



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

2nd May / 3rd May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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
kalu@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: Acts 6:1-7 | R2: 1 Pet 2:4-9 | G: Jn 14:1-12

Dear Parishioners & Visitors,

The readings for the last few Sundays have been about the Resurrection, but today's Gospel takes us back in time to an event in Jesus' life before his Passion. Jesus tells his disciples that he is going to prepare a place for them in his Father's house. He promises that where he is going, his disciples will be able to follow.

People in the world today are frantically searching for the right way, for the ultimate truth, and an improved life quality. Therefore, there are three fundamental questions that rent the air. How can we move forward? How can we uphold truth and integrity? How can we improve the quality of life?

Just imagine a man having the gumption to declare himself as the way, the truth and the life. Please note that he uses the definite article 'the' in each case, 'the way', 'the truth', and 'the life', and so he is not saying he is simply a way, a part of truth or a form of life. When someone makes such strong assertions, the first thing to do is to let him prove what he claims to be by making him show his credentials. After all, evidence terminates argument. The credentials of Jesus are not far-fetched: they are embedded in scriptures where his curriculum vitae is there for all to see. What is more, his message, his life and his works are clearly recorded in history. So, how is he the way, truth and life?

The Way (Via). The story of Adam and Eve traces the origin of how people lost their way in their spiritual journey. Jesus came not only to show humanity their way back to their creator, but he became the way by making himself visible. He could stay in heaven and point the way for us, but he chose to come down from heaven to give us a sense of direction. Thus, through him, with him and in him, humanity's relationship with the creator is restored. Additionally, His word shows the way, just as the Psalmist says: Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path (Ps 109:115). Jesus did not just preach the word, but he was also the perfect leader and role model who perfectly translated his word into his everyday life.

The Truth (Veritas). He did not just proclaim the truth, but his life was a testimony of the truth. He is truth personified and embodied. He is the 'true truth' because he is the incarnate word of God and the wisdom of God made visible to humanity. This is why he reminded his listeners about the Queen of Sheba who was amazed at the Wisdom of Solomon and says about himself, "Something greater than Solomon is here" (Mt 12:42). Jesus clearly defines his mission as one who has come to testify to the truth (Jn 18:37). His mission was to declare to humanity the hard, raw, inconvenient and Gospel truth about living the new life he offers. Therefore, Jesus asserts: "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (Jn 8:32).

The Life (Vita). The human person constantly desires a good life and so works constantly to improve the quality of life. However, we often have a narrow definition of 'good life' when we think of it as success, material wealth and material prosperity. Jesus re-defines good life and offers a new life to those who accept him (Jn 3:3). It is this new life that the Prophet Ezekiel describes as new heart and new spirit (Ezek 36:26, 27). St. Paul says those who adopt the new life become a new creation (2 Cor 5:17).

Peace be with you, Fr. Jacob

MASS Times: 4th May to 10th May 2026

St Joseph's Church Hervey Bay

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8, 14-17

2nd Reading: First Letter of St Peter 3:15-18

Gospel: John 14:15-21

The Pope's Prayer Intention for May

That everyone might have food: Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

WE PRAY FOR:

THE SICK: Melinda Audesho, Fe Adilan, Marivic Barrameda, Roman Braczkowski, 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, Ruby Magrata, Jennifer Burrow

RECENTLY DECEASED: Rod & Anne Gollan, Kathy Byrne, Philip Picknel, Francisco Tirado, Michael James Crowe, Rick Reardon, Felix Chua Jnr, Bigy Sacluti, Lucena Baculio, Nathan Adam Keegan, Helen Andrews (Tully), Di London, Ron Telford, John Welch, Ross Tapsall, Kevin McConville, Julie Cantar

ANNIVERSARY: Matthew Berecny Jnr, Dennis Ryan Berecny, Segunda Baculio, Susanna Baculio, Margaret Treston, Reg Treston, George Cefai, Claude Entriken, Teresita Castillo, Salvador Rapi, Mike & Sammy Sandham, Monica Baldwin, Ian Franks.

WE CELEBRATE:

MAY BIRTHDAYS: (Send in names so we can pray for you!)

MAY WEDDING ANN.: Terry & Paula Hewett (45th anniversary)

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.]

Upcoming Events and Feasts in the Month of May...

