

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

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

Twentieth Sunday in Ord. Time
Year C, 18 August, 2019



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

I grew up in the wake of Vatican II. There was a lot of trauma, fear, euphoria, joy and confusion in the Church and especially with the people of God. We were trying to see God in the modern world and were asking: "Who is Jesus to me?" It was a revolutionary change. We became the arbitrators of truth and faith. Centuries of experience, exploration and revelation were dumped in favour of a new model based on our individual opinion. This did give a new energy to faith, but in the charge the heart of our relationship with God was lost.

We no longer wanted to ask hard questions on the cost of discipleship. Instead of us becoming reborn, washed in the blood of the Lamb; we chose to excuse our actions and deny responsibility for the choices we made. Jesus became a mate down the pub. We could unload our life and feel vindicated in the reflection of our own views back to us. No challenge and no honesty. The image of Jesus became a feel good prophet that never judged us and was a fluffy, tree-hugging hippie. While this satisfied us at basic level, it failed to nourish us. When life became hard we drifted away from the Faith and the Gospel.

Today's Gospel is no tree-hugging Jesus. Luke allows us to see the revolutionary Jesus who is calling us to arms. In this chapter we can hear the frustration of Jesus as his friends did not get it. They wanted a tame Messiah who would change the world and reward his friends with power and glory. Seated at the right-hand and the left-hand they coveted their elevation.

But what had they actually done? How had they suffered, laboured and loved for the Kingdom?

This revolution of Christ was to be a long and pain-filled process. The glory will come but probably not in our life time. The people of God are called to serve faithfully based on our love of the Messiah. We are called to fight the good fight and do our part. Not for any reward or acknowledgement, but love.

Whilst in formation, I did a rotation in The Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute in Melbourne. There was a man there who was in a long losing fight with liver cancer. He had been in and out of hospital for the previous three years. The medical staff had done all they could and he was in no pain. Each day his wife would be with him. She held his hand and called for help when he needed it. Her presence was an act of love. She was not trying to save him, change his life or situation. To her it was an act of love that expressed the deep relationship they had shared for a lifetime. This is the role of discipleship we are called to live. Be true to our love of God. Live each day in doing what was right and changing the world around us.

Jesus calls for the fire to start today. That the world should burn. This can be confusing as an image but not for us. As Australians we understand exactly what he is describing. Each year we face bush fires. We fear and worry about the fires. But they are inevitable. They are part of nature. Without the fire the land can not be cleansed

and new growth will not come. As the fire leads to new growth and new life, so our discipleship in Christ is tempered by fire. We will suffer in life and have our troubles. But with faith in our heart we will journey through the fire to new life and new growth.

Fr Bryan Pipins SJ

Mass Times:

Next Weekend 24/25 August

Proston, Saturday at 9.00am
Wondai, Saturday, 5.00pm
Murgon, Sunday, Mass of All Nations at 10.00am, followed by shared lunch
No Mass at Cherbourg

Weekday Mass Times:

Wondai, Wednesday at 5.30pm
Murgon, Thursday, 5.30pm
Murgon, Friday, Castra Healing Mass at 9.00am

Today's readings

Jeremiah 38:4-6,8-10; Hebrews 12:1-4;
Luke 12:49-53

Entrance Antiphon:

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Response:

Lord, come to my aid!

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

Next week: Isaiah 66:18-21;
Hebrews 12:5-7.11-13; Luke 13:22-30

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Scott Prendergast, 19

Lori Hayden, 21

Death Anniversaries

Verna Heidemann, 24

If you would like to add a birthday or anniversary to be published in the parish newsletter please enter the details into the birthday/anniversary books in Murgon or Wondai Churches, or contact the parish office.

Mass of All Nations

We will be celebrating our Mass of All Nations and the Multicultural Meal at Saint Joseph's at 10.00am Mass on Sunday 25 August. All are Welcome. Please come along, wear your national dress and bring a dish for the shared meal. **There will be no Mass at Cherbourg on that Sunday.** Attendance sheets will be at the back of the Church.

Parish Morning Teas

We welcome all parishioners and visitors to the parish to join us for a cuppa and chat after any of the following parish Masses.

Goomeri – 1st and 3rd Sundays

Wondai – 2nd Sunday

Durong – 2nd Sunday

Murgon – 3rd Sunday

Proston – 4th weekend

LITURGY ROSTERS

for weekend Masses

Murgon: 10.00am, Sunday, 25 August, 2019	
Leader:	E Thompson
Readers:	E Thompson, T Gerrard
Euch Mins:	Br Tim, T Gerrard

Wondai: 5.00pm, Saturday, 24 August, 2019	
Leader:	F Hutton
Readers:	N Hutton, M Burns
Euch Mins:	D Boge, F Hutton

Prayers of the Faithful

Priest

Dear friends, for our sake Jesus endured the cross and laid open the path of life. Baptised in him and fired by his Spirit, let us pray for all our sisters and brothers in need.

Reader

We pray for Pope Francis, bishop of Rome, and for all bishops and church leaders. May they bear inspiring witness to the joy of the gospel. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all whose following of Jesus puts them in mortal danger. May they have the courage to stay true to their baptismal faith. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We give thanks for the selfless humanitarian service rendered by countless people around the globe. May their care for others draw the human family together. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for new spirit of community in Australia. May we foster a culture of integrity, mutual respect and generosity of heart. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for defence force personnel returning from active service. May they recover from any trauma they may have experienced and feel welcomed back home. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all whose task it is to establish child safety policies and practices in church organisations. May they succeed in protecting every child from the risk of abuse. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who are ill, especially Col Elliott, those with chronic, life-threatening or painful conditions. May they receive the medical and pastoral care they need. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

Priest

Saving God, you have given us your Son as our leader in faith. Keep us close to him and never let us never lose sight of him, for he is our hope of glory. We ask this through Christ our Lord.



Parish Directory, St Joseph's Parish Est. 1927

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Parish website

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Reconciliation Times

1st Sundays:

Wondai, Saturday, 4.30pm

2nd Sundays:

Murgon, Saturday, 4.30pm

3rd Sundays:

Proston, Saturday, 10.00am

Used Postage Stamps

Wondai church has a box at the back of the church and perhaps someone could do the same for the other churches.

Vinnies is now open at 84 Lamb Street, Murgon. Volunteers urgently required. For further information please phone Cecily Fry on 0437 864 667.

We pray for those who are sick:

Cathy Carter; Col Elliott; Chris Heidemann; Earl Pratt; Lee Seargent.

(Please let us know if you would like someone's name added to the sick list. Also, contact us when you feel that it is appropriate to remove a name from our list.)

Summer Mass Times

will begin on the weekend of 7/8 September. The Mass at Proston will revert to 8.00am and the Vigil Mass on Saturdays to 6.00pm. These times will remain until the first weekend in June 2020.