

# St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Year B, 25 April, 2021

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



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

## Good Shepherd

It's funny the way things work out. What you see clearly can be reversed very quickly. The day I started school we assembled as preppies on the hard concrete hard standing between the two wings of the school. The excitement and fear of starting somewhere new was confusing and disorienting. But at the school assembly my mother told me to line up and stand next to "that boy over there". Being five I did what I was told (much has changed since then). As our teacher led us, we left the playground and entered our classroom.

This seemed quite normal to me and I asked no questions. The 'boy over there' became my closest friend for many years. At five I did not register that Ronald was Chinese-Malay. In fact he was the first East Asian I had ever met and the only non-European child in the school. This didn't even matter he was just a friend. Both of his parents were teachers and so many afternoons he would come home with me until his parents could collect him.

We were walking home one afternoon and ran into boys from the state school. They were older than us and started to pick on Ronald. They said he wasn't Australian and should go home. Being a brilliant scholar I informed them that of course he was, he was born on Australia Day. I then punched the biggest kid in the face and fought for my friend. Ronald of course was smarter than me. When I hit the big kid, he ran away as quick as he could.

Australia Day was a big event for us and we saw it as the most important holiday. The reverse was true of ANZAC Day. The anti-Vietnam protesters, the unions and the left all attacked the concept of ANZAC Day. There was a play called, 'One Day of the Year'. Later there would be the song, 'And the Band played Waltzing Matilda.' They were triumphantly proclaiming the end of ANZAC Day in a generation. Now Australia Day is under attack and ANZAC Day has become almost sacrosanct.

ANZAC Day this year falls today. By coincidence our reading for the Gospel today is of the good shepherd who lays down his life. I wonder how many of our leaders in Australia would lay down their lives for us. They might be quick to send young Australians to die for their political agendas, but do they have skin in the game? As we celebrate the Good Shepherd and commemorate those who have given their lives we pray for peace and an end to violence.

Fr Bryan Pipins SJ



*The Lord is my shepherd,  
there is nothing I shall want*

## Masses Times – this week

**Tuesday, 27 April**  
Gayndah, noon

**Wednesday, 28 April**  
Wondai, 5.00pm

**Thursday, 29 April**  
Murgon, 5.00pm

**Friday, 30 April**  
Castra, 9.00am

**Saturday, 1 May**  
Proston, 9.00am  
Wondai, 5.00pm

**Sunday, 2 May**  
Murgon, 8.00am  
Goomeri, 6.00pm

**LEST WE FORGET**



## Today's readings

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

*Response:*

The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

*Gospel Acclamation:*

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

Next Sunday: Acts 9:26-31;  
1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8

# Saint Peter Canisius – 27April



In 1565, the Vatican was looking for a secret agent. It was shortly after the Council of Trent and the pope wanted to get the decrees of the Council to all the European bishops. What would be a simple errand in our day, was a dangerous assignment in the sixteenth century. The first envoy who tried to carry the decrees through territory of hostile Protestants and vicious thieves was robbed of the precious documents. Rome needed someone courageous but also someone above suspicion. They chose Peter Canisius. At 43 he was a well-known Jesuit who had founded colleges that even Protestants respected. They gave him a cover as official 'visitor' of Jesuit foundations. Peter travelled from Rome and crisscrossed Germany successfully loaded down with the Tridentine tomes – 250 pages each – not to mention the three sacks of books he took along for his own university!

Born in Nijmegen, Netherlands in 1521, Peter had edited and written several volumes on Church history and theology, been a delegate to the Council of Trent, and reformed

the German universities from heresy. Called to Vienna to reform their university, he couldn't win the people with preaching or fancy words spoken in his German accent. He won their hearts by ministering to the sick and dying during a plague. The people, the king, and the pope all wanted to make Peter bishop of Vienna, but Peter declined vigorously and administered the diocese for a year.

Peter died in Fribourg, Switzerland on December 21, 1597. He is known as the Second Apostle of Germany and was named a Doctor of the Church.

## Parish Directory, Saint Joseph's Parish

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Bryan Pipins SJ  
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 PO Box 60 Murgon 4605  
 Parish website:  
[murgon.brisbanecatholic.org.au](http://murgon.brisbanecatholic.org.au)

## Parish Raffle

Our Parish Multi Draw Raffle will be drawn on 26 June 2021 after the 5.00pm Mass in Wondai. This Raffle is one of two fundraising events held by the Parish each year. To make it a success we require goods or vouchers for the prizes. We are asking each Parish community to donate (either goods, vouchers, or by asking local businesses). **The tickets will be on sale early in June**, but we need the list of prizes by the end of May. Please let Fr Bryan know of donations as soon as possible.

## Collection for 18/4/2021

Loose.....	\$519.65
Planned Giving.....	\$387.00
Total.....	\$906.65
Project Compassion....	\$1,053.65

### We pray for those who are sick:

Noa van Elswijk; Michael Druce;  
 Annette McCarty.

## SAINTS FUN FACTS

by John Sheppard

A staunch defender of the Church against reformist Protestants in Europe.

He was an educator and opened colleges for the Jesuits.

He also spread the findings of the Council of Trent to the European Archbishops.

Born: 1521  
 Died: 1597



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St. Peter Canisius

## Social Justice Coordinator Wanted:

A corner stone of our faith is the care for our brothers and sisters. This is a physical, spiritual and social concern. Throughout the year we have various appeals and collections which the archdiocese leads. There is also local needs and concerns. The Saint Vincent de Paul Society is a key player in this outreach of Christ's love. But I believe we need to have a person who can bring this all together.

Therefore, I would like to suggest that the parish have a social justice coordinator. Someone to look at social justice needs and coordinate our parish response. This person would look at the programmes of the archdiocese and coordinate our response. They would also look at local needs. The coordinator will need to have oversight on the various campaigns and our parish response. They would also need to raise local issues with our parish.

I would like to invite you to think about if you could do take on this role. If so, you would need to be willing to address the parish at Masses and front the raising of funds to support social justice causes.