

# Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Rockhampton

## Reflection from Pope Francis



In this time of pandemic, the Tokyo Olympics are a sign of hope, a sign of universal brotherhood marked by a healthy competitive spirit.

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

**Charlie Prestipino** father of Rose Bolton, St Patrick's College, Mackay.

**Eddie Morrison**, stepfather of Kerrie Tennyson, and grandfather of Kelson Tennyson, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Park Avenue.

**Trevor Hamilton**, father of Sylvia Hamilton, The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

**Peter Reynolds**, father of Rhonda Rayner, The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.



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

**Khiana Blakey**, Year 8 Holy Spirit College, Mackay and daughter of Allison Blakey, Principal MacKillop Catholic Primary School, Mackay.

## Friday 6 August 2021

Good morning everyone

Sunday (August 8) marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop following her canonisation in October 2010. As co-founder of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, the first congregation to originate in Australia, St Mary and her Sisters were dedicated to their mission of providing Catholic education to the children of the poor and needy and outreach to the underprivileged. We, in Catholic Education in this diocese, are among the many beneficiaries of Mary MacKillop's remarkable life and tireless advocacy for educating children. We give praise and thanks for the gift of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph. May their inspirational example be a constant guide for all of us working to continue their legacy.

I have very much enjoyed hearing of the great celebrations and activities last week during Catholic Education Week. My heartfelt thanks to all those responsible for planning and preparing such an array of meaningful and uplifting events.

My congratulations to Mrs Kellie Jenkinson (Principal St Joseph's Wandal) on her appointment as Assistant Director: Mission for Catholic Education. Kellie is an experienced Primary Principal and APRE and has demonstrated that she is a caring and compassionate leader dedicated to ensuring that the person of Jesus remains at the heart of school life. Kellie brings great knowledge of the Enhancing Catholic School Identity Project (ECSI) to the role and has a strongly relational leadership style. I know you will join with me in warmly congratulating Kellie on her appointment to the Leadership Team for Catholic Education. I also once again convey a very sincere thanks to Di-Anne Rowan who has fulfilled the role of Assistant Director: Mission in an exemplary manner over the past almost 20 years and wish her every blessing for the future.

Congratulations to Anthony Greene (Principal St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Allentown) on his appointment as Principal of St Paul's Catholic Primary School, Gracemere commencing in 2022. An experienced leader in Catholic schools, Anthony is highly regarded by the communities he has served as a caring, people-focused leader with a strong commitment to quality teaching and learning. I also take this opportunity to thank Patricia Adair for the excellent faith-filled leadership of St Paul's over the past 14 years and we wish Tricia and her family every blessing into the future.

I extend a warm congratulations to the priests of the diocese marking Jubilee milestones being celebrated today at the Presbyteral Jubilee Mass at St Joseph's Cathedral in Rockhampton. Restrictions prevented celebrations last year, hence Jubilees for 2020 and 2021 are being commemorated. Celebrating 50 years in the priesthood are Monsignor John Grace (2020), Fr John Daly (2020), Fr Warren Kinne ssc (2020), Fr Bryan Hanifin (2021) and Fr John Hayes (2021). Congratulations also to Fr Don White who celebrated 30 years as a priest in 2020. On behalf of all in Catholic Education I thank with heartfelt appreciation, all our Jubilarians for their extraordinary priestly service and for the great pastoral and practical support provided to our Catholic school communities. We pray that God will bless each of you abundantly as you continue to live out your vocational call.

I wish to thank all in our school communities for the united response to the heightened COVID alert we are currently experiencing in Queensland due to recent outbreaks. Whilst we have so far been spared the extended disruptions experienced in the southeast corner and in other states, we remain vigilant in our efforts to keep our communities safe. My heartfelt thanks for the cooperation of all staff for modifying or cancelling plans, for ensuring readiness to shift to *Learning from Home* if needed and for your diligence in following necessary requirements and health and safety advice. The situation and the required response can change very quickly and reports through social media as well as traditional news services can be misleading. Queensland Health is the authority we take our direction and advice from, and I seek your cooperation in abiding by their instruction.

As we come to the final days of the Olympic Games our Australian team has delivered some truly memorable competition moments. In the basketball this week, past Holy Spirit College student from Mackay, Marianna Tolo, played outstandingly for the Opals against Peru to ensure medal contention. There are many more inspirational stories of commitment, dedication, sacrifice, and we extend our best wishes to all members of our Australian team for a successful completion to the Games and a safe trip home.

