

Rockhampton Catholic Community

As we move forward & including the praying communities of: St Joseph's Cathedral, St Paul's (Gracemere), Sacred Heart (Mt Morgan), St Mary's, Holy Family and Our Lady Help of Christians

The Parishes of Rockhampton acknowledge the Darumbal & Gungalu people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, travel and live. We pay our respects to their Elders, their Ancestors and Emerging Leaders.

The BAPTISM of the LORD 11th & 12th January 2025

First Reading Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11
The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it.

Response Psalm 103:1-2,3-4, 24-25, 27-30
R: Oh, Bless the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7
He saved us through the water of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit.

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:15-16,21-22
When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.

Next Week's readings: 18th & 19th January 2025

First Reading Isaiah 62:1-5
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
Gospel Reading John 2:1-11

Sunday Mass Times

Saturday 4:00pm Sacred Heart, Mt Morgan
5:00pm Holy Family, Norman Gardens
6:00pm St Joseph's Cathedral
6:30pm Our Lady Help of Christians, Park Avenue
Sunday 6:30am St Joseph's Cathedral
7:00am St Mary's, North Rockhampton
8:00am St Paul's, Gracemere
9:00am Holy Family, Norman Gardens
9:30am St Joseph's Cathedral
This Mass is livestreamed and available publicly at www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton
6:00pm St Joseph's Cathedral

A Life Ordered through Baptism

It is no accident that as the Christmas Season concludes, the next major liturgical moment ushering us into Ordinary Time is the Baptism of the Lord. We may ask "Why was the Lord baptised?" After all, he was not a sinner, and John's baptism was one of repentance.

In short, Jesus was not baptised for himself. No, he was baptised for us. Moreover, the waters had no cleansing or reintegrating effect on him. The waters did not consecrate him. Rather, Jesus baptised the waters! After Israel's long history with water in the story of salvation - think of the creation story, the Hebrews passing through the Red Sea, Noah and the flood, Namaan the Syrian, and so on - Our Lord has desired to give us this Sacrament, that we might receive salvation through water and the Holy Spirit.

Friends, through Baptism, your Christian life had a definitive beginning. You were cleansed of original sin, grafted into the Mystical Body of Christ, adopted into the privileged filial relationship that Jesus alone has with the Heavenly Father, and you took on the offices of Priest, Prophet, and King. You have a mission, and the power and authority to fulfill it, thanks to your baptism.

As Ordinary Time recommences, consider the importance of your own baptism. Examine where your missionary energy has been employed so far and where the Lord may be calling you in 2025. Be bold, renew your baptismal promises frequently, and enjoy God's favour resting on you!

Fr Ashwin Acharya, Associate Priest

AFTER HOURS CLERGY CONTACT Should you require a Priest in an emergency after hours please call (07) 3830 5216

Fr Alex Varghese
Parish Priest

Fr Jomon Poothara
Associate Pastor

Fr Bill Senn
Associate Pastor

Fr Samuel Okoroafor
Associate Pastor

Fr Ashwin Acharya
Associate Pastor

Catholic Parishes Centre

Parish Secretary Trish Jones
Office Hours Monday to Friday 10am - 2pm
P 4927 6744 or E cposj.admin@rok.catholic.net.au

St Joseph's Cathedral Gift & Bookstore

Bookstore Administrator
Open Wed-Friday 10am-3pm, Sat 9:00am-12 noon, Sun 9:00-11:00am
P 4921 2170 or E cathedralbookstore@rok.catholic.net.au


Website <https://www.rockhamptoncatholics.org.au/>

Street address 238 Murray Street, Allentown 4700 or Postal PO Box 8446 Allentown 4700

**St Anthony's School**
Norman Gardens
4994 8200
sanr_office@rok.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Michael Roach

**St Mary's School**
North Rockhampton
4994 8210
smnr@rok.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Simon Warren


**St Joseph's School**
Park Avenue
4994 8205
SJPA_Office@rok.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Bernard Fitzgerald

