

# St Joseph's Catholic Parish

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

3rd Sunday of Easter  
Year B, 18 April, 2021

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



## Seeing is Believing

My first job when I was posted to Brisbane as a young soldier was to work in the interrogation section. It might seem strange, but it was the only interrogation cell in the defence force. In all there were six of us in the section. Our main assignment was the training of ADF personnel in resistance to interrogation techniques. You need to remember it had been a decade since the Vietnam War ended and our experiences of the mistreatment of Australian soldiers by the Communists was still fresh.

Besides giving lectures, we would travel to military exercises and provide enhanced career guidance interviews. During an exercise we would capture a number of soldiers and then help them understand what being a prisoner of war would mean.

On exercise we were in Shoalwater Bay. In the middle of a cleared field Ferg and I waited for helicopters we could hear flying towards us. In those days although the Army paid for the helicopters, they were flown by the RAAF. So the pilots and crew were untrustworthy. As they came in they could see Ferg and I moving around the LZ (landing zone). We were dressed in neat civilians clothes and carried video cameras. The helicopters circled us and then pulled back. There was a delay and then then returned and tactically landed the soldiers. As the soldiers spread out and secured the area, Ferg and I moved around them and filmed them.

When the area was secured and the 'Iroquois' flew off, the platoon commander came up to us with

his sergeant. He challenged who we were. Naturally we told him we were from the ABC and were filming some footage for the news. We then invited him to bring his soldiers together so we could take some shots and do interviews. This he did and for safety we asked they place their weapons behind them. When they were all settled and had some water, Ferg blew a whistle. From the surrounding bush armed soldiers (in enemy uniforms) moved forward and we informed the soldiers that they were now prisoners of war. The look the soldiers gave their commander was priceless.

It turned out that the commander had told the pilots to abort the landing as the area was not secure. The pilots (RAAF) assured the platoon commander all was well. The platoon commander learned that day a vital lesson all Australian diggers learn – don't trust the RAAF.

What we see; what is on the surface can be misleading and dangerous. When Jesus appeared to his friends after the Resurrection, they did not know what they were seeing. The concept of Resurrection was new and they did not know what it would look like. Their reaction was fear. They were afraid. But what was unknown to them was their salvation. Their fear was natural, but God's love stretches beyond our comprehension and ability to understand. When you trust in God and accept the love God has for us, we can experience something that is life altering and life giving.

**Fr Bryan Pipins SJ**

## Sunday Missals

If you ordered a Sunday Missal please collect them from the back of the church. They worked out to be about \$30.00 each. If you could place this in the basket with the missals or if you don't have the cash, take the missal. In the next few weeks please place it in an envelope and make it 'For Missal. Thanks.

## Masses Times – this week

**Tuesday, 20 April**  
Gayndah, noon

**Wednesday, 21 April**  
Wondai, 5.00pm

**Thursday, 22 April**  
Murgon, 5.00pm

**Friday, 23 April**  
Castra, 9.00am

**Saturday, 24 April**  
Proston, 9.00am  
Wondai, 5.00pm

**Sunday, 25 April**  
Murgon, 8.00am  
Cherbourg, 10.00am  
Goomeri, 6.00pm

## Today's readings

Acts 3:13-15,17-19; 1 John 2:1-5;  
Luke 24:35-48

*Response:*

Lord, let your face shine on us.

*Gospel Acclamation:*

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!

Next Sunday: Acts 4:8-12; 1 John 3:1-2;  
John 10:11-18



## Saint Adalbert – 23rd April

The first bishop of Prague to have been born in Bohemia, Saint Adalbert was born Voytech c. 956 into a noble family. He was sent to Magdeburg to be educated and took the name of his catechist when he was baptised. After the death of his mentor in 981, Adalbert, who had grand visions of missionary work and clerical reform, returned to Prague, and in the following year, he became the second bishop of Prague. Conflict developed between the bishop and the duke of Bohemia, Boleslaus II, and in 990, Adalbert travelled to Rome, where he became a monk. John XV ordered him back to Prague two years later, and Gregory V released him from his episcopal duties in 995, after the massacre, at the order of Boleslaus, of Adalbert's family at Libice. During these five years in Prague, Adalbert founded the abbey of Brevnov. Boleslaus I, duke of Poland, invited him to evangelise the Prussians of Pomerania; Adalbert was killed on the suspicion of being a Polish spy. Boleslaus I buried Adalbert's body at Gniezno, Poland, whence it was transported in 1039 to Prague. Adalbert was canonized in 999.



## Can a corpse speak?

*(Real life stories, collected by the Carmelite Sisters)*

When I was a young nun about six years in the convent, one of the older sisters who had been ill died suddenly. The bell summoned us and we found Sister stretched out on the bare timber floor in a long wide corridor. She had been taking a little walk, aided by another sister, when she suddenly collapsed and died. We gathered around and prayed for her while waiting for the priest to come.

This was my first experience of death at close range and of being with a dead person. It made a profound impression on me. It brought home to me forcibly the reality of the soul in the human person. I had not doubted or questioned this, but suddenly it became undeniably evident. A few hours earlier Sister was among us and conversing with us, now her dead body – her 'remains' as we aptly say – lay there before our eyes, but Sister was no longer with us, no longer present to us, no longer able to communicate with us. The principle of life, the soul, had departed, leaving the body's organs and faculties unable to function. Sister was dead, unmistakably dead.

Faith tells us that this same body, clearly recognizable as the Sister we knew and loved, is destined to be reunited with her soul at the due time through the promise and power of Christ's own resurrection.

This experience has travelled with me through life down fifty years and more. Therefore, I ask, can a corpse speak? It seems that this corpse spoke a lasting and powerful word to me. (Joan)

✝ If you know anyone in need, please contact Cecily Fry, President, St Vincent de Paul Conference, on 0437 864 667



## Parish Directory, Saint Joseph's Parish

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Parish website:  
[murgon.brisbanecatholic.org.au](http://murgon.brisbanecatholic.org.au)

## Collection for 11/4/2021

Loose.....	\$435.00
Planned Giving.....	\$526.20
Total.....	\$961.20
Holy Land Collection....	\$385.00

## We pray for those who are sick:

Noa van Elswijk; Michael Druce;  
Annette McCarty.

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