

17th October / 18th October 2026

Twenty-Ninth 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 45:1,4-6 | R2: 1 Thess 1:1-5 | G: Mt 22:15-21

Dear Parishioners & Visitors,

The Gospel of this Sunday (Matthew 22:15-21) presents us with one of the most famous encounters in Scripture. The Pharisees and Herodians join forces to trap Jesus with a clever question: "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" If Jesus says yes, he alienates the Jewish people who hate Roman rule. If he says no, he can be arrested for treason against the Roman Empire. Jesus masterfully eludes the trap by asking to see a Roman coin. He looks at the image stamped on it and asks, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They reply, "Caesar's." Jesus then delivers his immortal principle: "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." This teaching goes far deeper than a simple lesson on tax compliance or the separation of church and state. Jesus is establishing a hierarchy of ownership and allegiance.

The Image Stamped on the Soul: The Roman denarius bore the image and likeness of the emperor Tiberius Caesar. Because his image was stamped onto the metal, the coin legally belonged to him. By analogy, Jesus asks a silent, profound question of his listeners: What bears the image and likeness of God? The book of Genesis provides the answer: human beings are created in the image and likeness of God. Therefore, while money, infrastructure, and civic obedience may belong to the state, your entire being; your heart, your soul, your mind, and your life, belongs exclusively to God. We are called to be good citizens of our earthly nations, but our ultimate, undivided allegiance belongs to the Kingdom of Heaven.

God Works Through the Secular World: This reality is echoed beautifully in the first reading from Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6. God speaks of Cyrus, the pagan King of Persia, calling him His "anointed." Cyrus did not know the God of Israel, yet God used this secular ruler to liberate the Jewish people from the Babylonian exile and rebuild the Temple. This reminds us that God is the absolute sovereign over all history. Earthly authorities, whether they acknowledge God or not, operate within the boundaries of His divine providence. We must respect legitimate civil authority, pray for our leaders, and contribute to the common good of our communities. However, the moment an earthly authority demands something that violates the law of God, we must choose to obey God rather than human dictates.

Living Our Baptismal Mission: In the second reading, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, Saint Paul commends the community for their "work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope." They did not live their faith in secret; they allowed the Holy Spirit to transform how they lived within their society. As Christians, we cannot withdraw from the world or live with divided hearts. We cannot be saints at the altar on Sunday and dishonest citizens in the marketplace on Monday. To give to God what belongs to God means to let Him claim every square inch of our lives; our families, our finances, our politics, and our careers.

When we look into the mirror, we must remember whose image we bear. We do not belong to the cultures, the political parties, or the financial systems of this world. We belong to God. Let us return ourselves to Him completely, offering Him our full devotion, trust, and love.

Peace be with you, Fr. Jacob

MASS Times: 19th October to 25th October 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

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Exodus 22:20-26

2nd Reading: Thessalonians 1:5-10

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

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 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

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

WE CELEBRATE:

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

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

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, 18 October, hosted by the Health Care with Christ. Next Sunday, 25 October, will be hosted by the PPC.

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.

KNOW YOUR CATECHISM

Q. Can the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity be known by the light of human reason alone?

A. God has left some traces of his trinitarian being in creation and in the Old Testament but his inmost being as the Holy Trinity is a mystery which is inaccessible to reason alone or even to Israel's faith before the Incarnation of the Son of God and the sending of the Holy Spirit. This mystery was revealed by Jesus Christ and it is the source of all the other mysteries. (Compendium of the CCC #45)

GOD'S WORD



God's Word 2027

God's Word for year 2027 is now ready for order. The Order sheets is available at the entrance of the Church for you to add your name and contact number. Cost \$15/book to be paid on collection.

PARISH GROUPS

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 19th October</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>John Paul Centre</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>

Happenings last weekend ...



Our Parish Family Groups celebrated their 20th Anniversary on 11 October. May they continue to build Christian community through the development of extended families.



On 10 October, little Esther Jimmy (left) received her First Holy Communion; while Alexandar Cain (right) received the Sacraments of Initiation. We congratulate them.



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**.



FUNERAL NOTICE



A Requiem Mass will be held here at St Joseph's Church on

**Monday, 19 October 2026
at 11.00 am**

for our dear brother

Petrus Maria van Lierop

All are invited to gather in prayer and commend his soul to God's loving mercy.



Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School newsletter for Term 4 is available via the link below:

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/wbcRwc5Hhk2gADnG?ref=Link>

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

"The only thing death cannot touch is everything we have loved."



The Ministry of Consolation is offering support to those grieving the loss of a loved one. Reach out to Gary Varley on 0497 970 365.

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

**World Mission Sunday
18 October 2026**



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/united

This weekend, our parish is participating in the Catholic Mission Church appeal. Donation envelopes available. Please give generously.

To learn more about Catholic Mission and our work, please go to catholicmission.org.au/united.

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!

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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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