

# Catholic Parish of the Valleys Region

Parish Priest: Fr Simeon Uchendu

Email: ppvalleysregion@rok.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary: Colleen Nevell

Parish Finance Secretary: Chloe Bennett

Parish Office Hours: 9.00am - 12 noon

Monday to Friday

Telephone: 4992 1252

Email: valleysregion@rok.catholic.net.au

## Parish communities:

### St Joseph's, Biloela

#### Mass Times

Wednesday	8.00am
Thursday	5.30pm
Friday	8.00am
Sunday	8.00am

### St Therese's, Monto

#### Mass Times

Monday	9.00am
Sunday	6.00pm

#### Parish Contacts:

Mary Ann List  
- 4167 2177

Sr Anne & Sr Marie, SMSM  
Phone: 4166 3986  
PO Box 129  
Monto Q 4630

### Sacred Heart Church, Theodore

Saturday	6.00pm
----------	--------

Mass: 1st and 3rd  
Saturdays

Lay Led: 2nd and 4th  
Saturdays

### St Michael's, Moura

#### Mass Times

Saturday (2nd and 4th)  
6.00pm

### St Patrick's, Baralaba

#### Mass Times

Second Friday of the month  
6.00pm

### SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:

#### Biloela

St. Joseph's Catholic  
School  
Phone. 4994 8310  
Acting Principal:  
Tina Knight

#### Monto

St Therese's Catholic  
School  
Phone: 4166 1654  
Principal: Doiya Knapman

## Sixth Sunday of Easter - 22nd May, 2022

"CALLED TO  
SERVE"

"God loves us unconditionally and teaches us how the path to holiness and sainthood is "so simple" and requires seeing Jesus in others."

Pope Francis



### SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Brendan Byrne SJ

Today's Gospel, John 14:23-29, continues the reading from the long discourse that, in the Fourth Gospel, Jesus gives at the Last Supper (John 13:13 – 17:26). Throughout the discourse Jesus speaks a good deal about 'going away' and 'returning'.

It is important to understand that his talk of 'going away' and 'returning' operates on two levels. In the context of the final supper 'going away' most obviously refers to Jesus' imminent departure from this world in death, while his 'return' would refer to his appearance to the disciples three days later as risen Lord.

At a more basic level, however, the 'going away' of Jesus refers to his post-resurrection ascension and departure to the Father (see John 20:17), while his 'return' would then refer to his return to the world at the end of time (see John 5:27). At this level of reference, the discourse addresses his physical 'absence' from the community during this period. This was the time in which the community for whom the Fourth Gospel was written found themselves living. And, of course, it continues to our own time today.

The part of the discourse appearing as today's Gospel is sparked off by a question (v. 22) from Judas (carefully specified by the evangelist as 'not the Iscariot'). He wants to know how during this time of Jesus' physical absence the community of believers will have a sense of his presence, even though as far as the rest of the world is concerned he will be simply absent. In response to Judas' query Jesus stresses three things: love, the Paraclete (Spirit), and peace.

First of all, believers who truly love Jesus have his assurance that he and the Father have made their 'home' within them. This is perhaps the most beautiful and most intimate expression of the theme of divine indwelling in the Fourth Gospel. The divine 'community' of mutual love constituted by Father and Son sets up house, so to speak – makes itself 'at home' – within the hearts of believers and within the community as a whole. It is not just that believers should come to be at home with God; God wants to be at home with them. So, while believers will not, as the original disciples, see and hear and touch Jesus physically, faith will give them a sense of living constantly within this extraordinary 'at home-ness' with God.

Secondly, to compensate for the loss of the teaching, guidance, and encouragement under trial that Jesus has provided for them during his earthly life, they will have the presence of the Holy Spirit, here referred to as 'the Paraclete'. The description of the Spirit as 'Paraclete' or 'Counsellor' takes its cue from the sense of a powerful and respected friend who stands by you when you are in trouble or under accusation – the sort of person you would like to have by you in court as both attorney and character referee. For the community the Paraclete Spirit will also have a teaching and a 'reminding' function. In this way, the teaching Jesus gave them during his earthly life will be kept alive and also adapted to new situations and circumstances confronting the Church.

Finally, Jesus will bequeath to the community the gift of peace. This does not mean that there will never be disputes or disagreements but rather that there will be given a capacity for resolving such disputes in such a way that peace is restored or even more deeply secured.

Extract © Brendan Byrne SJ

### Reconciliation:

St Joseph's, Biloela - Sunday 7.00am to 7.30am  
St. Therese's, Monto - Before Mass each Sunday

### Baptisms:

Bookings are made through the Parish Office in Biloela.  
Advance notice and preparation are required.

