



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

28th March / 29th March 2026

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

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

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: Is 50:4-7 | R2: Phil 2:6-11 | G: Mt 26:14 - 27:66

Dear Parishioners & Visitors,

Passion Sunday, commonly known as Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, marks the start of Holy Week. In Year A, the liturgy focuses on the Gospel of Matthew (specifically Matthew 26:14–27:66), highlighting Jesus as the “Suffering Servant” who remains faithful even when it seemed he was abandoned. On this Sunday, the Church celebrates the triumphant entry of Christ into Jerusalem in order to accomplish his Paschal Mystery. Today, all the readings highlight the ordeal and humility of Christ.

Today's celebration is full of symbols. The green palm is a symbol of peace: “He shall be the prince, and king of peace” (Is 11: 1-9; 9:6). It also represents royalty and restoration. The crowd symbolizes both praise and denial. The liturgy begins with the “Hosanna” of the triumphal entry (Mt 21:1–11) but shifts abruptly to the “Crucify him!” of the Passion. This highlights human fickle nature and how easily our praise can turn to rejection when following Christ becomes difficult. Finally, the donkey is symbolic of Christ's humility: “...He is humble. He rides on a donkey, the foal of a beast of burden” (Zac 9: 9). Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey, not a warhorse, and accepts the Cross as his throne. This “self-emptying” (kenosis) described in the Second Reading (Phil 2:6–11) is the ultimate model of service over power.

Today's gospel is from the passion narrative of Christ. It could be divided into three scenes: the arrest of Christ, his arraignment before Roman authorities, and his suffering and death. It is a drama of both praise and betrayal. It started like a comedy but seems to end like a tragedy. The journey that started with praises, eventually ended with castigation. However, at both ends, God is still at work and in control because: “We know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose” (Rom 8, 28).

The humility that Christ demonstrated today is contrary to the arrogant display of wealth and firm by today's rulers and leaders. In spite of being God, Christ humbly rode on the lowliest of beasts. The passion narrative of Jesus Christ is very crucial to our understanding of the true nature of Christ. It presents us with the nature of Christ as a true man. He suffered and died like every other human being. Yet this did not diminish the fact that he is Lord and God.

Through his passion, He has become our role model, while his cross has become our symbol of hope and salvation. So, before seeing Christ as the glorious Lord of Easter, first, we must think of him as the wounded, and crucified Christ.

As we enter into this most solemn and important week, let us all spend some time to reflect on our Lenten journey so far and how we have lived our lives. Lent is a time for us to rediscover our true path in life towards God, recalibrate and reconnect ourselves with God and His path especially if we have wandered down the wrong path. And as we enter into this Holy Week of Our Lord's Passion, let us remind ourselves why our Lord has done all these for us. God willingly came to us, and through His Passion, showed us the path to a new life.

Peace be with you, Fr. Jacob

MASS Times: 30th March 2026 to 5th April 2026

St Joseph's Church Hervey Bay

Monday 8am Mass
6pm 2nd Rite of Reconciliation

Wednesday 5.30pm Mass

Thursday 6pm Lord's Supper

Friday 10.30am Stations of the Cross
3pm Lord's Passion

Saturday 8am *The Tenebrae Service** (see p.3)
6pm Easter Vigil

Sunday 7am Easter Sunday Mass
9am Easter Sunday Mass

St Patrick's Church Howard

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

St Peter the Fisherman Burrum Heads

Mass: 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month @ 4pm



www.herveybaycatholic.com.au



Hervey Bay Catholic Parish

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Easter Sunday

1st Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34, 37-43

2nd Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel: John 20:1-9

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 Shorrocks, Doris Sutton, Pam Truscott, Petrus Van Lierop, John Wilson, Tony & Janette Davies, Linda Sharpe, Joy Smith, Sr Layola, Marilyn Baldwin, Ron Telford, Ruby Magrata

RECENTLY DECEASED: 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, Marcia Goulivitch, Rick Reardon, Barry Larsen, Bigy Sacluti, Helen Andrews (Tully), Di London

ANNIVERSARY: Matthew Berecny Jnr, Dennis Ryan Berecny, Segunda Baculio, Margaret Treston, Reg Treston, George Cefai, Claude Enriken

WE CELEBRATE:

MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

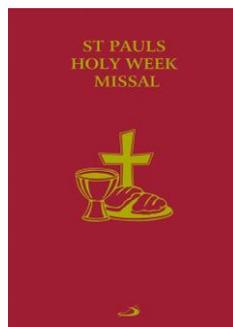
MARCH WEDDING ANN.: (Send in names so we can pray for you!)

SUNDAY AFTER MASS CUPPA | Please join us in the John Paul Centre for a cuppa after the 9am Mass this Sunday, 29 March, hosted by Family Group 5. Next Sunday (Easter Sunday), 5 April to be hosted by El Shaddai

The Pope's Prayer Intention for March

For disarmament and peace: Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

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. [Sorry, no EFTPOS.]



