

Catholic of Parishes *North Mackay & Farleigh*

St Joseph's, St Brigid's, St Brendan's, St Helen's, Star of the Sea

Fifth Sunday of Lent
17 March 2024



*And I,
when I am
lifted up
from the earth,
will draw
all people
to myself.*

Jn 12:32

Great and loving God, we are surrounded by mystery – the mystery of ourselves, of death, or creation, of you. You are our companion on the way and we place our hand confidently in your outstretched hand.

It has sometime been remarked, in lighter vein, that none of us gets out of here alive. Death is part of the human condition and we are aware of death and feel the threat of ultimate absurdity. How shall we confront it? Denial – often lived in frenetic distraction is no help.

Christian faith, in contrast with all other faiths, has a distinctive claim: in Jesus' death, God reached out to us in tender and vulnerable love, becoming our companion on the way. Both John 12 and Hebrews 5 affirm that. It is astonishing to the point of being almost incredible.

Kieran Mahoney – Hearers of the Word



The worshipping communities of North Mackay and Farleigh acknowledge the Yuwibara people, the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather and pay respect to their elders: past, present, and emerging. For we too are one in land, one in spirit, one in faith, united in God's love.

Parish Team

Parish Priest

Fr Andrew Hogan

Parochial Vicar

Fr Raju Mandothparambil

Parish Manager

Mr Ken Kelly

Parish Secretary

Mrs Chris Haines

Finance Secretary

Mrs Kerry Dempsey

Contact Details

Parish Office

Tuesday - Friday

9am - 12pm

21 Grendon St Nth Mackay

PO Box 3388

North Mackay Qld 4740

Phone

4957 4855

Email

stjomky@rok.catholic.net.au

Emergency Pager

**Anointing In Danger of
Death**

0400 874 807

Parish Donation Point



1. Scan the QR Code with your phone camera
2. Tap on the link that appears
3. Make your donation

Please Pray For:

The sick:

Bev Johnson, Margaret Airoldi, Jenny Dickson, Joy Gray, Elizabeth Overden, Sr Lila Galvin.

The recently deceased:

Desi Martin, Margaret Landers.

Anniversaries that occur at this time:

Anthony Borg, Joanne Azzopardi, Gerard Falzon, George Deguara.

Permission must be sought from the person for their name to be added to the sick list.

Names of recently deceased family members and names for anniversaries will only remain in the bulletin for 30 days.

There is no correlation between offering Mass Stipends and names of the sick or deceased being added to the bulletin.

Forms for adding names to the bulletin are available at the back of the church.

The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton abides by the principles of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards and is committed to safeguarding, with a specific focus on protecting Children and **Adults at Risk**.

For further information or support please contact the

Diocesan Professional Standards and Safeguarding Office:

Response Line: 1800 830 113

Email: pssoadmin@rok.catholic.net.au

Diocesan Website www.rok.catholic.net.au/our-diocese/safeguarding/

**Diocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults
commitment statement and Policy:**

www.rok.catholic.net.au/safeguarding-policies.html

Queensland Professional Standards Office: www.psoqld.catholic.net.au/

This Weeks Response & Acclamation

℟ Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!



"If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him." John 12:26



Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.**

**Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil.**

Parish Events & News

Chrism Mass 2024

The people of the Diocese are invited to join Bishop Michael McCarthy and the clergy of the Diocese in the celebration of the **Chrism Mass 2024, 10.00am, Thursday 21st March 2024, St Joseph's Cathedral** light refreshments will be provided after. For those unable to join in person, the Mass can be watched online at:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton>

The Catholic Men's Dinner Club

Will meet on Monday 25th March 6 30 pm for a 7 pm start at the Boomerang Hotel, Nebo Rd. The guest speaker is Anna Townsend, a Cardiac Nurse. Visitors/New members and Ladies are always welcome, **RSVP to Peter Sheedy by text or mobile at 0418 186 691.**

Mackay Maltese Club - Bus Trip to St Lawrence & Lotus Creek:

Departs 8.00am Saturday 23rd March. Morning tea and fine dining in the outback at Lotus Creek Homestead. \$150 per person. **Dinner:** Sunday 24th March at West's Leagues Club. Commencing 11.30am. Order from the board. Raffles & Lucky Door \$100. RSVP for both by Monday 18th March to Rose Borg on 0418 788 363

Stations of the Cross

6.00pm Wednesdays during Lent at St Brigid's Church, Farleigh.

Project Compassion

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with generous supporters and the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. Please donate to Project Compassion 2024. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish or by calling 1800 024 413.

Easter Triduum Rehearsals

There will be a rehearsal for all people involved in ministry for the Easter Triduum. Please come along so you will know when and what you are required to do. The rehearsal will be held on **Wednesday 27th March at St Joseph's Church.**

5.00pm - All Ministers for Good Friday (Except readers)

5.30pm - All readers for Good Friday

6.00pm - All Ministers for Easter Vigil (Except readers)

6.30pm - All readers for Easter Vigil



Invitation to Supper after Easter Vigil

Everyone invited to gather in the Parish Centre after the Easter Vigil Saturday 30th March to welcome those who have been received into the church, and to celebrate Easter with your Parish Family. Please bring a plate of food to share. Drinks will be provided.

