

Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

Friday 28 October 2022

Good morning everyone

Last Sunday was World Mission Sunday (October 23). On that day the global Church came together to support mission efforts during October which is designated as World Mission Month. Catholic Mission's annual appeal spearheads these efforts, and I would encourage all to consider contributing to this vital missionary work [donate here](#).

Pope Francis has spoken of the missionary nature of the Church and the importance of mission being '*carried out together, not individually*'. The wonderful initiatives happening in our schools to raise awareness and funds for the missions very much follow Pope Francis' teaching and are always a constant source of inspiration to me. Through these activities our students give witness to our Catholic social teaching that calls us to have a preferential option for the poor and experience the joy of giving together. The nurturing in our school communities of a culture of compassion and kindness is fundamental to a Catholic education. Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to all involved in organizing and implementing these generous initiatives in our kindergartens, primary schools and colleges.

Regretfully due to illness, I was unable to travel west this week to visit with staff and students at Our Lady's Catholic Primary School in Longreach, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Blackall and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Barcardine. I was very disappointed that my illness prevented me from joining the school community at St Joseph's, Barcardine, to celebrate their 125th Anniversary, a very significant milestone in the life of the school and wider community. My sincere apologies to all in those respective communities for having to cancel my planned visits.

Earlier this week I met with our Regional Board Liaison Officers (RBLOs) for their annual gathering, and I extend my sincere thanks to all who attended for their valuable insights and for sharing their wisdom and perspective. Our RBLOs provide invaluable support to our school communities, particularly to our Leadership Teams. Their presence is vital in maintaining consistency and nurturing our Catholic ethos throughout changing eras. I am deeply grateful for the guidance and wise counsel provided by our RBLOs who volunteer their time to serve their school communities. Thanks very much to John Kennedy (CEDR Administration and Governance Coordinator) for organizing this year's gathering and for his continued support of our School Boards.

Today we celebrate World Teachers' Day and I say thank you to all our wonderful teachers for their dedication and commitment. I offer my sincere appreciation to all for the great work you do each and every day to ensure students in our kindergartens, schools and colleges grow in knowledge and faith in a safe and caring environment. I am constantly inspired by the commitment our teachers have for their school communities as well as their love and respect for the profession of teaching as a vocation.

Today we also celebrate Day for Daniel, and I am aware that many schools will be turning **red** today to highlight the important child safety message this day promotes. Our continuing partnership with the Morcombe Foundation has greatly assisted in making our school communities safer and I commend the [Day For Daniel](#) resources and information to you and encourage your participation in this worthwhile initiative.

Next week we celebrate All Saints Day (1 November) and All Souls Day (2 November) when Catholics remember and venerate saints, known and unknown, and pray for those who have died. May we draw strength, guidance and encouragement from their courageous example as we too seek to understand God's plan for us through our roles in Catholic Education and personally as followers of Christ.

God bless,

Leesa

Where's Leesa: Monday 31 October to Wednesday 2 November, Office; Thursday 3 November, Secondary and Primary Principal Meetings; Friday 4 November, Office.



Please remember in your prayers those members of our extended Catholic Education Family who have recently passed away.

Vince Griffin, long term parishioner, Our Lady Help of Christians Parish, Park Avenue, and wonderful friend and supporter of Catholic Education.

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

Jacob, Year 3 St Brigid's Catholic Primary School, Emerald.

Stephen Smith, husband of Nola, Emmaus College, North Rockhampton.

Reflection from Pope Francis

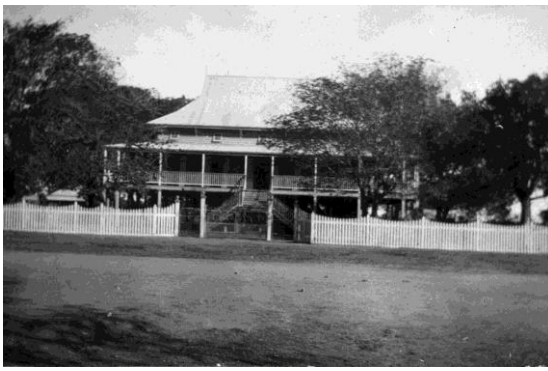
The habit of reviewing one's own life forms the outlook, sharpens it, enables it to notice the small miracles that the good Lord accomplishes for us every day.



Grandparents Day recognises the contribution grandparents make to families, communities, and the economy. It's a day for Queenslanders to say "thank you" to grandparents for their care and support and for sharing their knowledge, experience, and traditions with younger generations. Queensland celebrates Grandparents Day on Sunday, 30 October 2022, which is the last Sunday in Seniors Month.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Barcaldine, looking back on 125 years.

Pictured below: the School 1933, and Convent



School photo Mid 1980s, Archbishop James Duhig, Brisbane, visits the school in 1931



Archbishop James Duhig of Brisbane, who was the third Bishop of Rockhampton, visits the Catholic school at Barcaldine in 1931. With him on the stairs, in the centre of the picture, is Mr R.F. Lyons.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Kindergarten, Springsure, celebrated 10 + 1 years with a morning of activities, joined by former kindergarten families, staff and students from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School.



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- Consultant: Inclusive Curriculum, Catholic Education Office, Rockhampton.
- Formation Identity and Religious Education (FIARE) Consultant, Catholic Education Office, Rockhampton.

For further information and other employment opportunities please click [here](#)

Career Assistance Program (CAP) click on the link to find out more [view](#) here. The program is open to CQ University Education Students with applications for 2023 closing on Monday, 31 October 2022.

Date Claimer

Bishop's Inservice Day
2023
Friday 17 February
Evangelisation & Faith Formation