**Emmaus College**
North Rockhampton
4923 5700
Principal: Eamon Hannan

**St Joseph's School**
Wandal
4994 8230
sjwl@rok.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Bernadette Brennan

**St Peter's School**
Allentown
4994 8225
spr@rok.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Peter Smith

**St Paul's School**
Gracemere
4994 8235
spgr@rok.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Anthony Greene

**The Cathedral College**
Rockhampton
4999 1300
tccr@tccr.com.au
Principal: Rob Alexander

Catholic Parishes Centre

- **Baptisms** For more details on the bookings and required preparation sessions, call the Catholic Parishes Centre P 4927 6744.
- **Marriages** For more details on the bookings and required preparation sessions, call the Catholic Parishes Centre P 4927 6744. Advanced notice and preparation is required (6 months minimum).
- **Funerals** For more details, call the Catholic Parishes Centre P 4927 6744 or E funerals@rok.catholic.net.au
- **Hospital Visitation** Rockhampton Base Hospital. To arrange a pastoral or sacramental visits E pastoralcare.rockhampton@rok.catholic.net.au
- **Becoming a Catholic** If you or someone you know would like to become Catholic, call the Catholic Parishes Centre P 4927 6744 or E rcianorthrocky@gmail.com
- **Rockhampton Parishes Pastoral Council** The Rockhampton Parishes Pastoral Council (RPPC) consists of elected members from each Parish and meet regularly. For more details please speak to your parish representative or E RPPC@rok.catholic.net.au
- **Intercessory Prayer Group** . Do you have a special need that you would like to be prayed for? There is now a dedicated group of intercessors in our parish - the Rocky Prayer Warriors. Please email rockyprayerwarriors@gmail.com and you can be assured that you will have a team of parishioners praying for your needs.

Please remember in your prayers

Recently deceased Julieanne Cervetto, Maureen Hanrahan, Robert Reid, David Reynolds, Barry Carter

Anniversaries Robert Small, Betty Reynolds, John Smithers, Alan Wehmeier, Gloria Bishop, Fr Con Daly, Reg Bryson, Mary Delaware, Don Pacey

Those who are sick Gavin Leyden, Fiona Skelton, Tim Anderson, Gaby Nagel, John Cavanagh, Cathryn Croton, Anne Johnston, Evie Curran, Jocelyne Benoit, Sue Hawkins, Graham Guth, Terry Johnson, Bonifacio Apura, Benedict Apura, June Poole, Mary Busby, Jeanette Allen, Peter & Marie Mahony, Margaret Hardy, Thomas Horn, Gwenda Casey, Jean Battour, David Logan, Eleanor Carreon, Stephen Jones, Barry Clanfield, Gino Abenzi, Bev Bartlem, Michael Harris, Michael Webb, Paul Barry, Marion Brigg, Joy Liddell, Carmel Kendall, John Manwaring, Raymond Trevaskis, Barbara Trevaskis, Tony Wilkinson, Cherry Butac, Connie Waldron, John Dobson, Don, Judy & Donna Wedel, Linda Samms, Narelle Beavan, Angela White, Elaine Winter, Allana Brooks, Patricia Fern-Smith, Penny Desouza, Annielyn Punzalan, Patricia Borthwick.

✝ When providing names, please indicate on which list the person needs to be.

✝ When requesting family and friends be included in the recently bereaved or sick list, ensure you have their/family's permission.



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON

Prot: 25002:MMsp_0703.7

6 January 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Re: Jubilee Year 2025

At the beginning of the New Year, I wish each one of you and your families the graces and blessings of our God as we begin this Jubilee Year together.

Pope Francis, on the eve of Christmas, inaugurated the Holy Year by knocking on the door of St Peter's. This ancient custom of the bishop symbolises the opening of all churches for the faithful to gather in safety and in peace. Here we encounter, at Christmas time and all times, Emmanuel, the God who is with us on our pilgrimage. Here we encounter the divine light that shines brightly to guide us and despite the turmoil of the world, God guides our journey. Our God has visited us and while our hearts may seem like an empty manger, St Paul reminds us that hope is alive and embraces us and hope does not disappoint.

Across our Catholic world, bishops have been opening the Jubilee Year in their diocese.

As your Bishop, I invite you to be present with me, or join me via the live stream, at the 9.30 am Mass from St Joseph's Cathedral on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, 2nd February 2025, as we begin our pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year.

As the year unfolds, we will have the opportunity to celebrate several Jubilees, including for our priests and religious, significant marriage anniversaries and the opening anniversary of St Joseph's Cathedral in 1899, 125 years ago.

With best wishes for the year of Jubilee.

Yours sincerely

Michael McCarthy

Most Rev Michael McCarthy
Bishop of Rockhampton

Dates for significant anniversaries

Sunday 2nd Feb - Opening of Jubilee Year
9.30am Mass, St Joseph's Cathedral
Sunday 16th Mar - Jubilee of marriages
9.30am Mass, St Joseph's Cathedral
Wednesday 15th Oct - Jubilee of opening of St Joseph's Cathedral 1899

Bishop Michael McCarthy

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Phone: +61 7 4887 3070 | Email: bishop@rok.catholic.net.au
Web: www.rok.catholic.net.au

ROCKHAMPTON PARISHES ALPHA

Exploring the big questions in life is important. Have you explored life, faith, and meaning? Alpha is a space where you can bring all your questions.

No question is too big or too small to explore. Want to know more about Alpha?

