



Hervey Bay Catholic Parish

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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

29th August / 30th August 2026

Twenty-Second 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: Jer 20:7-9 | R2: Rom 12:1-2 | G: Mt 16:21:1-2:

Dear Parishioners & Visitors,

The Sudden Shift: Just last week, we witnessed a high point in the Gospels. Simon Peter correctly declared, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus praised and gave him the name "Peter" (the Rock). He was also given the keys to the Kingdom. But today, the narrative takes a sharp, jarring turn. The moment Jesus reveals that His mission involves suffering, rejection, and death in Jerusalem, Peter pulls Him aside to rebuke Him. In an instant, the "Rock" becomes a stumbling block. Jesus delivers a stinging correction: "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

The Human Vision vs. The Divine Mission: Peter's reaction is entirely relatable. He loved Jesus and wanted to protect Him from pain. Human logic tells us to avoid suffering, seek comfort, and secure power. Peter wanted a triumphant Messiah who would overthrow Roman oppression without a drop of His own blood being spilled. However, Jesus reveals an upside-down reality. God's victory does not come through military dominance or political manoeuvring; it comes through self-sacrificing love. When Jesus says, "Get behind me," He is fundamentally resetting the relationship. He is reminding Peter that a disciple's job is not to lead the Master, but to follow behind Him, walking the path the Master sets.

The Cost of Discipleship: Jesus then extends this challenging invitation to all of us: "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." In the ancient world, carrying a cross was not a metaphor for a bad day or a difficult relative. It was the public march of a condemned criminal to their execution. To take up the cross means a total surrender of our self-centred ambitions. Denying oneself is not about destroying our identity but stripping away the ego. It means dethroning ourselves so that Christ can reign. Taking up the cross means accepting the daily sacrifices, vulnerabilities, and trials that come with standing up for truth, mercy, and justice. Following Jesus means trusting that the cross is never the final destination. The road to Jerusalem ends at the hill of Calvary, but it opens up into the empty tomb of the Resurrection.

The Fire Within: We see the emotional weight of this calling in the First Reading. The prophet Jeremiah laments how difficult it is to speak God's truth. He is mocked, rejected, and weary. He even resolved to walk away and speak no more in God's name. Yet, he finds that God's word becomes like a "fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones," which he cannot hold back.

Do Not Conform to This Age: How do we live this out practically? Saint Paul gives us the roadmap in the Second Reading: "Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind." The world tells us that our worth is measured by what we accumulate, how much influence we wield, and how perfectly we avoid discomfort. *True life is not found in grasping, hoarding, or self-preservation, but in being poured out for others.* Every day, we are faced with the choice between human thinking and divine thinking. When we choose forgiveness over revenge, generosity over greed, and humble service over self-promotion, we are taking up our cross.

Peace be with you, Fr. Jacob

MASS Times: 31st August to 6th September 2026

St Joseph's Church Hervey Bay

Monday 8am Mass
 Wednesday 5.30pm Mass
 Thursday 8am Mass
 Friday 8am Mass & Benediction/Adoration
 Saturday 8am Mass with Holy Hour
 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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

2nd Reading: Romans 13:8-18

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

WE PRAY FOR:

THE SICK: Melinda Audesho, Fe Adilan, Marivic Barrameda, Roman Braczowski, 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, 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 Entriken

WE CELEBRATE:

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

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

The Pope's Prayer Intention for September

For the care of water: Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

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, 30 August, hosted by Parish Pastoral Council. Next Sunday, 6 September, will be hosted by El Shaddai.

We welcome any groups interested in helping to host our Sunday Morning Tea, or just bring a plate. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

KNOW YOUR CATECHISM

Q. What are the characteristics of faith?

A. Faith is the supernatural virtue which is *necessary for salvation*. It is a *free gift* of God and is accessible to all who humbly seek it. The act of faith is a *human act*, that is, an act of the intellect of a person - prompted by the will moved by God - who freely assents to divine truth. Faith is also certain because it is founded on the Word of God; it *works* "through charity" (Galatians 5:6); and it *continually grows* through listening to the Word of God and through prayer. It is, even now, a *foretaste* of the joys of heaven. (*Compendium of the CCC* #28)

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, 7th September 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>

Welcome Back, Fr. John!

We are delighted to welcome **Fr. John Grace** back to our parish! Fr John will be looking after our community while Fr Jacob enjoys a well-deserved two-week break.



Generosity Behind the Scenes

Members of Family Group 5 would like to express their heartfelt thanks to the anonymous parishioners who regularly donate delicious treats for Sunday Morning Tea. Your ongoing kindness and generosity help us serve our parish community and ensure there is always enough for everyone to enjoy. Thank you!

"The Church ... earnestly desires that Christ's faithful, when present at this mystery of faith, should not be there as strangers or silent spectators; on the contrary, *through a good understanding of the rites and prayers* they should take part in the sacred action conscious of what they are doing, with devotion and full collaboration."

(Sacrosanctum Concilium, #48)



2026 ANNUAL

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

Our Church • Our Mission • Our Community

Last weekend, our parish held an appeal for the Annual Catholic Campaign in support of the important local ministries in our Archdiocese. Thank you to everyone who responded generously to Archbishop Shane's call for support.

If you didn't get a chance to make a gift last week, there is still time. If you took the envelope home, please pop it in the mail or leave it here on your way out after Mass. You can also give online by scanning the QR code on the envelope, or going to catholiccampaign.com.au.

Your tax-deductible gift will be put straight to work by funding the vital Catholic ministries in our local community.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to approach me after Mass.

Thank you again for your faithfulness and generosity.

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.

The month of September is dedicated to The Seven Sorrows of Mary.



Women of The Way Retreat

9th – 11th October 2026

Redemption Calling - Rejoice!

"I have called you by name.
You are mine."

Isaiah 43 : 1

Watson Park Convention Centre
337 Old Gympie Rd, Dakabin QLD

Contact: Rosa Montegrando 0400 755 516
Women of The Way: wowqld@gmail.com

Registration Closing Date: Friday 25th September

For tickets and more information:

<https://app.tickets.org.au/WOW/WOW>

CATHOLIC MISSION

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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

St Joseph's Youth Group

Next Youth Group gathering:

Saturday, 5 September 2026, 4 PM

(For High Schoolers Years 7-12)

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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Email: 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

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