



Hervey Bay Catholic Parish

Phone: 4124 3334
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Email: herveybay@bne.catholic.net.au
Facebook: Hervey Bay Catholic Parish
Address: Bryant St, Pialba Q 4655
PO Box 3250, Hervey Bay Q 4655
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am – 4pm

22nd August / 23rd August 2026

Twenty-First 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

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 22:19-23 | R2: Rom 11:33-36 | G: Mt 16:13-20

Dear Parishioners & Visitors,

The Question We Cannot Avoid: Today's Gospel brings us to a major turning point in our journey with Jesus. Jesus takes His disciples to the region of Caesarea Philippi; a place filled with pagan temples and a massive rock cliff dedicated to the Greek god Pan. Standing in the shadow of these symbols of worldly power and religion, Jesus poses an opinion poll: "*Who do people say the Son of Man is?*" The disciples give the popular answers of the day: John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. The crowds recognized Jesus as someone special, a great teacher, a holy man, a spokesperson for God. But they missed His true identity.

Then, Jesus narrows the focus. He looks directly at them, and He looks directly at us today, asking the most critical question of our lives: "*But who do you say that I am?*" This is not an academic exam. Jesus is not asking what our parents believe, what our parish priest says, or what we read in a book. He is looking for a personal response from the heart.

The Rock and the Keys: Simon steps forward and, inspired by the Holy Spirit, makes his great profession of faith: "*You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*" Jesus praises Simon, noting that this truth was not revealed by human wisdom, but by the Father in heaven. In response, Jesus changes Simon's name to Peter, which means "Rock," and declares, "*Upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.*" Jesus then promises to give Peter "*the keys to the kingdom of heaven.*" This language echoes our First Reading from the prophet Isaiah. God strips the unfaithful master of the palace, Shebna, of his authority and places the key of the House of David onto the shoulders of Eliakim. The key symbolizes authority, stewardship, and the responsibility to care for God's people.

By establishing Peter as the rock and giving him the keys, Jesus ensures that His church will have a visible foundation of unity and truth. Despite human weaknesses, scandals, and the storms of history, Christ promises that His Church will stand because He is the one building it.

Who Do You Say He Is? The question Jesus asked Peter is the same question He asks each of us sitting in the pews today: "*Who do you say that I am?*" It is easy to give the "Sunday school" answer. We can say He is the Saviour, the Lord, or the Son of God. But do our lives reflect that answer? If Jesus is truly the Christ, the anointed King, then He must be the King of our hearts, our families. If He is the Son of the living God, then His words carry absolute authority over our moral choices, our relationships, and our daily actions. We cannot treat Jesus as a routine part of our week or a historical figure we admire from a distance. We are called to make a conscious choice for Him, allowing His grace to change our identity just as He changed Simon's identity into Peter.

Living Our Profession of Faith: Every Sunday, we stand together and profess our faith using the words of the Creed. Let us not recite those words on autopilot. Let this Mass be an opportunity to renew our personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Peace be with you, Fr. Jacob

MASS Times: 17th August to 23rd August 2026

St Joseph's Church Hervey Bay

Monday 8am Mass
 Wednesday 5.30pm Mass
 Thursday 8am Mass
 Friday 8am Mass & Benediction
 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

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

2nd Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

The Pope's Prayer Intention for August

For evangelization in the city: Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

WE PRAY FOR:

THE SICK: Melinda Audesho, Fe Adilan, Marivic Barrameda, Roman Brackowski, 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 Burrow, Maria Ruttman, Marie Fowles, Lisa Wong-Kam, Noel Phillips

RECENTLY DECEASED: Rick Reardon, Helen Andrews (Tully), Di London, Ron Telford, John Welch, Ross Tapsall, Gerald Schrama, Gerry Sharpe, Patricia Mary Eekelschot, Frank Bedford, Samuel Boston

ANNIVERSARY: Beatrice Berecny, Potenciano Baculio, Glenda & Des Govers, Tim Roker, Corazon Quijano, Cyril Entriiken

WE CELEBRATE:

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:

AUGUST WEDDING ANN.: Hugh & Janet McLaughlin 60th anniversary

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

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. We also have catalogue for you to browse. Open each weekend before and after Mass. *EFTPOS available!*

SUNDAY AFTER MASS CUPPA

Please join us in the John Paul Centre for a cuppa after the 9 am Mass this Sunday, 23 August, hosted by Family Group 5. Next Sunday, 30 August, will be hosted by Parish Pastoral Council.

We welcome any groups interested in helping to host our Sunday Morning Tea. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

KNOW YOUR CATECHISM

Q. In what way does the Church participate in the eucharistic sacrifice?

A. In the Eucharist the sacrifice of Christ becomes also the sacrifice of the members of his Body. The lives of the faithful, their praise, their suffering, their prayers, their work, are united to those of Christ. In as much as it is a sacrifice, the Eucharist is likewise offered for all the faithful, living and the dead, in reparation for the sins of all and to obtain spiritual and temporal benefits from God. The Church in heaven is also united to the offering of Christ.

(Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church #281)

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, 24th August 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>Next Meeting September 1st & 3rd Mondays</i>	<i>6pm</i>	<i>Sr Scholly Hall</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>

ST JOSEPH'S YOUTH GROUP | HERVEY BAY

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WHEN: Fortnightly
TIME: Starting 22nd Aug • 3rd Oct • 14th Nov
 5th Sep • 17th Oct • 28th Nov
 19th Sep • 31st Oct • 12th Dec
WHERE: 4pm until 6pm followed by mass at 6pm
WHO: High Schoolers (Years 7-12)
ACTIVITIES: Games, Music, Faith Chats, Food, Outings!

Make New Friends | Grow in Faith | Have Fun!

CONTACT US: 0413 452 832 | Email: youth@stjosephshervybay.org.au | Facebook/Insta: @SJoesYouthHB

**The month of August is dedicated to
The Immaculate Heart of Mary.**

Sisterhood

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Scan for more information



Sunday, 6 September



Live-In Marriage Encounter Weekend

A weekend away from your day-to-day commitments allowing you to focus on your relationship.

Friday 9 Oct – Sunday 11 Oct

Venue: **Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston.**

See www.wwme.org.au

NEWS | Pope at Audience: Sacred music is to glorify God and sanctify the faithful

Pope Leo XIV continued his series of reflections on the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, [Sacrosanctum Concilium](#). This week, he focused on the text's sixth chapter, dedicated to sacred music.

During the catechesis, Pope Leo observed that the Constitution states that "the musical tradition of the universal Church is a treasure of inestimable value, greater even than that of any other art."

Read more on [Vatican News](#).

Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco



We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2027 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Mongolia.

Applications close 31 October 2026 Send us an enquiry on our website: www.cagliero.org.au or via email: lhichaaba@salesians.org.au.

Be blessed and bless others with your gift

The Annual Catholic Campaign shows the power of our local Church. When we unite as one Archdiocesan family through our gifts, we support ministries and people within our own neighbourhoods, reaching those in need, nurturing vocations, and participating in God's own work.



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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.

Our parish now offers **EFTPOS** for added convenience. Parishioners can use this option for **donations** as well as for purchases at the Piety Stall.

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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