

Central West
Catholic Cluster of Parishes

Sunday Bulletin

Incorporating the communities of Alpha, Aramac, Barcaldine, Bedourie, Blackall, Ilfracombe, Isisford, Jericho, Jundah, Longreach, Morella, Muttaborra, Stonehenge, Tambo and Yarka



Parish Priest - Fr Peter Bang SVD
West.Clergy@rok.catholic.net.au

Associate Pastor - Fr Kingsley Ihuoma
West.Clergy@rok.catholic.net.au

Pastoral Coordinator - Loretta McKeering
Ph: 0455 208 746
CentWest.PastCoord@rok.catholic.net.au

3rd Sunday of Easter Year B 13/14 April 2024

We pray for the sick and injured, especially Elaine Britton, Vera Stephens, Kelly Struthers, Melit Furneaux, Leila Harvey, Noelle Melrose, Tom Buchan, Connie Lacey, Keith Lacey, Peter Kerrigan, Rob Paterson, Ben Chandler, Bev Johnstone, Hazel Larcombe, Noel Rose, Coralie Balderson, Jane Hain, Deirdre Blyth, Fraser Power, Luke Miller, Gloria McKean, Jenny Lawson and Mary Coleman.

We pray for the recently deceased, especially Noel Mansfield and Eddie Bowden, **and those whose anniversaries occur around this time**, especially Jon Doyle, Daphne Tilse, Rose Mary Lynch, Jack Dillon and Neil Fraser.

Diocesan News

Rockhampton Base Hospital

If you or someone you know will be, or is currently, admitted to the Rockhampton Base Hospital and would appreciate a pastoral or sacramental visit, please contact our Pastoral Care team on – pastoralcare.rockhampton@rok.catholic.net.au or contact hospital Reception on 07 4920 6211 and request a visit from the Catholic Pastoral Care Team.

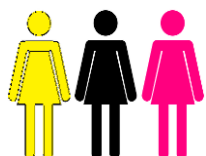
Safeguarding

The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton abides by the principles of the **National Catholic Safeguarding Standards** (2022), 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 & Safeguarding Office: Response Line: 1800 830 113 (free call)** or email: pssoadmin@rok.catholic.net.au

Diocesan Website (including **Safeguarding Policy**) for more information:
www.rok.catholic.net.au/our-diocese/safeguarding/
Queensland Professional Standards Office:
www.psoqld.catholic.net.au/

**Pope's April
Prayer Intention**
for the role of women



Cluster Service Times

| Date | Place | Time | Service |
|------------|------------|---------|-----------|
| Sat 20 Apr | Longreach | 6:00 pm | Mass |
| Sun 21 Apr | Tambo | 8:00 am | Communion |
| Sun 21 Apr | Barcaldine | 9:00 am | Mass |
| Sun 21 Apr | Blackall | 5:00 pm | Mass |
| Sat 27 Apr | Aramac | 9:30 am | Mass |
| Sat 27 Apr | Longreach | 6:00 pm | Mass |
| Sun 28 Apr | Tambo | 8:00 am | Communion |
| Sun 28 Apr | Barcaldine | 9:00 am | Mass |
| Sun 28 Apr | Alpha | 12 noon | Mass |
| Sun 28 Apr | Blackall | 5:00 pm | Communion |

Pope's Prayer Intention for April

For the role of women

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

It can be easy to forget that the liberties we take for granted in Australia are not universal. Respect for the dignity of every person is a central tenet of Christianity since the life of each person is sacred, having been created in God's image (see Genesis 1:26-27). Sadly, in many parts of the world this equal dignity does not play out in practice.

There are countries where women are forbidden to access aid, open a business, or even go to school. In countries where many adult men are literate, illiteracy in women further inhibits their access to human rights. In Afghanistan, the literacy rate in adult males is more than twice as high as that for females, with less than 1 in 4 women being literate.

In many countries, genital mutilation is still practiced. 1 in 3 females aged 15-19 years old in Africa and the Middle East have suffered some type of genital female mutilation or cutting.

Even in Australia there are instances where the equal dignity of all people is not recognised. Worldwide 35% of women aged 15-49 have been victims of physical or sexual violence. Women and men were not created to be the same, and therefore to protect the important role of women in the world, their equal dignity must be recognised and respected.

