

Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

Reflection from Pope Francis



Pessimism and complaining are not Christian. We were not made to be downcast, but to look up to heaven.

Please remember in your prayers recently deceased those members of our extended Catholic education.

Alma Campbell, mother of John, CEO and mother-in-law of Deb Campbell, Sacred Heart, Yeppoon.

Jayden Nolan, stepson of Dominic Venables, Emmanuel Catholic Primary School, Mackay.

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

Mick Holmes, husband of Linda Holmes, APC St Anne's Catholic Primary School, Sarina.

Daniel McIntosh, son of Chris McIntosh, The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

The Season of Lent commences next Wednesday, 2 March Ash Wednesday.



Friday 25 February 2022

Good morning everyone

I was delighted to have the opportunity to catch up with our Religious Education Leaders in schools this week as they gathered via Zoom for regional cluster meetings. Discussions included progressing the revised Religious Education Curriculum, establishing Catholic Identity Teams in schools, staff formation, and mapping Social Justice activities and opportunities. As we prepare for this year's Bishop's Inservice Day which will focus on the *Religious Life of the School*, it was wonderful to hear of the creative, energetic, and faith-filled evangelization happening in our school communities.

The latest [Curriculum Newsletter](#) is filled with a wealth of engaging, contemporary and relevant resources for teachers and staff to peruse across all areas of the curriculum. The Newsletter also details significant professional learning opportunities and excellent student competitions and challenges. I highly recommend the Newsletter which is regularly posted to the Catholic Education Curriculum Site accessible through the Staff Portal under Teaching and Learning. My sincere thanks to Carmel Kriz (Assistant Director: Teaching and Learning) and the Curriculum team for their work in sourcing and reviewing this high-quality material and for collating such a valuable resource for our schools.

I extend heartfelt congratulations to Brad Jarro (Indigenous Education Coordinator) on his appointment to the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation (QATSIF) Board of Advice. Administered by the Public Trustee, QATSIF provides annual scholarships for Year 11 and 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students throughout Queensland funded through interest accrued from the Stolen Wages Policy. Brad's extensive knowledge, integrity and great wisdom will undoubtedly be of significant benefit to the Board in its discernment processes and we offer Brad our best wishes as he undertakes this very significant role.

This year, due to pandemic restrictions, alternative arrangements have been made for the Year 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commencement Celebrations and will take a different format to accommodate the current circumstances. A video package is being produced and will be distributed to colleges to assist with coordinating Liturgy celebrations to be held within college communities. Thank you to Brad Jarro and the Indigenous Education team for their innovation and work in collating a meaningful alternative to our usual celebration.

Each month, the Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton publishes the Diocesan News highlighting many of the wonderful happenings around the diocese. There are many uplifting stories of service and outreach as well as updates on various projects and ministries that many of us would not be aware of. I invite you to subscribe to the publication through the [diocesan website](#) and highly recommend taking the time to scroll through the articles as a wonderful way to build and strengthen our ties with our parish communities.

The United Nations' World Day of Social Justice was held last Sunday (20 February) under the theme, Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment. The day drew attention to the vulnerability of more than 60 percent of the world's employed population who earn a living in an informal economy, lacking social protection or employment-related benefits and who are twice as likely to be poor compared to formal workers. Let us remember in our prayers those caught in this global injustice and ask our Loving God to bless and protect those most susceptible to disadvantage.

God bless,

Leesa

Duke of Edinburgh Awards:

[The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award](#) is an internationally recognised program for young people aged 14-25, building their skills to explore their full potential and equip them for life and work.

By creating opportunities for young people to develop skills, get physically active, give service and experience adventure, the Award can play a critical role in their development.

For more information, please click on the link above.

'CathEd Footy Tipping' invites you to join the competition for this season.

Season 2022 kicks off on Thursday, 10 March, 7:05pm, Panthers vs Sea Eagles.

This footy tipping competition is ONLY open to Catholic Education – Diocese of Rockhampton employees. Tipping should be done by the registered person.

Click on this link to activate or join the competition:

https://www.footytips.com.au/comps/CathED_Footy_Tipping&p=Catholic



Hearing Awareness Week, 1 to 7 March 2022. This is an annual event that highlights the issues affecting Australians living with hearing loss. 3.5 million Australians aged 15 and over, which represents 22% of our population, have mild to severe hearing issues. An average of one in six Australians has a hearing disability.

For more information click [here](#)



SYNOD OF BISHOPS: EXTENSION

The local consultation period for the global Synod on Synodality has been extended. Submissions can now be received through the online portal until Sunday, 13 March. Don't miss out on this chance to take part in a global conversation about the Catholic Church. How are we called to walk together as Christians? How can we listen to one another in making important decisions about our faith and our mission? Find out more and share your contribution at:

<https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

Year 2's at **St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School, Mackay** enjoyed a TWOSDAY full of activities this week. They practised counting in 2's, learnt their double facts and all about 2D shapes.



Pictured below: **St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Blackall** recently held a prayer celebration and presented their Year 6 cohort with leadership badges.



Employment opportunities:

Classroom Teacher, St Brendan's Catholic Primary School, Mackay. Applications close 11 March 2022.

Teacher (Spanish) Catherine McAuley College, Mackay. Applications close 18 March 2022.

Graduate Teacher Scholarship Program (full time) Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton. Applications close 31 March 2022.

We are hiring in Central Queensland **Graduate and Experienced Teachers K – 12.** Recruiting from June 2022 to January 2023.

Relief Teachers (all regions) Visit our website our website and apply today.

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

Congratulations to:

John (CEO) and Deb Campbell (Sacred Heart Yeppoon) on the safe arrival of their first grandchild, Hudson John.

Spirit of Catholic Education Awards 2022



Catholic Education Office
143 West Street (PO Box 524)
Rockhampton Qld 4700
Tel 4994 8000
www.rok.catholic.edu.au