Spirituality is totally the work of the Holy Spirit, and it is about surrender. Spirituality is about letting go, knowing that, in death, I must let go of everything anyhow. To live life more fully, it is necessary to be as free from outside controls as possible.

**Peace be with you, Fr. Jacob**

## MASS Times: 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026 to 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026

### St Joseph's Church Hervey Bay

Monday 9.30am Anointing Mass  
 Wednesday 5.30pm Mass  
 Thursday 8am Mass  
 Friday 8am Liturgy of the Word  
 Saturday 8am Mass  
 6pm Mass  
 Sunday 7am Mass  
 9am Mass

### St Patrick's Church Howard

Sunday Mass: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month  
 @ 4pm

### St Peter the Fisherman Burrum Heads

Mass: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month @ 4pm



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**Hervey Bay Catholic Parish**

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH:** Saturdays @ 5pm or by appointment

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5**

**Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16**

### WE PRAY FOR:

**THE SICK:** Melinda Audesho, Fe Adilan, Marivic Barrameda, Roman Brackowski, June Bearsley, Gerard Clinch, Marilyn Cotis, Pat Deeley, Carmen Hoolihan, Keith & Angela Mawer, Nina Mironov, Marilyn Monsour, Dot Phillips, Marivic Quiobe, Elaine Sanders, Gerry Sharpe, Jo Shorrock, Doris Sutton, Pam Truscott, Petrus Van Lierop, John Wilson, Tony & Janette Davies, Linda Sharpe, Joy Smith, Sr Layola, Barry Larsen, Marilyn Baldwin

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Tony Cavanagh, Rod & Anne Gollan, Kathy Byrne, Philip Picknel, Michael James Crowe, Francisco Tirado, Patricia Nancarrow, Felix Chua Jnr, Mark Thomas Fletcher, Nathan Adam Keegan, Lucena Baculio, Graham Minchem, Andres Medardo Enzon II, Alicia Carreon, Peter Hawkins

**ANNIVERSARY:** Jennifer Weaver, Renato Gungob, Timotea Gungob, Anthony Cefai, Paul Attard, Magdalena Mugot, Keith Berecy, Margaret Treston, Reg Treston, Ophelia Lambon, Charles Boston

### WE CELEBRATE:

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:** Con Ryan

**JANUARY WEDDING ANN.:**

### **PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES READY TO BE COLLECTED**

For parishioners who give by the envelope system, the Planned Giving Envelopes for **February to July 2026** are ready for collection from the Newsstand in the church. If you would like to start giving using Planned Giving Envelopes, please contact the parish office.

### **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE PARENTS INFORMATION NIGHT**

Parents who would like to register their children for the Sacrament of Penance are invited to attend our Parents Information Night on **Monday, 2 February, 6.30 pm** at St Joseph's Church.

**PIETY STALL.** If you are looking for a unique gift or cards for loved ones, or something for yourself, come support our Parish Piety Stall. New stocks available. Open each weekend before and after Mass.  
**No EFTPOS.**

### **Are you new to our Parish?**

If you are new to our Parish and our community, please register you and your family on Flocknote by using this link: [herveybayparish.flocknote.com](http://herveybayparish.flocknote.com).

Please join us in the John Paul Centre for a cuppa after the 9am Mass this Sunday, 1 February, hosted by the El Shaddai.

Next Sunday, 8 February to be hosted by Health Care with Christ.

PARISH GROUPS	Meeting:	Time	Place
<b>Legion of Mary</b>	<i>Mondays</i>	<i>8.45am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
<b>St Vincent de Paul</b>	<i>Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026</i>	<i>3pm</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
<b>Ministry of Consolation</b>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month</i>	<i>2pm</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
<b>Parish Craft Group</b>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month, returning 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026</i>	<i>9am</i>	<i>John Paul Centre</i>
<b>Cenacle "Divine Mercy"</b>	<i>Thursdays; returning on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026</i>	<i>9am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
<b>Cenacle of Prayer</b> (Immaculate Heart of Mary)	<i>Fridays</i> (No meeting on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday of the month)	<i>8.30am</i>	<i>MacKillop Library</i>
<b>El Shaddai</b>	<i>Saturdays</i>	<i>1pm</i>	<i>John Paul Centre</i>
<b>Health Care with Christ</b>	<i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
<b>Kids Club - grades 1-8</b>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month</i> (school term only)	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>



## Feast of the Presentation of the Lord



Image: Ludovico Carracci, via [Wikimedia Commons](#)

The feast of the Presentation of the Lord is celebrated on 2 February each year, traditionally known as 'Candlemas'. Falling forty days after Christmas, it commemorates the moment Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the Temple, fulfilling the ritual requirements of the Law of Moses.

The feast reminds us that our belief in God is often lived out in honouring the observance of our faith. Mary and Joseph were obedient to God's law, despite Mary's unique holiness as the sinless Mother of God and Jesus' divinity. Their willingness to submit to the law of Moses demonstrates how they lived out their faith in humble, ordinary ways.

A long-standing Candlemas tradition is the  **blessing and lighting of candles**, a powerful sign that the light of Christ shines in darkness. ([Source](#))

This year, the feast coincides with our Anointing Mass. **Parishioners are invited to bring their candles during the Anointing Mass to be blessed.** Please label your candles to avoid any mixed-ups.

### Thank you, Father John!



Fr John Grace will be leaving for Brisbane on Friday morning, 6 February. There will be no Mass that morning; instead, a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion will be celebrated.

The Parish Office has organised a farewell lunch with Fr John on **Wednesday, 4 January at 11.30 am** at the **RSL**. If you would like to join the luncheon, please contact the Parish Office.

We thank Fr John for his care and dedication to our parish community, and we pray that he continues to serve God faithfully wherever he is called.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY HERVEY BAY

Please support the needy of this City by placing any non-perishable food items in the baskets at the front doors of the Church. Envelopes are also available inside the church on the newsstand & from the Parish Office. *Thank you, Hervey Bay Parishioners, for your generosity and continued support!*

The weather is warming up. Please remember to stay hydrated at all times. Feel free to bring a water bottle along to church. *Strictly no food allowed inside the church.*

### MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

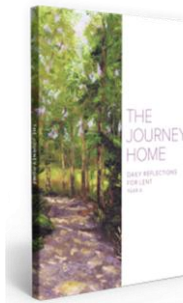
*"The only thing death cannot touch is everything we have loved."*



The Ministry of Consolation is offering support to those grieving the loss of a loved one. Reach out to Gary Varley on 0497 970 365.

The Ministry of Consolation welcomes anyone who feels called to support those experiencing grief.

### Lenten Programme 2026



This year, Ash Wednesday falls on 18 February, marking the beginning of the Season of Lent.

As with previous years, the Parish is planning to run a weekly Lenten reflection by using the booklet *The Journey Home*. The time of the reflection will be announced nearer the time. *The Journey Home* – A Lent

2026 daily prayer and reflection is now available for order. Please place your order by 6 February.

Cost per book is **\$5** to be paid on collection.

### SAFEGUARDING

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.

Information on Safeguarding is now available on our website.

**STOPline** To report 'reportable conduct' under the Archdiocesan Whistleblower Policy email to: [aob@stopline.com.au](mailto:aob@stopline.com.au) or Phone: 1300 30 45 50



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Email: [torquayoshc@bne.centacare.net.au](mailto:torquayoshc@bne.centacare.net.au)

Star of the Sea Childcare Centre  
64 Washington Dr, Wondunna  
PH: 4194 6155  
Email: [dir.hevybayld@bne.centacar.net.au](mailto:dir.hevybayld@bne.centacar.net.au)

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