

# St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Year A, 29 January, 2023

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



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

## Five Ways to Celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God.

The Pope instituted this celebration because, he wrote, "It is fitting, then that the life of our people be constantly marked by this decisive relationship with the living word that the Lord never tires of speaking to his Bride, that she may grow in love and faithfulness". The Scriptures themselves tell us that "the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword ..." (Hebrews 4:12). This tells us two things: first, that God wants to speak to us; second, that listening to God speak is the way for us to grow into our fullest potential. Here are five ways that we can honour Pope Francis' directive and grow in devotion to the Word of God.

### 1. Enthroned a Bible in your home

Give the Word of God a prime place of honour and reverence in your home. Start by creating and devoting a 'sacred space'. Then, use an enthronement prayer to make the Bible prominent in that space. The Bible then becomes the spiritual centre of your home. Family members will be reminded daily of the importance of the Bible in the life of the Church and family.

### 2. Commit to a Bible study, especially with a group.

Too many Catholics admit that they have never read and studied the Bible much, if at all. There are great programs and podcasts can help change that. Remember, though, that the full potential that these studies have is best achieved in community. The Bible was never meant to be studied only. It was meant to be

discussed with the Church and, more importantly, to be lived in the world.

**3. Begin reading the daily Mass readings.** Engaging with the daily Mass readings can be a great way to incorporate more Sacred Scripture into your life. Each and every day of the year, you will get readings from the Old and New Testaments. Over time your understanding of the Bible and, most importantly, your love of Jesus will grow immensely.

**4. Commit to learning lectio divina.** *Lectio divina* literally means 'divine reading'. It is the way that the Church Fathers came to deeper understandings of Sacred Scripture in the first centuries after Jesus' resurrection. It has been employed by Benedictines and other religious orders for centuries. It was recommended by the late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI as the key that would unlock a new spiritual springtime in the Church. There are several great explanations, with resources to accompany, available online.

**5. Commit to a holy hour, at least once each week.** We must keep in mind that the Word of God is a person – the Divine Word, Jesus Christ. Any and all of the recommendations above must lead us to a deeper relationship and communion with him.

There is no better place to commune with Jesus than in his true Presence. In the absence of adoration, it is perfectly acceptable to go inside a church or chapel and sit in front of Jesus in the tabernacle.

**If you want to be a better disciple of Jesus, and if you commit to one or**  
*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 (except 5th Sunday)	6.00pm
Gayndah		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	1st, 3rd, 5th	10.30am
every	2nd, 4th	9.00am
Cherbourg		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
5	Sunday	4.30pm
Weekday Mass Times		
12 noon, Wednesday, Gayndah		
5.00pm, Wednesday, Wondai		
5.00pm, Thursday, Murgon		
9.00am, Friday, Castra		

## Today's readings

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13;  
1Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 5:1-12

*Response:*

Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

*Gospel Acclamation:*

Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad: your reward will be great in heaven. Alleluia!

Next Sunday: Isaiah 58:7-10;  
Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:13-16

...continued from previous page

more of these habits, your devotion to the Word of God will certainly grow. Let's hope that by forming these devotional habits the Word of God "may speed ahead and be honoured" in our homes, our communities and our world.

(Derek Rotty is a husband, father, teacher and freelance writer. He has written extensively on Catholic history, culture, faith formation and family.)

## Saint Date: 2 February Saint Name: Presentation of the Lord

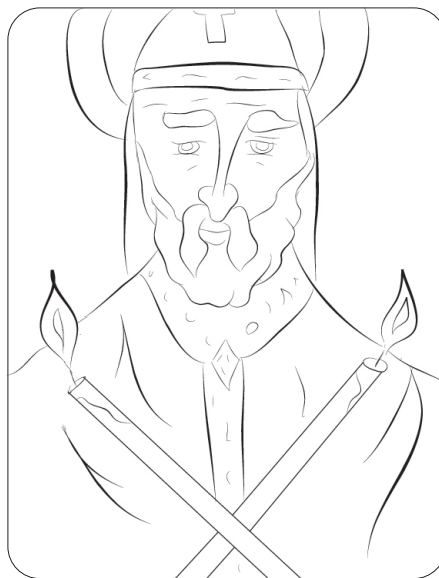
In the time of Jesus it was the Jewish law that all babies were to be brought to the great Temple to be presented to God. Mary and Joseph were obedient to God's law and brought Baby Jesus to the Temple for this presentation. An old priest named Simeon was at the temple that day. God had shown Simeon that Baby Jesus was the Saviour of the world. Simeon rejoiced when he saw Baby Jesus. He then told Mary that she would have to suffer in her life; this was because she would have to give up her Son to save the world. On the Feast of the Presentation we celebrate our obedience to God because He is our Loving Father and we belong to Him.



## Saint Date: 3 February Saint Name: Saint Blaise

Blaise learned about Jesus as a boy. He was always concerned about the troubles of the world but found great joy in Jesus. He became a priest and then a Bishop. He was always trying to do good and to help people. He was arrested for his belief in Jesus, because the ruler of Armenia did not believe in God and would not let Christians practise their faith. As he was being taken to prison, people gathered on the roadside to see him one last time. A young boy was choking on a fishbone and his mother brought him forward to Bishop Blaise. Bishop Blaise prayed for the boy and saved his life. That is why we ask Saint Blaise for prayers to protect us from sickness of the throat. On his feast day we have our throats blessed with two candles. Bishop Blaise was martyred for his faith because he would not stop believing in Jesus.

Get the Saint of the Day for Kids App at <http://saintofthedayforkids.com/>



*Happy the poor in spirit:  
the kingdom of heaven is  
theirs!*



## Parish Directory, Saint Joseph's Parish

Administrator: Rev Fr John Fowles  
Tel: Parish Office, **0428 471 848**  
Parish e-mail: [murgon@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:murgon@bne.catholic.net.au)  
24 Angel Avenue, MURGON  
PO Box 60 Murgon 4605  
Parish website:  
[murgon.brisbanecatholic.org.au](http://murgon.brisbanecatholic.org.au)

## Safeguarding

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

## Collections 22 January 2023

Loose..... \$851.75  
Planned Giving..... \$630.00  
Total.....\$1,481.75  
**Direct Debit** BSB 064-786  
Account 100011987

## We pray for those who are sick:

Bevan Barsby; Cira; Renee Elliott;  
Justine Forde; Val Iacono; Jill Maclure;  
Annette McCorry.

## Novena Prayer the Infant Jesus of Prague

**O Jesus, who said,** "ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you," through the intercession of Mary, Your Most holy Mother, I knock, I seek, I ask that my prayer be granted. *(Mention your request)*

**O Jesus, who said,** "All that you ask of the Father in My Name He will grant you," through the intercession of Mary, Your most holy Mother, I humbly and urgently ask Your Father in Your name that my prayer be granted. *(Mention your request)*

**O Jesus, who said,** "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my word shall not pass," through the intercession of Mary, Your most holy Mother, I feel confident that my prayer will be granted. *(Mention your request)*