God bless,

*Leesa*

Where's Leesa:  
Monday 9 to Friday 13 August, Office.

# Catholic Education CELEBRATING 200 YEARS

*Faith in the future*

**History Snippet:** In 1958 the Parish Priest of Capella wrote to Bishop Tynan requesting a school as there were 62 Catholic children at the State School. Meanwhile the expanding north side of Rockhampton had seen churches open in Frenchville (1955) and Rockonia (1958). On the occasion of each opening a school was hoped for but never eventuated. A school bus was organized instead to take 105 children from these areas to Koongal and St Mary's where new buildings had been provided. In 1960 land was purchased in Feez Street, now the site of St Anthony's Catholic Primary School.

**Congratulations to Harry Atterbury, Marist College Emerald, Central Queensland Vocational Student of the Year (Certificate III – Remote Pilot, Visual Line of Sight).** The Queensland Training Awards are the most prestigious and longest running training sector awards program in the state. The awards seek to value vocational education and training and showcase best practice in training and innovation. Marist College, Emerald has used the college drone program to partner with the local Central Highlands Council. Students are filming and logging the roof lines of all Council buildings to assist in the logistics to support installation of solar panels.



**Congratulations to MacKillop Catholic Primary School, Mackay, celebrating 25 years of quality Catholic Education this year.**



Please click on the following link to listen to Natalie McCosker's Podcast interview with Maree Lacey (Communications and Marketing Manager) QCEC. Click [here](#)

**Did you know?** All our primary schools and colleges within Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton enjoy very fast and reliable data speeds. Some schools are over 1000km from the nearest metropolitan area. The medium data speed in our schools is 700 times faster than that of some other Education sectors in Queensland. This privileged position provides unlimited capabilities for schools to focus on teaching and learning, ensuring seamless participation at NAPLAN time, during classroom teaching, and for the distribution of software and teaching tools.

### Catholic Church and Network Ten mark a 50-year milestone.

The longest running program on Australian commercial television, *Mass for You at Home*, celebrated 50 years on our screens last Sunday 1 August. It is now produced by the Wollongong Diocese, in partnership with the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. *Mass for You at Home* airs on Network Ten every Sunday at 6:00am across Australia and is also available online via 10 Play and the *Mass for You at Home* website. Find out more at [www.massforyou.com.au](http://www.massforyou.com.au)



## Employment opportunities

**Assistant Principal: Religious Education St Benedict's Catholic Primary School, Yeppoon** commencing 2022. Applications close 13 August 2021.

**Classroom Teacher, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Blackall** commencing 3 October 2021. Applications close 15 August 2021.

**Indigenous Education Liaison Officer (School Based) Shalom College, Bundaberg** commencing immediately. Applications close 16 August 2021.

**For further information, additional vacancies and to apply please click [here](#)**

### Congratulations to:

**Kellie Jenkinson** on her appointment as Assistant Director: Mission, Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton commencing 2022.

**Anthony Greene** on his appointment as Principal, St Paul's Catholic Primary School, Gracemere commencing 2022.

**Matthew Hodge** on his appointment as Deputy Principal, Chanel College, Gladstone commencing 2022.

**Katie Gould** on her appointment as Assistant Principal: Curriculum at St Anthony's Catholic Primary School, North Rockhampton commencing 2022.

**Lisa O'Brien** on her appointment as Assistant Principal: Religious Education at St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School, Gladstone commencing 2022.

**Christopher Apelt** on his appointment as Assistant Principal: Teaching and Learning, Catherine McAuley College, Mackay commencing 2022.



# CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

*Some Catholic Education Week Celebrations from our Kindergartens, Primary Schools and Colleges*

St Francis Tannum Sands



Emmanuel Kindergarten Mackay



St Joseph's Kindergarten Blackall



St Joseph's Biloela



Mercy College Mackay



Our Lady's Longreach



St Mary's Bundaberg



St John's Walkerston



Emmaus College North Rockhampton

Dear God,

We are very grateful for all that the Catholic Education Diocese has done for past and present students attending their schools. Providing a valuable education for all of us to remember and pass on to future generations, while enlightening us with the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Help us to acknowledge all that they have done, are doing and will do for teachers, staff and students. Help us to portray an example of 'a spirited tomorrow' for us today.

May your love speak to our hearts, helping us to grow with the knowledge that our schools give us, both the knowledge of the Catholic faith and the knowledge taught in our subjects.

We make this prayer through Jesus, our Lord and teacher.

Amen.



*Written by Isobella (Year 9)*

Star of the Sea Gladstone



St Therese's Monto

