



# Hervey Bay Catholic Parish

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Address: Bryant St, Pialba Q 4655  
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Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am – 4pm

16<sup>th</sup> May / 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026

*The Ascension of the Lord*

## 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: Acts 1:1-11 | R2: Eph 1:17-23 | G: Mt 28:16-20

## **Dear Parishioners & Visitors,**

The readings for this wonderful feast challenge us to do some serious spiritual exercises. They want us to look in three directions at once: upwards, inwards, and outwards. A balancing act for sure. The 'looking up' part is clear enough. With the disciples of Jesus on the top of the Mount of Olives, our eyes today are firmly fixed on the heavens where Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father. His ascension gives the finishing touch to his resurrection. It is mission accomplished for Jesus.

The mission had begun when he embraced our human condition by becoming one of us, walking in our footsteps, traveling our roads, experiencing our pains, feeling our fears, taking on our weaknesses, embracing our limitations even to the point of coming face-to-face with death itself. And just when death had seemed to get the last word, his Father had spoken an even more powerful word. And when he did, death gave up its grip on the lifeless body of Jesus, and he burst forth from the tomb radiant with new life. Forty days later, he gloriously returned to his Father where he intercedes for all of us. But looking up to heaven is not enough. There is work to be done right here. We cannot afford to be so heavenly minded as to be no earthly good. And that is where looking inward and looking outward come in.

First, looking inward. St. Augustine, in a homily for this feast, had this lovely way of putting it: "Christ ascended before the apostles' eyes, and they turned back grieving, only to find him in their hearts". St. Paul, in today's reading from Ephesians, speaks of looking with 'the eyes of our hearts', coming to see the Christ who dwells within us by faith, awakening to the ways God's grace is working within us right now, coming to know the hope that is ours, the surpassing greatness of God's power for us who believe. The eyes of the heart are able, in times of pain, darkness and grief, to see, however dimly, the hand of a mysterious but loving God at work. Only the eyes of the heart can make sense out of life's most perplexing mysteries. That is why we look inward.

Lastly, the Ascension gets us to look outward. The Ascension is not only about meeting the Christ who dwells within, it is also about taking that same Christ out into the world where we live. "Go, make disciples of all nations," Jesus told his disciples. He says the same to us. We do not get the luxury of standing still gazing at the heavens any more than the disciples on top of the Mount of Olives did. There is work to be done, a world to be transformed, a gospel to be preached, and we are the preachers. The Ascension reminds us that we who follow Christ are called to look outwards also, leave our comfort zone and plant the seeds of the Gospel in the very dirty soil of this world: soil that is often hostile to the Gospel, or at least painfully indifferent to it. We are called as Church to go places where we are not very welcome, to proclaim good news that does not always sound very good; certainly not to a culture that has eyes only for the here and now, that often confuses freedom with license, views suffering as meaningless, and values life only when it brings pleasure. The Ascension is about directions; inward and outward.

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

## MASS Times: 18<sup>th</sup> May to 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026

### St Joseph's Church Hervey Bay

Monday 8am 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: 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

#### *Pentecost Sunday*

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7**

**Gospel: John:19-23**

#### WE PRAY FOR:

**THE SICK:** Melinda Audesho, Fe Adilan, Marivic Barrameda, Roman Braczkowski, June Bearsley, Gerard Clinch, Marilyn Cotis, Carmen Hoolihan, Nina Mironov, Marilyn Monsour, Dot Phillips, Marivic Quiobe, Elaine Sanders, Doris Sutton, Petrus Van Lierop, John Wilson, Tony & Janette Davies, Linda Sharpe, Joy Smith, Sr Layola, Marilyn Baldwin, Ruby Magrata, Jennifer Burow, Maria Ruttman

**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, Gerald Schrama, Gerry Sharpe, Spera Scriha, Elizabeth Mendoza

**ANNIVERSARY:** Ian Franks, Mary Cefai, Carmen Cefai, Ireneo Baculio, Corazon Quijano, Zenaída Capitalo, Ivon & Connie Lociano

#### WE CELEBRATE:

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

**MAY WEDDING ANN.:** Terry & Paula Hewett (45<sup>th</sup> anniversary),  
 Ronald & Cecily Trevillion (59<sup>th</sup> anniversary)

**The Catholic Leader** – the Catholic newspaper for the Archdiocese of Brisbane – is available for purchase for \$4 per copy, on the Newsstand inside the church.

### 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.

**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.*]

### NATIONWIDE ROSARY TO OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS – PATRONESS OF AUSTRALIA

**Date: Sat, 23 May Time: 2-4 PM**

**Venue: Sr Scholly's Room**

Come as a family and join Catholic churches nationwide to dedicate Australia to Mary, and pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Australia and all Australians.

### SUNDAY AFTER MASS CUPPA

Please join us in the John Paul Centre for a cuppa after the 9 am Mass this Sunday, 17 May, hosted by Family Group 5.