Sources: thepopevideo.org & data.worldbank.org

Holy Spirit Seminary Appeal

Next weekend we will hold the annual Appeal for the Holy Spirit Seminary in Banyo (Brisbane). It is here that men from throughout Queensland (and sometimes beyond) explore their vocational call and prepare to become shepherds of Christ's flock.

Can you think of a better way to positively influence the future of the Church than to invest in seminarians? Our financial support enables Holy Spirit Seminary to provide valued theological and pastoral formation, as well as teaching seminarians to shepherd in our current realities.

With our generosity, the Seminary can prepare these men to be priests of faith and service with the Gospel as their foundation.

Sacramental Resources

The Diocesan Sacramental Working Party works with Bishop Michael to animate the Sacraments of Initiation policy. They provide advice and support to sacramental preparation teams, ensuring that children have the opportunity to engage in programs which are engaging, inspiring, and invite them to enter more fully into a relationship with Jesus and the life of the Catholic Church.

They are seeking a suitable individual to undertake a paid, short-term project to develop resources aligned to policy which parishes can utilise for the sacramental preparation process. The ideal applicant will have knowledge of sacramental preparation and a contemporary understanding of both theology and pedagogy. If this sounds like you, please outline your interest and suitability by emailing the Working Party via bishopsoffice@rok.catholic.net.au (subject line 'Attention: Sacramental Working Party'). Expressions of interest are due Friday 19 April, 2024.

Cluster News

Welcome Bishop Michael

This weekend we welcome the return of Bishop Michael for a brief visit to the Central West. He is fitting numerous Masses and visitations into his 4 days in the West, with a couple of highlights being:

- ❖ Installation of Fr Bang, svd as Parish Priest of our Parishes during 9 am Sunday Mass in Longreach
- ❖ Visits with Leesa Jeffcoat and Tim Collins to all the Catholic Schools in our Cluster - St Joseph's Primary School & Kindergarten Blackall, St Joseph's Primary School Barcardine, and Our Lady's Primary School Longreach.

Around the Parishes

Barcardine

Bishop's Visit

Bishop Michael will celebrate mass with us this Tuesday, 16th April at 5:00pm. We look forward to welcoming our parishioners, and any visitors, to this Celebration of the Eucharist.

Anointing Mass

Anointing Masses are returning to Mondays! Our next Anointing Mass will be held on Monday, 22nd April at 9:30am at The Willows.

Blackall

Weekday Mass

5 pm Monday 15th April

Parish Dinner

Join us after Mass this Sunday (14th April) for a free shared meal in the Parish Centre (building on the Western side of the Church). Thanks to the hard work of many parishioners this will be the perfect opportunity to spend some together in fellowship with Bishop Michael, Fr Bang, and each other. Visitors, newcomers and 'occasional comers' most welcome!

Longreach

Weekday Masses

Monday 15th April – 5:15 pm (St Brigid's)

Tuesday 16th April – 5:15 pm (St Brigid's)

Wednesday 17th April – 5:15 pm (St Brigid's)

Thursday 18th April – 9 am & 5:15 pm (St Brigid's)

Friday 19th April – 9 am & 5:15 pm (St Brigid's)



This weekend we celebrate as two young adults become fully initiated Catholics. Sahlie (Mr KD) will be received into the Catholic Church and join with Bella (Miss Godfrey) in receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

May the Holy Spirit come upon each of you in Confirmation in a very special way, to guide and strengthen you as you go forth as disciples of the Risen Christ.

We pray that each time you encounter Jesus in the Eucharist you will be reminded of God's infinite love for you, and receive nourishment for the journey.

Welcome

This weekend we especially welcome Bishop Michael and the many visitors to our celebration of Mass –

- Community dignitaries, leaders of other Christian communities, and fellow Catholics from around the Central West who have joined us for the installation of Fr Bang, svd
- Sahlie and Bella's family and friends who have come to celebrate with them and the Church on this momentous occasion

Morning tea will be held in the courtyard outside the Church after Mass. We would love you to join us for a free cuppa and something delicious.



Remembrance

Next weekend marks the 1st Anniversary of the death of Neil Fraser. You are invited to join us for Mass on Saturday evening at 6 pm as we pray for him.