Hervey Bay Catholic Parish

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

14th November / 15th November 2026 *Thirty-Third 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: Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 | R2: 1 Thess 5:1-6 | G: Mt 25:14-30

Dear Parishioners & Visitors,

As we draw near to the end of the Church's liturgical year, our readings take on a sense of urgency and purpose. We are reminded that our time on earth is a precious gift, and one day, the Master will return. Yet, the Gospel today does not ask us to sit idly by watching the clock. Instead, Jesus tells us the Parable of the Talents to show us exactly how we are meant to live while we wait.

The Weight of the Gift: In the ancient world, a single talent was not just a small coin; it was an immense sum of wealth, equivalent to roughly twenty years of wages for a common labourer. When the master in the parable hands out five talents to one servant, two to another, and one to the last, he is entrusting them with an extraordinary fortune. In the same way, God has entrusted each of us with immense spiritual wealth — our faith, our time, our unique abilities, and our capacity to love. Notice that the master does not give everyone the exact same amount. He gives to each "according to his ability." God never demands from us what we do not have, nor does He compare our output to our neighbour's. The servant who doubled his two talents received the exact same praise as the servant who doubled his five: "*Well done, my good and faithful servant. Come, share your master's joy.*"

The Trap of Fear: The tragedy of the story lies with the third servant. Why did he dig a hole in the ground and hide his master's silver? He admits it himself: "*Out of fear, I went off and buried your talent in the ground.*" Fear is the greatest enemy of Christian discipleship. When we view God as a harsh, demanding judge rather than a generous Father, we become spiritually paralysed. We play it safe. We keep our faith private, so we won't be criticised. We hold back from forgiving others, so we won't get hurt again. We cling to our time and resources because we worry there won't be enough left for us. In trying to protect what we have, we bury it — and a buried gift produces no life.

Active, Generous Love: Our first reading from the Book of Proverbs gives us a vivid picture of what the opposite of fear looks like. The "worthy wife" or "woman of valour" does not hide her gifts. She works with willing hands, manages her household with wisdom, and reaches out generously to the poor and the needy. Her holiness is not abstract; it is woven into her daily work, her courage, and her compassion. As St Paul reminds the Thessalonians, we are "*children of the light and children of the day*". Staying awake for the Lord's return does not mean living in anxiety. It means living in the light—putting our faith into concrete action right where we are planted.

This week, let us ask ourselves honestly: *What have I buried in the ground?* Perhaps it is a reconciliation you have been putting off, a talent you have been too hesitant to offer to your parish or community, or simply the courage to speak kindly about your faith to someone who is struggling. God has placed a fortune in your hands. Do not let fear keep it locked away. Invest your love, your patience, and your gifts boldly.

Peace be with you, Fr. Jacob

MASS Times: 16th November to 22nd November 2026

St Joseph's Church Hervey Bay

Monday	8am Mass
Wednesday	5.30pm Liturgy of the Word
Thursday	8am Liturgy of the Word
Friday	8am Liturgy of the Word
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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

1st Reading: Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28
Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: 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, Carmen Xerri

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

WE CELEBRATE:

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

NOVEMBER WEDDING ANN.:



God's Word 2027

For those who had placed an order, the 2027 edition of God's Word is available and ready to be collected from the parish office during the week.
Cost: $15.00 per copy.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for November

For the proper use of wealth: Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service of the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

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, 15 November, hosted by Indian Community. Next Sunday, 22 November will be hosted by Family Group 5.

Know Your Catechism

Q. How did God create the universe?

A. God created the universe freely with wisdom and love. The world is not the result of any necessity, nor of blind fate, nor of chance. God created "out of nothing" (*ex nihilo*) (2 Maccabees 7:28) a world which is ordered and good and which he infinitely transcends. God preserves his creation in being and sustains it, giving it the capacity to act and leading it towards its fulfillment through his Son and the Holy Spirit. *(Compendium of the CCC #53)*

PARISH GROUPS	Meeting:	Time	Place
Legion of Mary	*Mondays*	*8.45am*	*Sr Scholly Hall*
St Vincent de Paul	*Monday 16th November*	*3pm*	*Sr Scholly Hall*
Ministry of Consolation	*1st Tuesday of each month*	*2pm*	*Sr Scholly Hall*
Parish Craft Group	*1st Wednesday of each month*	*9am*	*John Paul Centre*
Charismatic *Prayer & Praise*	*1st & 3rd Mondays*	*6pm*	*Sr Scholly Hall*
Cenacle *"Divine Mercy"*	*Thursdays*	*9am*	*Sr Scholly Hall*
Cenacle of Prayer *(Immaculate Heart of Mary)*	*Fridays (No meeting on the 1st Friday of the month)*	*8.30am*	*MacKillop Library*
El Shaddai	*Saturdays*	*1pm*	*John Paul Centre*
Health Care with Christ	*4th Sunday of the month*	*10.30am*	*Sr Scholly Hall*
Kids Club - grades 1-8	*1st & 3rd Sundays of the month* ***(school term only)***	*10.30am*	*Sr Scholly Hall*

Dates confirmed for International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney

THE 54TH INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028 SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Catholics can officially mark their calendars for the next International Eucharistic Congress, with its Secretary General Bishop Richard Umbers announcing the major gathering will take place in Sydney from **24 September to 1 October 2028**.

A theological symposium will precede the congress from 20–22 September for those wanting what the bishop describes as a theological "deep dive" into the Blessed Sacrament.

Named **Eucharist28** by organisers, this will be the 54th International Eucharistic Congress. It has been hosted twice in Australia already: in Sydney in 1928, and Melbourne in 1973.

Last year Pope Leo XIV chose the theme "This is My Body, Given for You", taken from the account of Jesus Christ's Last Supper with his disciples.

Harvest Journeys has been appointed the official group travel operator for Eucharist28, with plans to assist Australian and international dioceses, parishes, schools, communities and movements travelling to the congress.

Source: CathNews.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit Workshop

Presented by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Brisbane Mission Team

- Held on: **21 November, 9am – 4.30pm**, St Joseph's Catholic Church, Pialba

Programme

- ***Introduction to the Charismatic Gifts / Encountering the Holy Spirit.***
- ***The power to say: Gifts of Prophecy, Prayer Tongues and Tongues & Interpretation.***
- ***The power to know: Gifts of Knowledge, Wisdom and Discernment of Spirits.***
- ***The power to do: Gifts of Faith, Healing and Miracles.***

Morning and afternoon tea provided. Bring a plate to share during lunch.

Donations gratefully accepted to help defray costs. Enquiries: Martin Costigan (0402 821 959) and Anne Costigan (0412 348 090).

PLANTS FOR SALE | Stop by the **Parish Office** to purchase lovingly tended plants grown by our parishioners. All proceeds directly support the church maintenance fund. Come take a look and find your next favourite plant!

The month of November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

November: Month for all Faithful Departed

The whole Church will be praying for all the faithful departed in November. Please submit the names of your departed loved ones so we can pray for them. Please use the **November Mass Offering envelopes,** which are available on the Church Newsstand and from the Parish Office.



On Wednesday 11 November, St Joseph's Parish celebrated the Red November Mass, praying for and acting in solidarity with 300 million Christians persecuted for their faith. The church was lit in red, a symbol of the sacrifice and suffering of modern day martyrs. Since it was also Remembrance Day, parishioners also remembered and prayed for those who have died giving their lives to defend peace and freedom. Thank you to all who attended!

NOTICE

Please be informed that Fr Jacob will be away on **17 – 20 November** for a retreat. There will be no Mass – only Liturgy of the Word without Communion. All are welcome to pray together.



The Way of the Heart - Daily Reflections for Advent 2026

The new Advent reflection resource is available for pre-order. The Order sheets is available at the entrance of the Church for you to add your name and contact number. Cost $5/book to be paid on collection.

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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