Holy Week Ceremonies

2nd Rite of Reconciliation

A Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated at St Joseph's on Tuesday 26th March at 5.30pm. This time of prayer will include exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and conclude with Benediction.

The Sacred Triduum

Mass of the Lord's Supper 28 March - St Joseph's, Nth Mackay 7.00pm

Good Friday Stations of the Cross St Brigid's, Farleigh 7.00am

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion 29 March - St Joseph's, Nth Mackay 3.00pm

The Easter Vigil In The Holy Night 30 March - St Joseph's, Nth Mackay 7.00pm

Easter Sunday 31 March

7.00am Star of the Sea, Seaforth

7.00am St Brendan's, Bucasia



9.00am St Brigid's, Farleigh

9.00am St Joseph's, North Mackay

Liturgies

Monday
St Patrick, bishop

Tuesday
St Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

6.00pm St Brigid's
6.00pm St Joseph's

Sunday

7.00am St Brendan's
7.00am Star of the Sea LWC
9.00am St Joseph's
9.00am St Helen's

Priests away for Pre-Easter GATHERING & Mass of Chrism

Brigid, you were a woman of peace. You brought harmony where there was conflict.

You brought light to the darkness. You brought hope to the downcast.

**May the mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious,
and may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world.**

Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has made.

Brigid you were a voice for the wounded and the weary.

Strengthen what is weak within us. Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.

May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit.



Next Week's Scripture

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-7

*I did not cover my face against insult and
I know I will not be ashamed.*

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2

*My God, my God, why have you
abandoned me?*

Second Reading

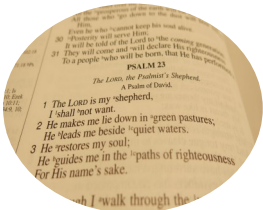
Philippians 2:6-11

*He humbled himself to become like us and
God raised him on high.*

Gospel

Mark 15:1-39

*The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark*



Gospel Reflection

This week's first reading from Jeremiah is a very powerful image and a foreshadowing of the message and ministry of Jesus. In the Jeremiah reading, the Lord announces that (yet again) a new covenant will be made between the people and their God. This time, however, the covenant will not be a collection of rules written in stone as was the case with the covenant of the Ten Commandments after the people had been led out of slavery in Egypt. The people have demonstrated that they are not able to uphold that covenant. This time, God declares that the covenant will be 'planted deep within them' and 'written on their hearts'. This is a wonderful image: I will write my covenant on your heart! It is the message that Jesus tried to convey over and over again – the Law of God is not to be found in a multitude of rules and regulations but it is a Law of the heart, calling for compassion and love.

This message is no better demonstrated than in this week's gospel passage. Jesus declares that, 'unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.' He is speaking of course about his own life, but he is speaking also to those around him and those of us who read the words today. Unless we are prepared to let go of our ego, our status, our 'reputation', for the sake of others and respond to them from the heart then we can never experience the breadth and depth of what it means to belong to a community. When we are prepared to let go of our hang-ups and reservations to make a difference in the lives of others then the 'harvest' that will be gathered from those actions will be great indeed!

Gospel Focus – Love of life

Jesus says, 'Anyone who loves (their) life loses it; anyone who hates (their) life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.' This can seem pretty tough! It challenges us about how much we cling to the 'things' of this life. Are we concerned about the labels on our clothes; the number of our friends; how much money we have; the sort of house we live in? If this is the 'life' that we place meaning on, then we will surely lose it. However, if we put aside the world's focus on material things and focus our attention on others then we are assured of eternal life.

© Greg Sunter

Greg Sunter has worked in Catholic Education (Brisbane) for many years, most recently as a member of the Religious Education team and Mission and Formation team. He has extensive experience of praying with young people and forming others to lead prayer with young people. He is the author of books on adolescent faith, is a regular speaker at youth and evangelisation conferences, and is a retreat and reflection facilitator and presenter. His areas of interest include religious education, theology, scripture, spirituality, Catholic ethos, prayer, and ministry with young people.

Parish Churches

**Called by baptism, strengthened by the sacraments and nourished by the Word of God,
we are committed to witness Christ's mission in the world.**

St Joseph's

21 Grendon St
North Mackay

St Brigid's

961 Bruce Hwy Farleigh

St Brendan's

799 Mackay Bucasia Rd
Rural View

Star of the Sea

2241 Yakapari-Seaforth Rd
Seaforth

St Helen's

71 McIntyre St, Calen

Catholic Schools

Holy Spirit College



P 07 4994 8600
E admin@hsc.qld.edu.au
W www.hsc.qld.edu.au

Emmanuel Catholic Primary School



P 07 4994 8255
E enm@rok.catholic.edu.au
W www.ecps.qld.edu.au

Mackillop Catholic Primary School



P 07 4994 8260
E mnm@rok.catholic.edu.au
W www.mnmrok.catholic.edu.au

St Brendan's Catholic Primary School



P 07 4969 5022
E sbnm@rok.catholic.edu.au
W www.sbnmrok.catholic.edu.au

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



P 07 4994 8250
E sjnm@rok.catholic.edu.au
W www.sjnmrok.catholic.edu.au