On Special at the Piety Stall!

Make this Holy Week celebration a special one by *participating actively* in the liturgy. This Missal contains the Order of the Mass for Holy Week (Palm Sunday to Wednesday of Holy Week), Easter/Pascal Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday) and Easter Sunday.

Available at the Piety Stall at \$5 per book. While stocks last!

Clearance Sale

The Columban Art Calendar for 2026 is on sale for \$5 per copy (originally \$10).

PARISH GROUPS	Meeting:	Time	Place
Legion of Mary	<i>Mondays</i>	<i>8.45am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
St Vincent de Paul	<i>Monday, 6th April 2026</i>	<i>3pm</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
Ministry of Consolation	<i>1st Tuesday of each month</i>	<i>2pm</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
Parish Craft Group	<i>1st Wednesday of each month</i>	<i>9am</i>	<i>John Paul Centre</i>
Charismatic Prayer & Praise	<i>2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month</i>	<i>9.30am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
	<i>1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month</i>	<i>7.00pm</i>	
Cenacle "Divine Mercy"	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>9am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
Cenacle of Prayer (Immaculate Heart of Mary)	<i>Fridays</i> (No meeting on the 1 st Friday of the month)	<i>8.30am</i>	<i>MacKillop Library</i>
El Shaddai	<i>Saturdays</i>	<i>1pm</i>	<i>John Paul Centre</i>
Health Care with Christ	<i>4th Sunday of the month</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
Kids Club - grades 1-8	<i>1st & 3rd Sundays of the month</i> (school term only)	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>

LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The **last** Stations of the Cross will be held on **Friday 27 March** at **6pm**, led by members of El Shaddai.

DID YOU KNOW?



The Stations of the Cross is one of the simplest, yet powerful ways to prayerfully walk alongside Jesus and encounter Him. It is a devotion originated in the 4th century tradition of pilgrims walking the *Via Dolorosa* in Jerusalem to commemorate Jesus's final journey. It became a worldwide devotion in the 17th century, thanks to the Franciscans, that enabled the faithful who could not travel to Holy Land to experience the Way of the Cross. In the late 17th century Pope Innocent XI permitted all churches to erect stations and granted *the same indulgences* as a trip to the Holy Land.

The Tenebrae Service*

(*Tenebrae* = 'shadow' in Latin)



Since all Masses are prohibited on Holy Saturday (except for the Vigil Mass), we will hold the **Tenebrae Service**, which is the celebration of the **Office of Readings** and **Morning Prayer**. At the end of each psalm, a candle will be extinguished until only one candle remains, representing Christ. On this day, "the Church is as it were at the Lord's tomb, meditating on his passion and death, and on his descent into hell, and awaiting his resurrection with prayer and fasting" (Congregation of Divine Worship, February 1988).

The Parish cordially invites all parishioners and visitors alike, to participate in this **traditional practice** – for many, this will be the first time – as we await in hope the resurrection of our Lord. **Mark your calendar: 4 April (Holy Saturday), 8am.**

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.

Please remember to stay hydrated at all times. Feel free to bring a water bottle along to church. Water is also provided at the entrance. *Strictly no food allowed inside the church.*

The month of March is dedicated to **Saint Joseph, the husband of Mary, the patron saint of the Universal Church.**



Second Rite of Reconciliation will be held on **Monday, 30 March** at **6 pm.**

SACRED PASCAL TRIDUUM LITURGY TIMES



HOLY THURSDAY – 2 April

Mass of the Lord's Supper

At 6pm, St Joseph's Church, Pialba.

GOOD FRIDAY – 3 April

(A day of fasting and abstinence)

Outdoor Stations of the Cross

At 10.30am, St Joseph's Pialba.

The Passion of the Lord with Communion

At 3pm, St Joseph's Church, Pialba.

HOLY SATURDAY – 4 April (*Easter Vigil*)

At 6pm, with RCIA, St Joseph's Church, Pialba.

EASTER SUNDAY – 5 April

Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection

7am & 9am, St Joseph's Church, Pialba

4 pm, St Peter the Fisherman, Burrum Heads.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK

An opportunity to serve



With our ever-expanding faith community and an increasingly ageing population, we are in dire need of more Ministers of Communion to the sick for our hospitals, nursing homes and homes. If anyone is interested in becoming a Minister of Communion to the sick, a rewarding endeavour, please call the Parish Office.

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



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Star of the Sea Childcare Centre
64 Washington Dr, Wondunna
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Email: dir.hevybayld@bne.cntacar.net.au



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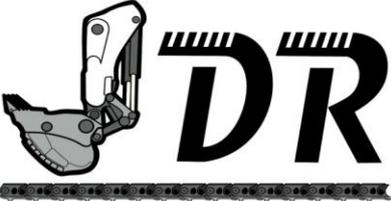
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