<https://www.alpha.org.au/basics>



Weekday Mass Times 13– 18 January 25

Monday	7:00 am	St Joseph's Cathedral
Tuesday	9:00 am	Holy Family Church
	5:30 pm	St Joseph's Cathedral
Wednesday	9:00 am	St Mary's
	12:00 noon	St Joseph's Cathedral
Thursday	8:00am	St Joseph's Cathedral
	4:30-6:30pm	Adoration—St Mary's Church
Friday	9:00 am	Our Lady Help of Christians
	12:00 noon	St Joseph's Cathedral
Saturday	9:00 am	St Joseph's Cathedral

Penance

- ✝ Saturday 9:30-10:30 am St Joseph's Cathedral
- ✝ Saturday 4:00-4:30 pm Holy Family Church

Anointing of the Sick

- ✝ 1st Saturday of the month during the 9 am Mass at St Joseph's Cathedral.
- ✝ 1st Friday of the month during the 9am Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Park Avenue.

LOST PROPERTY—HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Over the Christmas period a ring was found at Holy Family Church, Norman Gardens.

To claim this lost item, the owner will be required to provide some evidence or description of the details of the ring to claim it. Contact Trish in the Parish Office, 49276744, for more details.

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025

The program for baptised children will commence in Term 1, watch your Catholic school newsletters in the New Year for starting dates.

Eligibility:

Children must be baptised Catholics who are at least nine (9) years of age during the year.

What if a child is not a baptised Catholic?

1. If the child is between seven & 12 yrs of age and not baptised Catholic, they can be prepared through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children of Catechetical Age (RCCCA).
1. If a child is baptised in another Christian denomination they don't have to be baptised again. Instead, a Rite of Welcome is celebrated for those eligible for this program.

For further information, please contact:

Sacramental coordinators: (for baptised children)

Anthony Greene - anthony_greene@rok.catholic.edu.au

Beryl Mills - berylmills18@gmail.com

Sacramental coordinator: (for non baptised children)

Gail Davis - gailtdavis58@gmail.com

Sacramental Website

<https://sites.google.com/rok.catholic.edu.au/sacramental-program/home>

Parish Office: cposj.admin@rok.catholic.net.au or Ph 4927 6744

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE BULLETIN

We currently have several advertising opportunities available in our bulletin to cover all of Rockhampton, Gracemere and Mt Morgan and part of this would include a print run of over 700 and an electronic distribution to more than 300 people and posted on our Diocesan website each week and distributed to our eight Catholic primary schools and colleges.

As you can see, our bulletin has a significant reach into the homes and families of the Rockhampton area, providing considerable commercial exposure for your business.

If you would like to see your business advertised in the bulletin please phone Trish in the parish office on 4927 6744 for our very competitive rates for the distribution area.



ECUMENICAL CORNER— Chapter 4: the Anglican Communion

Speaking on the dialogue which exists between Catholics and the Anglican communion, Putney acknowledges the major "obstacles" of episcopal succession and ordination but affirms "it is very important to speak the truth... and not avoid the hard, even tension-filled issues." Anglicans have strengthened their communion with Lutherans and Catholics with Orthodox, but this risks "dividing Christianity into two huge blocks – the so-called Protestant family and the so-called traditional family." **Do you enjoy prayer and mission with those in the Anglican Church? Are you familiar with any Anglican authors, artists, commentators?**

National Catholic Safeguarding Standards

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 and Safeguarding office: **Response line** 1800 830 113 (free call) or Epssomanager@rok.catholic.net.au. For more information see the Diocesan website <http://rok.catholic.net.au/our-diocese/safeguarding/> Queensland Professional Standards Office www.psoqld.catholic.net.au/

Your Local Parish Safeguarding Representatives

Vacant – St Joseph's Cathedral

Helen Mollard – Holy Family

Shaun Pettett – Our Lady Help of Christians

Mike Kelso – St Mary's

DATE CLAIMERS:

Catholic Community of Rockhampton

- Theology of the Body Immersion course— Sydney 19-24 January, see QR code for more information
- 27 January—Schools recommence this week, check with you individual school/year level for exact date.
- 2 Feb - Opening of Jubilee Year 9.30am Mass, St Joseph's Cathedral
- 16 Mar - Jubilee of marriages 9.30am Mass, St Joseph's Cathedral
- 5 March Ash Wednesday
- 18 April—Good Friday
- 19 April—Easter Vigil
- 20 April—Easter Sunday
- 15 Oct - Jubilee of opening of St Joseph's Cathedral 1899



Youth Fundraiser

Australia Day

PARISH POT LUCK & TRIVIA NIGHT

**5pm Holy Family Hall
Sunday 26th January**

Raising funds for Youth Ministry in the Rockhampton Catholic Community.

**\$10 per person, cash only.
Please bring a pot luck meal to share.**

**To register:
northrockyyouth@gmail.com**