

Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

Reflection from Pope Francis

The joy of the Gospel, when truly embraced, triggers in us the movement of discipleship. It provokes a real exodus from ourselves and sets us on a path to encounter the Lord and experience the fullness of life.

Please remember in your prayers, recently deceased members of our wider Catholic Education Family:

Kevin Cahill, father of Kylie Cahill, Catholic Education Office, Rockhampton.

Dennis Young, brother of Gabrielle Barker, St Benedict's, Yeppoon.

Marie O'Keeffe, great friend and supporter of Catholic Education, especially in the area of music ministry within schools and parishes.

Friday 3 May 2024

Good morning everyone

This week I am delighted to share news of great collaborations with a couple of Queensland universities delivering valuable professional development opportunities for staff.

Firstly, more than 60 staff from our schools and colleges, together with colleagues from other Queensland Dioceses gathered for our 2024 Catholic Identity Gathering facilitated by Australian Catholic University (ACU) theology academics, Dr Teresa Brown and Associate Professor Robyn Horner. APREs and members of Catholic Identity teams attended the five-day intensive face-to-face program, focussed on the unit *THCT605: Introducing the Leuven Project*.

The course explores contemporary theology in the area of Catholic school identity, which was introduced to CEDR in 2015. Through our wonderful association with ACU, we are delighted to host the first offering of this unit of study in a regional area. Sincere thanks to Kellie Jenkinson (Assistant Director: Mission), Derek Worden (Catholic Identity and Formation Coordinator) and the FIARE team for preparing and presenting this valuable in-service for participants.

In a recent collaboration with CQUniversity, Carmel Kriz (Assistant Director: Teaching and Learning) hosted an information session about courses and programs the university are currently offering that may be of interest to our staff. The 30-minute Zoom presentation was recorded and is now available on our staff portal ([link](#)). The opportunity for further study ranges from micro-credentials (short mini courses) to Diploma and Masters level courses, to pathways for Teacher Assistants to receive credit towards teaching qualifications. Special thanks to Associate Professors Rickie Fisher and Gillian Busch for sharing details about these study opportunities and to Carmel for facilitating this important collaboration.

All schools would have received communication regarding celebrations marking the 10-year anniversary of Bishop Michael's Episcopal Ordination on Wednesday, 29 May at St Joseph's Cathedral, Rockhampton. Celebrations include our Catholic Education Thanksgiving Liturgy ([livestream](#)) at 10:00am and later at 5:30pm the Diocesan Celebration Mass followed by an evening reception to be held at The Cathedral College Mercy Centre. It is a wonderful time to congratulate and thank Bishop Michael for his wonderful pastoral leadership of our Diocese over the past 10 years and to reflect on all that has been achieved in that time under his guidance. Thank you to all who have assisted in planning and preparing for this very joyous occasion in the life of our Diocese.

I wish to acknowledge and sincerely thank all those who have reached out, with well wishes and invitations to special farewell occasions. I am deeply humbled by the thoughtful and heartfelt efforts by so many. I am particularly grateful to Bishop Michael for presiding at Mass at St Joseph's Cathedral at 10:30am on Wednesday, 12 June and to all involved in preparations.

Beef Australia 2024 gets underway in Rockhampton on Monday with tens of thousands of visitors expected to attend the largest event held in regional Australia. We wish organisers and participants a very successful week.

God bless,

Leesa

Where's Leesa: Monday 6 May, Labour Day Public Holiday; Tuesday 7 to Friday 10 May, Office.

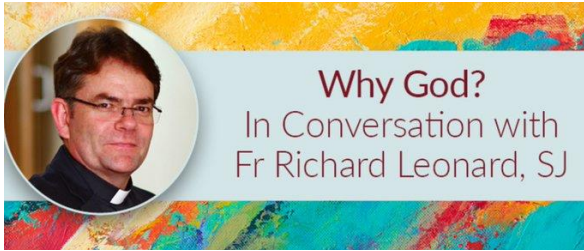


Spirit of Catholic Education Awards and Aunty Joan Hendriks Reconciliation Awards 2024. Nominations close THIS Sunday 5 May. Click to [Nominate](#)

BEEF 2024

Welcome
from Catholic
Education

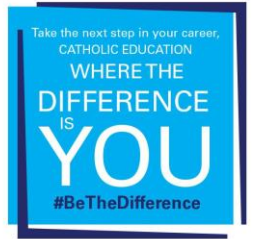




Garrat Publishing and 'Eureka Street' present this FREE webinar: *Why God?* An inspiring conversation with Fr Richard Leonard SJ and David Halliday, editor of 'Eureka Street' on Tuesday, 7 May at 7:00pm. To register click [here](#)

LATEST NEWS 2024 COST OF LIVING PAYMENT

As you will recall, EB10 provides for a COLP each financial year when the relevant CPI figure exceeds the wage increase. For the 2023/2024 financial year, the wage increase was 4% (from 1/7/23 for teachers and 1/5/23 for other staff); and the relevant CPI figure is 3.4% (as published by the ABS on 24/4/24). In accordance with the COLP EB10 provisions, a COLP will not be made this year as the wage increase exceeds the relevant CPI figure.



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

ANZAC Day 2024

Our Lady's Longreach



St Francis Tannum Sands



St Patrick's Bundaberg



MacKillop Mackay



St Joseph's Wandal



St Joseph's Biloela



Shalom College Bundaberg



Holy Spirit College Mackay



The Cathedral College Rockhampton



It's in our control to end coercive control

Find information and support www.qld.gov.au/domesticviolence



The month of May in Queensland marks *Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month*. This annual initiative aims to raise awareness of domestic and family violence and coercive control, highlight the support services available and send a clear message that violence in our communities will not be tolerated. The theme for 2024 is *It is in our control to end coercive control*.



Next Thursday, 9 May, the TODAY Show will be broadcasting the Weather live from St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Bundaberg. The first cross will be at 5:40am and the last at approximately 8:36am.