### Weddings:

By appointment and after preparation.

## VALLEYS REGION PARISH NOTICES

### PLANNED GIVING

Thank you for the generosity of parishioners who contribute to our parish finances through planned giving or collections.

Last week's total contributions amounted to:

Biloela: \$730.85

Monto: \$368.95

Dawson Valley: \$50.00

*Payment options for Planned Giving: Credit Card, Direct Debit or Envelopes. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.*

### VALLEYS' MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

- 22nd Sunday: St Joseph's Parish Fair Meeting after Mass
- 23rd Monday: Monto Mass - 9.00am
- 23rd Monday: Biloela - Young Adults Gathering - 6.00pm
- 24th Tuesday: Sacramental Program workshop - 6.00pm
- 25th Wednesday: Biloela Mass - 8.00am
- 26th Thursday: Biloela Mass - 5.30pm
- 27th Friday: Biloela Mass - 8.00am
- 27th Friday: Biloela - Novena to the Holy Spirit - 5.00pm
- 29th Sunday: Biloela - May birthdays/Party Sunday

### The next fortnightly meetings for the St Vincent de Paul Conference will be:

Biloela: 8.30am on Thursday 2nd June, 2022

Monto: 11.00am on Thursday 2nd June, 2022

### CLERGY SUPPORT FOUNDATION APPEAL

There will be a second collection for the appeal next weekend, 28th/29th May.

**Prayers for the sick:** Rose Ryan, Henny Hay, Katryn Hay, Coleman family, Chris Barron, Mark Lonsdale, Shirley Matheson, Michael Stoddart, Gail Harrison, Robert Harrison, Graham Phelan, Mary Barry, Lorraine Stockley, Ryan Flenady

**Recently deceased:** Rita Harvey (Monto)

Rita's funeral service will be on Wednesday 25th May at 11.00am.

### NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

There will be a Novena to the Holy Spirit at St Joseph's Church, Biloela, from Friday after the Ascension to Pentecost.

Considering the availability of the priest, it will be on:  
Friday 27th May

Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June  
at 5.00pm each day.

It will consist of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Invocation of the Holy Spirit, then Benediction.

### CENTACARE CQ

We're changing our name! Centacare CQ will soon be known as: **CatholicCare Central Queensland**  
We'll still be the exact same team delivering the exact same support and services that have served the Central Queensland community for close to 50 years - we'll just be doing it with a fresh new name and logo. If you need to access in-home aged or disability care, NDIS services, counselling, psychology, family support, relationship mediation, domestic and family violence services or employee assistance programs, then do not hesitate to reach out to us today.

### DIOCESAN NOTICES:

The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton abides by the principles of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (2013), and is committed to safeguarding, with a specific focus on protecting children and vulnerable adults.

For further information or support please contact the Diocesan Professional Standards and Safeguarding Office:  
Response Line: 1800 830 113 (free call)

or email: [pssoadmin@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:pssoadmin@rok.catholic.net.au)

Diocesan Website for more information:

<https://rok.catholic.net.au/our-diocese/safeguarding/>

To view the Diocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults commitment statement and Policy:

<http://www.rok.catholic.net.au/safeguarding-policies.html>

Queensland Professional Standards Office:

[www.psoqld.catholic.net.au/](http://www.psoqld.catholic.net.au/)

The parish Safeguarding representatives are:

Mariana Rutten (Biloela) who can be contacted on

0448 155 051, and Naomi Arkinstall (Monto) who can be

contacted on 0429 835 435.

### Rockhampton Hospital - Pastoral Care Visitation

If you or someone you know will be admitted to the Rockhampton Hospital and would appreciate a pastoral or sacramental visit, please contact our Pastoral Care team at [pastoralcare.rockhampton@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:pastoralcare.rockhampton@rok.catholic.net.au) or contact hospital Reception on 4920 6211 and request a visit from the Catholic Pastoral Care Team.

### ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF ST JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL

On Sunday 22 May, Bishop McCarthy invites the people of the Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton to remember in prayer the 40th Anniversary of the Dedication of St Joseph's Cathedral. He will celebrate the occasion at the 9.30am Mass in the Cathedral. You are most welcome to attend. Although our Cathedral building was begun in 1894 and was officially opened in 1899, it was not actually dedicated until its completion in 1982.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

O God, let all the nations praise you!

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them,  
and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

If you love me,  
keep my commandments,  
says the Lord,  
and I will ask the Father  
and he will send you another Paraclete,  
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

English translation of the roman Missal © 2010,  
International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL)

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11

Ephesians 1:17-23

Luke 24:46-53

For daily Mass readings  
please scan:

