

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Thirty-Second Sunday Ord. Time
Year B, 10 November, 2024

Embracing the communities of
Cherbourg, Goomeri, Murgon,
Proston and Wondai



Unity in Diversity ... being one in Christ through Baptism!



"Our Lady of Mount Carmel Comforting Souls in Purgatory"

Who is the favourite visitor of souls in Purgatory?

Who is the visitor to purgatory that the souls there most long to see? Our Blessed Mother, of course. Our Lady does go there to help souls. Some saints have been shown or told this and they attest to it.

In the 14th century, Saint Bridget of Sweden was taken on several trips to purgatory. During that time, the Blessed Virgin Mary revealed to her, "I am the Mother of all the souls in purgatory, and I am Mother of Mercy to these my children who are in the greatest need of my assistance, since in their torments they cannot help themselves".

Centuries later, in her Diary, Saint Faustina recorded that one night her guardian angel took her to "a misty place full of fire in which there was a great crowd of suffering souls. They were praying fervently, but to no avail, for themselves; only we can come to their aid".

Faustina continued, "I saw Our Lady visiting the souls in purgatory. The souls call her 'The Star of the Sea'. She brings them refreshment."

In his book 'The Glories of Mary', Saint Alphonsus Ligouri wrote, "And what other

consolation have they in their sufferings than Mary, and the help of this Mother of Mercy?"

He continued, "Too happy are the servants of this most kind mother, since not only in this world they are aided by her, but also in purgatory they are assisted and consoled by her protection.

Saint Alphonsus then recounts what other saints have seen or said. He said that Saint Bridget also heard Jesus saying to his mother: "Thou art my Mother, thou art the Mother of Mercy, thou art the consoler of those who are in purgatory."

The Blessed Virgin Mary, said to Saint Bridget, that as a poor sick person, suffering and deserted on his bed, feels himself refreshed by some word of consolation, so those souls feel themselves consoled in hearing only her name. The name alone of Mary, a name of hope and salvation is for them a great comfort.

According to Saint Alphonsus, "Not only does Mary console and succor her servants in purgatory; she also releases them from this prison, and delivers them by her intercession".

Saints have said that on the day of Mary's Assumption, she asked Jesus for the favour of taking with her all the souls in purgatory, and that place was emptied that day. Saint Bernardine says that the

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Sunday Mass Times

Murgon		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Sunday	8.00am
Wondai		
every	Saturday	5.00pm
WEEK	DAY	TIME
Proston		
every	Saturday	9.00am
Goomeri		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Sunday	6.00pm
Gayndah		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays	10.30am
every	2nd, 4th Sundays	9.00am
Cherbourg		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
5	Sunday	4.00pm
Weekday Mass Times		
12 noon, Wednesday, Gayndah		
5.00pm, Wednesday, Wondai		
9.00am, 2nd, 4th Thursdays, School/Parish Mass, Murgon		
9.00am, 1st, 3rd Thursdays, Castra		
Holy Hour for Peace		
Wondai, 4.00pm to 5.00pm, Wednesday, before Mass		

Today's readings

Kings 17:10-16; Hebrews 9:24-28;
Mark 12: 38-44

Response:

Praise the Lord, my soul!

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!

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blessed Virgin has the power of delivering souls from purgatory by her prayers and the application of her merits, especially if they have been devoted to her.

Add to this the appearance of our Blessed Mother to Pope John XXII, telling him to make known the brown scapular and a promise with it. In 1322 he issued a papal bull about the scapular: "If among the Religious or members of the Confraternity of Mount Carmel there are any who are condemned to purgatory, I will descend like a tender Mother on the Saturday after their death; I will deliver them and conduct them to the holy mount of eternal life".

Those who wear this sacred scapular of Carmel are Carmelites and Confraternity members – we automatically become confraternity members when we are invested in the scapular. Several subsequent popes, including Saint Pius V, confirmed: "That Christians may piously believe that the Blessed Virgin will aid by her continual intercession after death, and principally on Saturday, the souls of the members of the confraternity of holy Mary of Mount Carmel, who shall have departed this life in the state of grace, worn the scapular".

On All Souls Day – any day, in fact – we can help our Mother of Mercy for souls in purgatory – relatives, friends, the abandoned and forgotten. Pray to our Blessed Mother to help and comfort these souls and bring them to heaven.

Joseph Pronechen

Saint Michael's prayer after Mass: 'The devil has no influence?'

Bishop Thomas Paprocki

Saint Michael the Archangel is one of the four principal angels and is described in the Bible as a "great

prince" who battles against Satan in defence of God's people.

Following an 1884 vision of Satan 'running riot' on the planet, Pope Leo XIII composed three prayers to Saint Michael, the briefest of which he commanded should be prayed at the end of every Mass.

That prayer is as follows:

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the divine power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. **Amen.**

The Prayer to Saint Michael was a regular feature of the Mass until the Vatican II era, though Pope John Paul II in 1994 urged Catholics to make the prayer a regular part of their lives. Devotion to Saint Michael is still widely promoted today, including by Pope Francis.

The 'Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification,' signed by the Catholic Church and the Lutheran World Federation, was joined by 2017 by the World Methodist Council, the Anglican Consultative Council, and the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

In faith we together hold the conviction that justification is the work of the triune God. The Father sent his Son into the world to save sinners. The foundation and presupposition of justification is the incarnation, death, and resurrection of Christ. Justification thus means that Christ himself is our righteousness, in which we share through the Holy Spirit in accord with the will of the Father. Together we confess: By grace alone, in faith in Christ's saving work and not because of any merit on our part, we are accepted by God and receive the Holy Spirit, who renews our hearts while equipping and calling us to good works."



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We pray for those who are sick:
Graham Burgess; Orlando Dyrity.

That was a monumental agreement. Kreeft exulted that "Goliath is slain".

We are not saved by our own works, as was mistakenly believed by many Protestants to be the Catholic position. Justification by faith does change the heart, enabling the converted sinner to do meritorious works in union with Christ, whose grace is active in him.

The great ecumenical achievement of the 'Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification' was not without difficulties. After many years of patient theological dialogue, the Lutheran World Federation and the relevant Holy See officials announced in June 1998 that the breakthrough had been achieved.

Raymond J de Sousa

Mass of All Nations, 24 November

We invite you to recall your heritage for this occasion by participating in a thanksgiving Mass for all the cultures that have come together to advance our national identity.

There will be **no other Masses** in the parish that weekend, apart from the one parish Mass at Saint Joseph's Murgon at **10.00am on Sunday, 24 November.**