



Hervey Bay Catholic Parish

Phone: 4124 3334
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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

24th October / 25th October 2026

Thirtieth 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 Mijunen

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: Ex 22:20-26 | R2: 1 Thess 1:5-10 | G: Mt 22:34-40

Dear Parishioners & Visitors,

The Heart of the Law: In today's Gospel from Matt. 22:34-40, we find Jesus once again navigating a political and religious minefield. The religious leaders of Israel, who were often bitter enemies among themselves have joined forces to try and trap Him. A scholar of the law steps forward with a question that was fiercely debated in the ancient rabbinic schools: "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" Faced with 613 precepts in the Torah, this wasn't just a theological trivia question. It was a test to see if Jesus would minimise one part of God's law over another. But Jesus does something revolutionary. He does not choose just one. Instead, He joins two separate texts from the Old Testament: the Shema from Deuteronomy and a holiness code from Leviticus. In doing so, He reveals that you cannot truly have one without the other.

The Vertical Dimension: Loving God Entirely. The Shema, the foundational prayer of Israel: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." With all your heart. This is the seat of our desires and will. To love God with our heart means He is not a Sunday obligation, but the emotional anchor of our lives. With all your soul. This encompasses our life force and identity. It means recognizing that we belong completely to Him. With all your mind. Our intellect, our thoughts, and our worldview must be filtered through His truth. To love God "with all" leaves no room for compartmentalization. It calls us to enter prayer with a posture of total surrender, acknowledging that we have nothing to prove to a Father who already loves us perfectly.

The Horizontal Dimension: Jesus immediately connects the first commandment to a second: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." He declares that the entire law and the prophets hang on these two hinges. Our first reading from Exodus 22:22-26 gives this horizontal dimension of love. God warns the Israelites never to molest or oppress the foreigner, the widow, the orphan, or the poor. Why? Because they themselves were once foreigners in Egypt. In Christian theology, love is not merely a warm feeling; it is a command acted upon. Our neighbour is not just the person living next door or someone who shares our culture. Our neighbour is anyone vulnerable, marginalized, or placed in our path who needs our protection and care.

The Two Hinges of the Cross. We cannot genuinely claim to love God (vertical) if we disregard the suffering of those around us (horizontal). Conversely, humanitarian effort (horizontal) detached from God (vertical) risks burning out or losing its transcendent purpose. The perfect synthesis of this vertical and horizontal love is found on the Cross of Jesus Christ. The vertical beam points upward, symbolizing Christ's absolute obedience and love for the Father. The horizontal beam stretches outward, embracing a broken humanity with outstretched arms.

Living the Commandment. As St. John the Apostle famously reminded his disciples in his old age, if we simply master the command to love one another, it is enough. This week, let us look at our lives through the lens of the Cross. How can we deepen our personal relationship with God in quiet prayer? Simultaneously, who is the "foreigner, widow, or orphan" in our modern world, the lonely coworker, the struggling family member, the marginalized stranger, that God is asking us to love in concrete action?

Peace be with you, Fr. Jacob

MASS Times: 26th October to 1st November 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

All Saints

1st Reading: Apocalypse 7:2-4, 9-14

2nd Reading: St John 3:1-3

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-12

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, John Wilson, Tony & Janette Davies, Linda Sharpe, Joy Smith, Sr Layola, Marilyn Baldwin, Ruby Magrata, Jennifer Burrow, Maria Ruttiman, Marie Fowles, Lisa Wong-Kam, Maree Van Lierop, Benji Fisher, Karl Jackson, Ron Trevillion, Geoff Lorne

RECENTLY DECEASED: Ron Telford, John Welch, Ross Tapsall, Gerald Schrama, Gerry Sharpe, Patricia Mary Eekelschot, Frank Bedford, Samuel Boston, Christine Adams, Daniel (Dan) Gleeson, Nigel Cairns, Sue Cavanagh, Robert Devine, Kevin Clinton Coolie, Terry Murphy, Alan Peart, Alceste Odorico, Petrus van der Lierop, Estelle Renard

ANNIVERSARY: Tony Cavanagh, Ophelia Lamban, Alf Petersen, Kathleen Scotton, Jennie Carthew, Bob Cavanagh, Claire White, Abigail Frivaldo, Bob Bischof.

