

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Second Sunday in Ord. Time
Year C, 19 January, 2025

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



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

A fairwell message

can be rather sentimental, but I like it to be realistic. Since our faith is the principle that unites us all, it seems to me to be appropriate to share a little reflection on this very significant aspect of our lives.

Faithfulness is a virtue not so common today. It is what distinguishes a Christian man or woman from the world where there is no meaning to life beyond the grave.

Faithfulness is a way of life that is in harmony with God's plan for each of us. His life of Faith began with our Baptism when we received the theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity. Not only have we received God's life within us, but we also know that God is with us as a Father all lifelong.

Faithfulness allows us to live with this assurance of God's protection on our lives. It gives us a sense of our dignity that made in the image and likeness of God we can be confident in approaching the 'throne of grace' for our needs and the needs of all peoples.

Living out the virtue of faithfulness is a daily habit of life which requires some diligence to prayer and works. A life of humble service and sacrifice is always the way to follow Jesus faithfully.

May our Blessed Mother who was the first and best disciple inspire in us a way of living the virtue of faithfulness as she herself taught us at the foot of the Cross on Calvary where she remained with Jesus to the end.

Fr John P Fowles.



Kelsey Reinhardt speaks at SEEK25

What Mother Mary and Joan of Arc teach us about 'The Vocation of a Woman'.

The life of Saint Joan of Arc shows that "God's providence is real and you can trust it".

In her talk, Reinhardt reminded her female listeners of God's providence.

She then turned to a beloved example of feminine confidence in God, Saint Joan of Arc: Joan's heavenly voices addressed her as: "Daughter of God," "Daughter of the Church" and "Noble-Hearted Daughter".

And history speaks of God's providence in Joan's life.

I bring Joan of Arc up, I bring God's providence up, I bring history up, because Providence is revealed in history, and it's going to be revealed in the history of your life. Was she a consecrated religious? No. Was she married? No. Joan of Arc was a baptised Christian. What was she? She was a daughter of God.

Ladies, this is your first and most fundamental vocation: to be a daughter. ... As soon as we understand our role as daughters, *continued on next page...*

Sunday Mass Schedule

for January and February 2025

Murgon

8.00am, Sunday, 26 January
8.00am, Sunday, 9 February
8.00am, Sunday, 16 February
8.00am, Sunday, 23 February

Wondai

5.00pm, Saturday, 1 February
5.00pm, Saturday, 8 February
5.00pm, Saturday, 15 February

Gayndah

10.30am, Sunday, 2 February
10.30am, Sunday, 16 February
10.30am, Sunday, 23 February

Proston

9.00am, Saturday, 1 February
9.00am, Saturday, 15 February

Goomeri

5.00pm, Sunday, 9 February
5.00pm, Sunday, 23 February

Cherbourg

10.30am, Sunday, 9 February

Mundubbera

8.30am, Sunday, 2 February

Today's readings

Isaiah 62: 1-5; Corinthians 12: 4-11;
John 2: 1-11

Response:

Proclaim his marvellous deeds
to all the nations.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us
with the gospel to share in the glory
of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

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we can then go on to consider vocations.

Your first vocation as a baptised Christian, as a daughter of God, as a noble-hearted daughter, as a daughter of the Church, as a daughter of God is to holiness.

The life of Saint Joan of Arc shows that "God's providence is real and you can trust it".

Next came a discussion of how she personally felt the call to religious life, explaining: "You are made for a vocation that will bring you happiness and fulfilment".

She went on to say, "All vocations are calls to love" and highlighted the various charisms of several religious orders, noting that:

- "a charism that exhausts itself helping souls in their final years to get to heaven ... serving, tending, prepping and praying at the bedside" is the call of the Little Sisters of the Poor;
- "a charism that stretches itself in a fourth vow of poverty to care for Christ in the distressing disguise of the poor, storing up treasure in heaven and satisfying Jesus' own thirst upon the cross" is "the mission of the Missionaries of Charity";
- "a charism that sees the sanctity of life as supreme and offers the consecrated lives of their members as an oblation to end the greatest evil of our time and to help women embrace their vocation as mothers" is "a day in the life of the Sisters of Life"; and
- "a charism enthralled with truth, born and purified in friendship with Christ and neighbour so wholly on fire that they spend their lives contemplating to pass on the fruits of their contemplation" is that of "the Dominicans ... that, and to praise, to bless and to preach. And that's what I was for nine years: a Saint Cecilia Dominican."

"The joy of living for heaven is the thing that I will remember the most," Reinhardt explained of her time in religious life.

After speaking beautifully of that vocation, Reinhardt explained where God led her. "After nine years in religious life, I obeyed when I was called out of the convent. And that brings me to the last vocation, the sacrament of matrimony, and to the last fundamental truth: God wants you to find your vocation".

When she left the convent, she focused on living her baptismal vocation fully.

"I found a great opportunity to work in evangelisation through media – and I offered my sufferings to Christ as best I could.

My belief in Providence is real, and it's not for nothing. At the moment that I least expected it, I met my husband – thanks to her willingness to give a parish talk.

When I met Matt, I realised how to re-create the convent outside of the convent: the family. The family is the domestic church, or, if you prefer, the domestic monastery. ... The joy of shared mission, the support of shared accountability, the zeal for baptising new souls into the faith ... and the ability to love and serve Christ are the same as they are in religious life, just manifested in a different way".

Then she turned to motherhood, both physical and spiritual, explaining:

"And this brings me to an important point about the vocation of women as mother: It has societal implications; it is no small or singular thing. Mothers, whether biological or spiritual, build and beautify civilisation."

And, in closing, she pointed to the epitome of womanhood:

"No one cares more for your vocation than the Blessed Mother."



Parish Directory, Saint Joseph's Parish

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Safeguarding

If you have experienced abuse or misconduct, you can ring the help line, 1300 304 550. Information can be shared anonymously.

We pray for those who are sick:

Anna Brierley; Graham Burgess;
Orlando Dyrit; Rodney Euler;
Dr Graham McAllister; Kai Vera.

(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.)

Pope Francis offers prayers for those impacted by the Los Angeles wildfires

"I AM praying for all of you," Pope Francis said, using his televised Sunday Angelus address to speak directly to the people impacted by the wildfires in Southern California.

"I am close to the residents of Los Angeles County, California, where devastating fires have broken out in recent days," the pope told thousands of people gathered in St Peter's Square yesterday to pray the Angelus with him.

In a telegram released by the Vatican the previous day, Pope Francis also assured the people of Los Angeles of his prayers as the fires continued to cause death and destruction.