- 13 May: Our Lady of Fatima
- 17 May: Ascension of the Lord – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 23 May: Nationwide Rosary to Our Lady Help of Christians
- 24 May: Pentecost Sunday
- 29 May: Flores de Mayo celebration

SUNDAY AFTER MASS CUPPA | Please join us in the John Paul Centre for a cuppa after the 9 am Mass this Sunday, 3 May, hosted by Health Care with Christ. Next Sunday 10 May to be hosted by The Bikkie Bunch. The Bikkie Bunch is inviting anyone who is happy to assist by bringing a plate to share and to help with serving.

“The Saints, while living in this world, are always joyful, as if they were always celebrating Easter.”

- St Athanasius

| 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>Tuesday, 5th May 2026</i> | <i>3pm</i> | <i>John Paul Centre</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 Mondays 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 <i>(Immaculate Heart of Mary)</i> | <i>Fridays</i> <i>(No meeting on the 1st Friday of the month)</i> | <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> <i>(school term only)</i> | <i>10.30am</i> | <i>Sr Scholly Hall</i> |

Introducing the faith formation course:
Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible



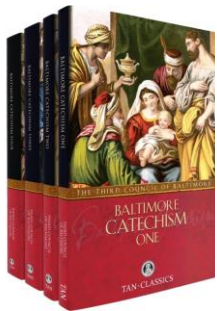
Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible reveals the “big picture” of Scripture by showing how 14 key narrative books tell the story of salvation from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church today.

Guided by renowned teacher Jeff Cavins, this study explains how the events of Scripture connect to reveal God’s plan for his people in eight sessions.

Using the groundbreaking colour-coded *Bible Timeline®* system (the same system used in the *Ascension Bible in a Year* podcast), you will follow the major people, places, and events of the Bible across twelve time periods to understand the story of Scripture and discover your place within it.

We’re excited to begin this *eight-session* program, with each session running for *1½ hours*. Our first gathering will be an Introductory Session on **6 June**. If you’d like to join us, please submit your name to the Parish Office.

The Baltimore Catechism



Since its 1885 debut, the catechism commissioned by the Third Council of Bishops in Baltimore has instructed generations of Catholic faithful. With an easy-to-read *question-and-answer format*, the Catechism combines solid Catholic doctrinal teaching with meaningful exposure to Scripture and practical application.

Catechists and parents will find this catechism an invaluable teaching tool as they prepare children and catechumens to receive the Sacraments and lead authentic Catholic lives. Students will find this an uncomplicated and friendly guide to authentic Catholicism.

Only four books are currently available in the Piety Stall. Each one is designed for a specific age group or according to the particular needs of the reader.

Visit the Piety Stall, have a look, and grab one today!

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 May is dedicated to The Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Blessed Virgin Mary is the Mother of the Church and therefore the example, as well as the guide and inspiration, of everyone who, in and through the Church, seeks to be the servant of God and man and the obedient agent of the promptings of the Holy Spirit. ([Source](#))

El-Shaddai 31st Anniversary Celebration

The El-Shaddai Hervey Bay Cell Group joyfully celebrates its **31st Anniversary** this **Saturday, 2 May** at St Joseph’s Church, Pialba.

The celebration will begin with Praise and Worship at 9am, followed by **Holy Mass at 10am** presided over by Fr Jacob. A series of talk will then be given by Fr Joseph-Hien Van Vo and Br Lito Miranda, after which all are invited to a shared celebration lunch at the John Paul Centre.

All parishioners and friends are warmly invited to join in giving thanks for this milestone and celebrating as a community.

FUNERAL NOTICE



A Requiem Mass will be celebrated here at St Joseph’s Church on **Friday 8th May 2026 at 11.00am** for our dear brother

Gerald William Schrama.

All are warmly invited to gather in prayer and commend his soul to God’s loving mercy. Refreshments will follow after the Mass in the John Paul Centre.

The **RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiations of Adult)** program to prepare adults for initiation into the Catholic Church has already begun. The classes are held every **Wednesday at 6pm** (after 5.30pm daily Mass), and the Rite will be celebrated in October this year. For those wishing to become Catholics, please register your name and details with the Parish Office.


MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

“If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it.”

– **1 Corinthians 12:26**

If you feel you, or someone you know, might benefit from our service, please reach out to the Parish Office on 4124 3334 or Gary Varley on 0497 970 365.

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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