

Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

Reflection from Pope Francis



A better future can exist only if it is built by everyone. No one must be excluded.

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

Dr Tom Donohoe, father of Marg Gould, teacher St Benedict's Catholic Primary School, Yeppoon, grandfather of Trish, Year 8, The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

James Nott, brother of Debra Clark, library assistant, The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

Vince Corbin, former long-serving member on the Diocesan Building and Property Committee and great friend of Catholic Education.

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.

Vinod Kumar, teacher The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

Friday 27 May 2022

Good morning everyone

Today, I am delighted to be with the Catherine McAuley College community and invited guests in Mackay for the Official Blessing and Opening of the College. I extend my sincere thanks to Bishop Michael for conducting the Blessing and to Member for Mackay Julieanne Gilbert MP, representing the Queensland State Government, for assisting me with the Official Opening. This special occasion is the culmination of extensive collaboration, planning and development by a dedicated group of people committed to the vision of a new Catholic college in Mackay. To each of these people, I offer my deep appreciation and congratulations on a job well done. I see the naming of the College as tangible and ongoing recognition of Venerable Catherine McAuley and the work of the Sisters of Mercy who have contributed so much to Catholic Education in this Diocese. Firmly founded on the values of *Learning, Courage, Faith and Mercy*, I know Catherine McAuley College will well serve families and the community of Mackay today, tomorrow and into the future.

My heartfelt thanks to those who were able to attend the special Mass held at Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, in North Rockhampton on Tuesday 24 May, the Feast Day of our Patron, Mary, Help of Christians. We offer to Mary, our Mother, our prayerful petitions for our nation and our world that she will intercede for us, protect and guide us, and lead us more fully to the Heart of Jesus. (Photo page 2)

In this Easter Season, I am aware of the wonderful support our schools and colleges are providing to the Sacramental programs happening around the diocese. Thank you for your faith-filled response to this call of evangelisation and I ask you all to join with me to pray for all Sacramental candidates and their families at this very special time.

Today marks the start of National Reconciliation Week, a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and critically examine how we can contribute to the journey of reconciliation. Yesterday (May 26) was National Sorry Day, a day to remember and acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who were forcibly removed from their families and communities, which we now know as *'The Stolen Generation'*. It is a day for reflection and to give consideration to [The Uluru Statement from the Heart](#) as an invitation to all Australians from First Nations Australians to walk together to build a better future by establishing a First Nations Voice to Parliament enshrined in the Constitution. These are important and significant occasions and pivotal in our country's history. The [National Reconciliation Week](#) website features a wide range of great information, resources and activities which schools may find useful in exploring further.

I extend sincere thanks to our Indigenous Education Team led by Brad Jarro (Indigenous Education Coordinator) and assisted by Phillipa Johnson (Indigenous Education Support Officer), Sharon Haynes (Indigenous Careers and Transitions Project Officer), our Regional and School-based Liaison Officers and Teacher Assistants and support staff at CEO, for making such a positive difference in the lives of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and their families. To all in Catholic Education who intentionally work towards a better future for all, I thank you for your dedication, keen sense of social justice issues, conscientiousness and vision.

On behalf of Catholic Education, I extend congratulations to Bishop Michael on the 8th anniversary of his Episcopal Ordination this Sunday. Thank you, Bishop Michael, for your pastoral and spiritual guidance, and we pray that our loving God continues to bless you in your work today and always.

I offer my congratulations to all who were elected or re-elected to the Federal Parliament as a result of the Federal Election held last weekend. Catholic Education congratulates the incoming Labor Government and looks forward to working with all elected Members of the Federal Parliament to further advance the Ministry of Catholic Education and thus enable us to best serve those in our communities who seek a Catholic education for their children.

God bless,

Leesa

Where's Leesa: Monday 30 May, Office; Tuesday 31 May, Office, CENet Meeting, Catholic Network Australia Meeting; Wednesday 1 June to Friday 3 June, Office.

Career Assistance Program (CAP)

Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton (CEDR) has partnered with Central Queensland University (CQU) to develop an innovative Career Assistance Program (CAP) to mentor pre-service teachers in high quality education settings. The long-term vision of the CAP is to build the capacity and capability of classroom ready teachers through tailored, high calibre training. We are now calling for applications for the pilot phase of the program, due to commence at the beginning of Term 3, 2022. Successful applicants will be employed as Teacher Assistants (Level 3) in Catholic primary schools in the Rockhampton region, in a 0.6 FTE capacity. This will enable successful applicants to maintain a full commitment to their education studies while engaging in relevant, supportive employment focused on training and development.

To check eligibility and inclusions, and for further information enquire today www.rok.catholic.edu.au or phone us now on 4994 8000. Applications close 30 May 2022.

Rockhampton Catholic Schools Gala Concert will be staged at the Pilbeam Theatre on Wednesday 22 June at 6.30pm. Compered by Angelo Conway, students from Years 4 to 12 from TCC, Emmaus and Rockhampton Regional Catholic Primary Schools will be performing. Tickets available through dial and charge 4927 4111, www.seeitlive.com.au or in person from the theatre.



St Anthony's Catholic Kindergarten, North Rockhampton recently received a box of books donated by the Rockhampton Regional Library with grant money provided by the State Library of Queensland's First5forever Program.

Pictured above, students from St Anthony's Catholic Kindergarten spending time reading their new books.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Park Avenue held a very successful Laudato Si' Expo in 2021 and another last week. The Expo was open to the wider community and combined environmental education, sustainability and excitement with stalls, games, raffles, and giveaways revolving around the message of Laudato Si'. Please click [here](#) to view the report on 7 Local News.



Entries for the **2022 Premier's Coding Challenge** are now open to all students from Years 3 to 10. The challenge gives students the opportunity to develop an app, game, animation or website with this year's theme, #digitalfuturesqld. For further information please click [here](#).



Mercy College and St Patrick's College, Mackay will host the **2022 CQUniversity QISSN and Confraternity Carnivals**. With over 120 teams comprising 1700 Rugby League and Netball athletes, the CQUniversity Carnivals are expected to bring over 6000 visitors to Mackay for the week-long event. Congratulations to Charli Bliss, who designed the indigenous artwork featured on the volunteer shirt, pictured above with Janelle Agius (Principal). For more information on the carnivals, or to register as a volunteer, please visit the website www.confro-qissn2022.com.au.

Pictured left: Bishop Michael celebrates Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Park Avenue with parishioners, and staff and students from **St Joseph's Catholic Primary School** honouring the feast day of Mary Help of Christians.

Employment opportunities:

Technology Assistant, Catholic Education Office, Rockhampton.

Applications close Friday 27 May 2022.

Technology Officer, Yeppoon Region.

Applications close Friday 27 May 2022.

Technology Specialist (Security)

Catholic Education Office.

Applications close Friday 10 June 2022.

Secondary Teachers, Holy Spirit College, Mackay.

Secondary Teachers, St Patrick's / Mercy College, Mackay.

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 and apply today.

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

50 Days of Easter

Easter Reflections on Friday mornings of the Easter Season, facilitated by Derek Worden and Kristin Honeyball. Everyone is welcome to join in any or all the Friday morning Zooms from 8.10am to 8.30am.

Join by accessing this link each week [Zoom](#).

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