

# Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Rockhampton

## Reflection from Pope Francis



## Friday 7 May 2021

I know we will continue to hold the people of India in our prayers as they experience so much loss and suffering as a result of the Pandemic. We pray that they will receive the medical assistance and support they need to save lives and heal the sick and that the pace of vaccinations will increase to slow the rapid spread of COVID-19.

I was delighted to be in the far west this week visiting our Catholic Primary School communities in Longreach, Blackall and Barcardine. My sincere thanks to Tanya Lambley (Principal Our Lady's, Longreach), Samantha Suthers (Principal St Joseph's, Blackall) and Annie Wachtel (Principal St Joseph's, Barcardine) and the staff and students in their respective school communities for the very warm welcome I received. It was quite uplifting to see the countryside looking so lush and green and a joy to experience such wonderful hospitality in these vibrant and faith-filled school communities.

Whilst in Longreach, I attended a reception luncheon for Queensland Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk and had the opportunity to meet and speak with Queensland Minister for Education, Grace Grace MP during her visit to Our Lady's. It was pleasing to be able to show the Minister the excellent new facilities and significant upgrades to the school and how well the improvements are being utilised. Congratulations to Our Lady's school community for being such wonderful ambassadors for Catholic Education.

By now schools will have received a [link](#) to the music video for John Burland's song *Mary Help of Christians*, which will feature in our upcoming Diocesan Mass on May 24 celebrating 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia. Schools may wish to share the video with their communities to assist in learning the song in preparation for the Mass which will be live streamed from St Joseph's Cathedral commencing at 12 noon on that day. Bishop Michael will be presiding and all schools are warmly invited to join and participate in celebrating this most significant milestone in the history of Catholic Education in Australia.

Beef 2021 concludes tomorrow having gained wide acclaim as a tremendously successful event. It was great to see Rockhampton buzzing with activity as the city welcomed thousands of visitors to Beef 2021. Leaders and stakeholders from every sector of the beef industry were present for the event with Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk also paying a visit. Congratulations to members of our school communities and their families who participated and contributed to ensuring such an outstanding event.

I would like to especially commend the students from The Cathedral College who had the honour of leading the Parade of Champions at Beef 2021. Special commendation also to the St Paul's Catholic Primary School Judging Team who participated in the junior judging events after only recently commencing their training. The team looked resplendent in their blazers and were excellent representatives for St Paul's and for Catholic Education.

I would like to wish all mothers a very happy Mother's Day this Sunday. We thank God for the gift of our mothers and we pray that all mothers will continue to receive God's blessings in abundance.

God bless,

*Leesa*



L-R: Tim Collins (AD Schools: Western Region), Leesa, students from Our Lady's, Hon Grace Grace MP Minister for Education and Tanya Lambley (Principal Our Lady's) in Longreach.

To be friends with God means to pray with simplicity, like children talking to their parents.

Please remember in your prayers those members of our extended Catholic Education Family who are recently deceased.

Ann Collings, mother of Pauline Merefield, teacher St Joseph's, Bundaberg.

Please remember in your prayers those members of our extended Catholic Education Family who are unwell.

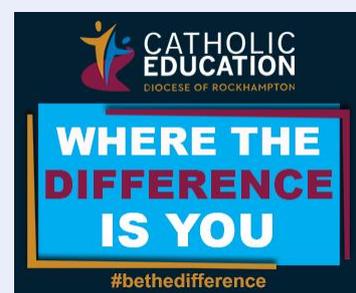
Kevin Kenny, father of Natalie Kingston, teacher Sacred Heart, Yeppoon.

Phil McDonald, mother of Neil McDonald, CEO Rockhampton.

**Where's Leesa:** Monday 10 May – Thursday 13 May, Office; Friday 14 May, Youth Pilgrimage The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.



**Nominations for the 2021 Spirit of Catholic Education Awards close this Sunday 9 May at 5:00pm.** The awards are presented during Catholic Education Week and aim to recognize those who are making an outstanding contribution within their Catholic education community (view promo video [here](#)). Information is available via the CEO Staff Portal and nominations should be submitted [online](#) through the Catholic Education Week website.



**St Joseph's Catholic Kindergarten, Biloela.** Pictured left are St Joseph's Kindy students attending their local Thangool ANZAC Day Memorial Service. The students marched with their parents and then laid their own handmade wreath which they had prepared at Kindy as part of their ANZAC Day activities.

**Employment opportunities:**

**Classroom Teacher (Year 3) St John's Catholic Primary School, Gladstone.** Applications close Monday 10 May 2021.

**Junior English and HPE Teachers Holy Spirit College, Mackay.** Applications close Monday 10 May 2021.

**Catherine McAuley College, Mackay Secondary Teachers and Middle Leader Positions commencing January 2022.** Applications are now open for foundation staff for our new College in various subject areas. For further information and to complete an online application visit our website. Applications close Friday 14 May 2021.

**Teacher, Religious Education Holy Spirit College, Mackay.** Applications close Friday 21 May 2021.

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**Junior Mathematics /HPE /Industrial Technology /Legal Studies Teachers Marist College, Emerald.** Applications close Monday 31 May 2021.

**Experienced and Graduate Teachers.** Applications are now open for full-time teaching positions for the 2022 school year. Applications close Sunday 11 July 2021.

For further information and to apply please click [here](#)

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**The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.**

TCC students placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Charbray Society School Judging Competition at Beef 2021 and were also selected to lead the Parade of Champions.



**St Paul's Catholic Primary School, Gracemere.**

The St Paul's Judging team competed in their very first event at Beef 2021 after only commencing training last term. Teams from Years 5 and 6 (pictured below) competed in the Team Judging Event and 21 students competed in the Individual event.

