

Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

Reflection from Pope Francis



The word of Jesus is a teaching that touches and shapes life, frees it from the dullness of evil, satisfies and infuses it with joy that does not pass.

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

June Danns, grandmother of Kyle Danns, Holy Spirit College, Mackay.

Adrian Johnson, father-in-law of Katrina Illich, Holy Spirit College, Mackay.

Megan Sommerfield, mother of Adelaide, St Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Sophie, Emmaus College, North Rockhampton.

Priscilla Ora, mother and mother-in-law of Juanita and Matthew McGrath, Holy Spirit College, Mackay.

Edmond Hanrahan, husband of Maureen, long-time supporter and friend of Catholic Education.

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

Vinod Kumar, teacher The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

Friday 22 July 2022

Good morning everyone

Together with Bishop Michael, I was delighted to join the St John's Catholic Primary School, Walkerston community on Monday for the Official Blessing and Opening of new and refurbished general learning areas. I extend my thanks to Nathaniel Rice (Principal), staff, students and families for their warm welcome and to all who contributed to the celebration of this important milestone in the life of the school.

It was wonderful last Tuesday to join with representatives from our Catholic school communities in the Mackay area to celebrate NAIDOC Mass at St Joseph's Church, North Mackay. I extend my sincere thanks to Bishop Michael for presiding and to all who contributed to this lifegiving celebration. Congratulations to our fourth recipient of this year's Catholic Education Scholarship for Indigenous Students, Lincoln Heffington (Holy Spirit College, Mackay), who was presented with a commemorative medallion following Mass.

I was very pleased earlier this week to spend time visiting with staff and students at St Anne's Catholic Primary School, Sarina, and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, North Mackay. My thanks to John Ballinger-Oches (Principal St Anne's) and Deb Mallet (Acting Principal St Joseph's) for their warm welcome and hospitality.

Congratulations to the overall winners of this year's Challenge Cup Carnival, St Benedict's Catholic Primary School, Yeppoon. St Benedict's won the Rugby League Challenge Cup over St Peter's in the final with Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School securing this year's Netball Challenge Cup in a close final with St Benedict's. St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Clermont, was named the Graham Monaghan Spirit Award recipient for 2022. As is the tradition, the Carnival was played in a wonderful spirit with excellent athletic endeavour on display. Sincere thanks to Julie McLaughlin (Principal St Benedict's) and Max Martin (Principal Sacred Heart) and their team of organisers and also to Rob Corboy (Principal St Brendan's College, Yeppoon) and staff for again kindly hosting the Challenge Cup at their grounds. Thanks also to our army of volunteer referees and officials who do a great job at every Challenge Cup.

I extend best wishes to the Emmaus College community as their 2022 musical, *Beauty and the Beast* opens at the Pilbeam Theatre in Rockhampton this evening. My sincere thanks to all involved in what will no doubt be an excellent production.

Catholic Education Week commences on Sunday, and I am very much looking forward to our Diocesan Mass celebration at Holy Family Church, North Rockhampton on Wednesday (27 July) at 12noon. My thanks to all involved in the preparation of the liturgy and to those who have set up the livestream capability <https://youtu.be/ZvFACUxgkhM> to ensure all our school communities are able to join in this important gathering. The Mass gives us a wonderful opportunity to give thanks to God for the great gift of Catholic education and to pray for continued blessings and guidance for all in our school communities. I wish you all a wonderful Catholic Education Week and hope you enjoy the celebrations.

God bless,

Leesa

Where's Leesa: Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 July, Office; Wednesday 27 July, Catholic Education Week Mass Rockhampton, Office; Thursday 28 July Emerald; Friday 29 July, Marist College, Emerald Blessing and Opening and 25 Years celebrations.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly: Pope Francis last year established the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which is being celebrated on July 24 this year. The day is marked near the feast of Sts Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. The theme for this year's celebration is "In old age they will still bear fruit", taken from Psalm 92. Prayer and liturgical resources and Pope Francis' message are available www.catholic.org.au/grandparents

During the recent student vacation Queensland Cricket conducted a program at **St Joseph's Park Avenue OSHC**. The program focused on throwing, catching, bowling, and batting skills. Pictured below are OSHC attendees with Queensland Cricket staff: Nicholas Coe, Jourdan Novak and Abbey Harvey.



Pictured below at the Blessing and Opening at **St John's Catholic Primary School, Walkerston**, from left are; Leesa Jeffcoat, Sr Denise Hinton rsm (former staff member) the Refalo family (builders of the cross), Sr Margaret Dixon rsm (former Principal), Bishop Michael and Nathaniel Rice (Principal).



Below: Bishop Michael, Leesa Jeffcoat, Brad Jarro, Bianca Dorante and students at the Mackay NAIDOC Mass this week.



Challenge Cup Results:

- Graham Monaghan Spirit Award - St Joseph's Clermont
- Netball Vase – St Joseph's Biloela
- Netball Goblet – MacKillop Mackay
- Netball Plaque – St Anne's Sarina
- League Plaque – St Mary's North Rockhampton
- Netball Medal – St Francis Xavier Mackay
- League Medal – Western Wave
- Netball Bowl – St Paul's Gracemere
- League Bowl – St Paul's Gracemere
- Netball Plate – St Mary's North Rockhampton
- League Plate – St Mary's / St Joseph's Bundaberg
- Netball Shield – St Joseph's Clermont
- League Shield – Sacred Heart Yeppoon
- Netball Challenge Cup – Sacred Heart Yeppoon
- Byrne/McLaughlin Medal – Sienna Hawkes, Sacred Heart Yeppoon
- League Challenge Cup – St Benedict's Yeppoon
- Byrne/McLaughlin Medal – Finlay Houghton, St Benedict's Yeppoon
- 2022 Challenge Cup Winners – St Benedict's Yeppoon

Pictured below: Mike Kelso (Assistant Director: Schools - Rockhampton Regon) and students from St Joseph's Clermont, winners of the Netball Shield.



Mike Kelso (Assistant Director: Schools - Rockhampton Region) and Michael McLaughlin (Catholic Education Office, Rockhampton) with student representatives from St Benedict's Yeppoon, the overall Challenge Cup Winners.



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Catholic Education Week
24-30 July 2022

catholiceducationweek.com.au
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Date Claimer: Our Catholic Education Week Mass will be live streamed <https://youtu.be/ZvFACUxgkhM> from Holy Family Church, North Rockhampton on Wednesday 27 July at 12 noon.

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Congratulations to Evelyn Campbell (Acting APC St Brigid's Catholic Primary School, Emerald) on her recent marriage to Josh.