Next Sunday, 24 May, will be hosted by Parish Pastoral Council.

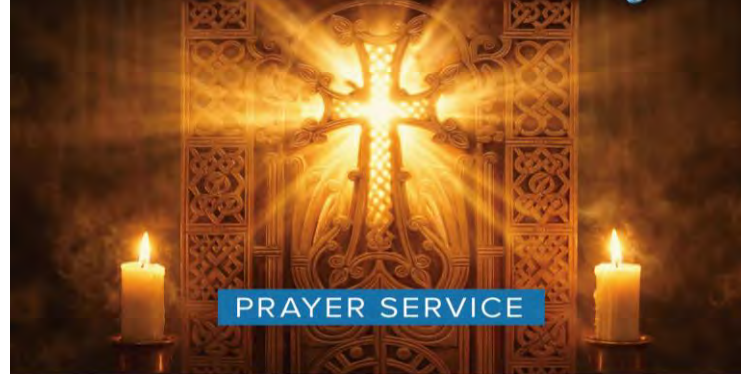
PARISH GROUPS	Meeting:	Time	Place
<b>Legion of Mary</b>	<i>Mondays</i>	<i>8.45am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
<b>St Vincent de Paul</b>	<i>Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026</i>	<i>3pm</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
<b>Ministry of Consolation</b>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month</i>	<i>2pm</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
<b>Parish Craft Group</b>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month</i>	<i>9am</i>	<i>John Paul Centre</i>
<b>Charismatic Prayer &amp; Praise</b>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month</i>	<i>6pm</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
<b>Cenacle "Divine Mercy"</b>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>9am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>
<b>Cenacle of Prayer</b> <i>(Immaculate Heart of Mary)</i>	<i>Fridays</i> <i>(No meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month)</i>	<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> <i>(school term only)</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</i>



**DID YOU KNOW?** On 22 - 23 May Jews around the world celebrate **Shavuot**. Shavuot, commonly known in English as the Feast of Weeks, is a major Jewish holiday. Shavuot recalls the time when God spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai and gave him the Ten Commandments and other laws. During this celebration, the Jewish people offer thanks to God for the Torah which is a guide for their lives. Shavuot, one of three Jewish pilgrimage festivals, occurs on the sixth day of the Hebrew month of Sivan. In the Bible, Shavuot marked the wheat harvest in Israel. While Shavuot is sometimes referred to as Pentecost due to it occurring fifty days after the first day of Passover, it is not the same celebration as the Christian Pentecost.

**The month of May is dedicated to The Blessed Virgin Mary.**

## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



PRAYER SERVICE

TUESDAY 19 MAY 2026 11AM | CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN, BRISBANE

*"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling"*

(Ephesians 4:4)

Light refreshments will follow in the Hanly Room.

Join us for a prayer service marking the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** is held worldwide on 18-25 January (Northern hemisphere) and on **17 - 24 May** (Southern hemisphere, includes Australia). The theme for 2026 comes from Apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians: *"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling"* (Eph. 4:4). This year the prayers are prepared by the Inter-Church Relations Department of the Armenian Apostolic Church, along with their brothers and sisters of the Armenian Catholic and Evangelical Churches.

In a world with diverse and often divided traditions and expressions of Christian faith, Ephesians 4:4 reminds us that all believers are part of the "one body" of Christ.

**Please note:** Every year in the month of May, an annual Mass attendance count is conducted across the Archdiocese of Brisbane. On the **weekend of 23-24 May**, our parish will be conducting the attendance count by *age groups*. You may be asked to **stand or raise your hand** when your age group is called. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us complete this important count.

## FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST

Saturday 23 May 2026

9.30am to 4.30pm

Church of the 12 Apostles,

111 Yallambee Road, Jindalee

BYO Lunch. Morning Tea Provided.

Enquiries: Len 0421 977 849

Audrey 0435 558 390

secretary@ccrbrisbane.org.au

Speakers: Fr Nev Yun, Pat Keady, Steffanie Le and Len Airey

Coming together as one Current of Grace to praise, pray and be inspired by the Holy Spirit...



### Invitation to the Volunteers' Thanksgiving Mass and Dinner



To thank you for everything you do for our parish, we invite all volunteers to join us for a special Volunteers' Thanksgiving Mass and Dinner. Your time, effort, and support mean so much to our community. Please see the details below.

**Date:** Wednesday, 20 May 2026

**Time:** Holy Mass at 5.30 PM, followed by dinner

**Venue:** John Paul Centre Parish Hall

We kindly ask that you confirm your attendance with the Parish Office at your earliest convenience, if you have not done so.

**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.*

**STOPline** To report 'reportable conduct' under the Archdiocesan Whistleblower Policy email to: aob@stoline.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.cntacar.net.au](mailto:dir.hevybayld@bne.cntacar.net.au)



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