WE CELEBRATE:

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

OCTOBER WEDDING ANN.: John & Stella Newlands 53rd Anniversary

The Pope's Prayer Intention for October

For mental health ministry: Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

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, 25 October, hosted by the PPC. Next Sunday, 1 November, will be hosted by El Shaddai.

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

November: Month for all Faithful Departed

The whole Church will be praying for all faithful departed in November. Please submit the names of your departed loved ones so we can pray for them.

November Mass Offering envelopes are available on the Church Newsstand and from the Parish Office.

PARISH MORNING TEA

Please join us on **Thursday 29 October 2026, at 9.30 am**, at **Poppies** located at the **RSL**. All are welcome!

GOD'S WORD

God's Word

2027



God's Word 2027

God's Word for year 2027 is ready for order. The Order sheets are available at the entrance of the Church for you to add your name and contact number. **Please place your order by 25 October.**

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 2nd November</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>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>

Governance Renewal: Working together in the mission of the Gospel

The Archdiocese of Brisbane is introducing a renewed, collaborative leadership model to strengthen relationships among Catholic organisations and elevate our combined capacity to serve the mission of the Church in south-east Queensland.

Central to this enhanced model is a new Council of Vicars. Its members will be skilled and knowledgeable leaders across the areas of Health, Social Services, Education, Pastoral Mission, Clergy, Religious and Administration who will coordinate and encourage information sharing, advocacy and stewardship across Catholic agencies in their respective fields. Recruitment for these part-time, executive-level roles is currently underway.

Read more about the new collaborative leadership model on [the Archdiocese of Brisbane website](#).

Pastoral Care in Hospitals

Centacare is seeking people interested in volunteering once each week to provide pastoral and spiritual care to Catholic patients in our public hospitals in our strongly established teams. The people we are seeking must have a qualification or significant background in a human service discipline with some level of formal theological training. If you are retired, or semi-retired from such a career, in very good health and have one morning per week available for a most rewarding volunteer role in the spirit of the Gospel, please talk further with me with no obligation.

E: judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au Mob: 0428 669 572



The new RCIA class begins 28 October

Classes are held every Wednesday at 6 pm

Tommasi Meeting Room, St Joseph's Church



Last Sunday, October 18, our parish community came together to celebrate a truly special milestone. Beloved long-time parishioner Isabel Grabbe was presented with a birthday cake as she marked her 99th birthday. We thank Isabel for her enduring presence in our parish family and wish her God's continued blessings of good health and joy in the year ahead.

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 October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary.

MASS OF COMMEMORATION

The Ministry of Consolation's annual Mass of Commemoration will be held on **Saturday, 7 November at 9 am**. All are welcome to attend.

We recognise that grief has no time limit, and every loved one deserves to be remembered. Anyone who has lost a loved one is welcome to register their name, whether their loved one lived in our Parish, elsewhere in Australia or anywhere in the world.

Each person registered will receive a commemorative bookmark bearing their loved one's name, which they can place on the Tree of Remembrance as we remember and pray for our loved ones together.

Please give names to Ministry members at Mass or submit them to the Parish Office by **Tuesday, 27 October**.



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And if you chose to become a Mission Partner with a monthly gift - thank you so much for your ongoing commitment.

Thank you again for your compassion, and please keep this impactful work in your prayers.

Season of Creation Recycling Drive

Please continue to bring your containers (*marked '10c'*) to the parish this weekend instead of letting them go to waste – our bins are placed outside the Parish Office. We appreciate your support toward the environment and our parish! This Campaign will end on 1 November.

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
PH: 4194 6155
Email: dir.hevybayld@bne.cntacar.net.au

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