

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Thirty-Third Sunday Ord. Time
Year B, 17 November, 2024

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



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



Our Lady shows us how to hope – even when it's difficult

Our Lady of Hope, pray for us!

Mary is the epitome of hope. How can we live hopefully in this world so full of distress and injustice, sorrow and suffering? Our Lady shows us the way.

Ponder

"Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart" (Luke 2:19). Amid the joy of Christmas, Mother Mary pondered. She later pondered when Jesus was found in his Father's house: "He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart" (Luke 2:51).

Pope Benedict explained what this means: "The Evangelist Luke repeats several times that Our Lady meditated silently on these extraordinary events in which God

had involved her. Yet, by learning from Mary, we can understand with our hearts what our eyes and minds do not manage to perceive or contain on their own. Indeed, this is such a great gift that only through faith are we granted to accept it, while not entirely understanding it. And it is precisely on this journey of faith that Mary comes to meet us as our support and guide. She is mother because she brought forth Jesus in the flesh; she is mother because she adhered totally to the Father's will. ... And in her heart Mary continued to treasure, to 'piece together' the subsequent events of which she was to be a witness even to the death on the cross and the resurrection of her Son Jesus.

"Dear brothers and sisters, it is only by pondering in the heart, in other words, by piecing together and finding unity in all we experience, that, following Mary, we can penetrate the mystery of a God who was made man out of love and who calls us to follow him on the path of love; a love to be expressed daily by generous service to the brethren."

Mary, may be more than any other person who ever lived, experienced the heights of joy and the depths of sorrow. She held Christ in her arms as a baby and as our slain Saviour, holding onto hope through it all.

Trust

Recall what Simeon told Mary: "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted (and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:34-35).

continued on next page ...

Sunday Mass Times

Murgon		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Sunday	8.00am
Wondai		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Saturday	5.00pm
Proston		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
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

Daniel 12: 1-13; Hebrews 10: 11-14, 18; Mark 13: 24-32

Response:

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope!

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

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Mary did not allow fear to overtake her. Nor did she let it shake her trust in God.

Saint John Paul II reminded the faithful: "This woman of faith, Mary of Nazareth, the Mother of God, has been given to us as a model in our pilgrimage of faith. From Mary we learn to surrender to God's will in all things. From Mary, we learn to trust even when all hope seems gone. From Mary, we learn to love Christ, her Son and the Son of God. For Mary is not only the Mother of God, she is Mother of the Church as well. In every stage of the march through history, the Church has benefited from the prayer and protection of the Virgin Mary".

Mary trusted that God would do what he said he would. Mother Mary is with us in all we encounter on this side of heaven, as we:

- love God the Father,
- follow Jesus,
- imitate her,
- pray without ceasing,
- call on the aid of our friends the saints,
- love those God has blessed us with in our domestic church,
- go about our vocation,
- face the unexpected and stressful amid daily life,
- care for those who are sick,
- encourage friends and co-workers,
- support Church and community,
- lift up in prayer all who need our prayers, especially those who mourn, whether due to the long illnesses of loved ones or tragic violence or myriad other reasons,
- defend the dignity of life, from the littlest to the oldest, and
- witness to hope.

Mary shows us what it means to hope. When the worst was happening, she trusted – she knew the cross was not the end, that Hope would rise.

Most of all, stay close to Jesus.

"Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5). We all know the Marian instruction at

the Wedding at Cana. In five words, Mother Mary delineates the aim of the Christian life.

In the aforementioned homily, Benedict explained why we must stay close to Christ: "if we never give in to the temptation of discouragement and doubt, if also among the many difficulties we encounter we always remain anchored to him, we will experience the power of his love and his mercy."

Our Lady of Hope always points to Christ our Hope.

Amy Smith



"Let yourself be loved"

Decades before Vatican II called for the sanctification of the laity, Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity prophetically claimed that holiness is not exclusively the domain of priests and nuns but is truly for everyone.

God created the human soul to be a special channel of His grace on earth and to serve as a unique image of His love. Few saints have spoken to hearts as acutely as Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity, who has helped even the busiest, weariest, and most distracted of us create an inner chamber within our souls where we can rest in God's peace and love.

Allow her to take you on a spiritual journey. When we get to know Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity we discover how to overcome aridity in prayer and discover ways to bring peace to familial relationships. You will learn



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how to identify and fulfill the specific mission God has for you and how to draw courage and meaning from the inevitable sufferings you will face.

Best of all, you will learn how to encounter and live in union with God, which opens up a sanctuary of peace within your soul.

The purpose of your life is not something to discover in the remote future. You can begin to live your ultimate end – union with the Trinity – right now in the secret centre of your heart, where the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit already dwell.

Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity has revealed the way to see with new eyes that your eternal destiny is already living within you, in this present paradise.

Mass of All Nations

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. If people would like to wear clothes to reflect your cultural traditions this would be most welcome.

We invite you to share food and refreshments together after the Mass in Saint Joseph's Hall and we ask that each family assist with the catering by bringing a shared traditional dish.

Please contact a Parish Council member and inform them of the cultural tradition you will be representing.

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.