

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Twenty-First Sunday Ord. Time
Year C, 24 August, 2025

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



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



Luke 13: 22-30

One of the most important and deep-seated questions humans ask is, "Will I be saved?" This is expressed in other ways, like "Is heaven real? How will I enter it?" In fact, almost all religions speak of offering salvation. Who will be saved? Through a parabolic teaching, Jesus, in today's Gospel, warns those who think that entry into the kingdom is through 'ascription', that is, the assignment of status through kinship ties. The Jews may be the chosen people, children of Abraham, but their salvation is far from assured. Jesus' parable of the Narrow Door emphasises that entry into the kingdom is based not on ascription but on performance. The authentic response to Jesus' teaching entails both hearing and doing. The true disciple is one who hears the word of God and puts it into practice, bearing the fruit of repentance and good deeds.

To the question of whether only a few will be saved, Jesus pictures a multitude "from the east and west, from north and south" reclining at the banquet in God's kingdom. Luke refers to the ingathering of the Jews from the diaspora in the eschatological times (Isaiah 43:5; Zechariah 8:7) and adds

the ingathering of the Gentiles to stress the theme of universalism. The coming of the Gentiles is not a rejection of the Jews. But Jesus disabuses the Jews, especially their religious leaders, of the idea that they can rely on their status as children of the kingdom. Salvation is God's gift freely given to the Israelites, and now to the Gentiles. The Jews should welcome the kingdom with gratitude and humility, and not as something due them because of their ties with Abraham.

(God's Word Daily Reflections 2025)

Saint Vincent de Paul Society



The Saint Vincent de Paul Society is always seeking more dedicated individuals to join us as members.

New members are always welcome. Find the contact information in the leaflets on the seats.

Join us to become the hands behind the help in your local community.

Weekend Mass schedule

5th Sunday of Month - 30/31 August

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston

(Liturgy of the Word)

Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon

Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah

Sunday, 2.30pm Eidsvold

1st Sunday of Month - 6/7 September

Thursday, 9.00am, Castra, Murgon

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston

Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai

Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon

Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah

2nd Sunday of Month - 13/14 September

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston

(Liturgy of the Word)

Saturday, 9.00am, Goomeri

Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai

Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon

Sunday, 10.30am, Cherbourg

Sunday, 2.30pm, Mundubbera

3rd Sunday of Month - 20/21 September

Thursday, 9.00am, Castra, Murgon

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston

Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai

Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon

Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah

Today's readings

Isaiah 66: 18-21; Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13;
Luke 13: 22-30

Response:

Go out to all the world; and tell
the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way,
the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except
through me. Alleluia!



Parish Directory,
Saint Joseph's Parish

Parish Priest: Fr Mikhael Loke SVD
Tel: Parish Office, 0419 693 602
Parish e-mail: murgon@bne.catholic.net.au
24 Angel Avenue, MURGON
PO Box 60 Murgon 4605

Parish website:
murgon.brisbanecatholic.org

Congratulations to Van Than Van Nguyen and Raine Bolger who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, 10 August 2025 at Saint Joseph's Church, and Victoria May Moor, the daughter of David and Morin Moor who received the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday evening, 16 August 2025 at the Wondai Church.

May the Holy Spirit continue to guide their steps, strengthen their faith and fill their life with grace and purpose. *Fr Mikael*

We pray for those who are sick:

Elisabeth Bell; Jess Bradbury;
Graham Burgess; Mary Davitt;
Rodney Euler; Steven Heit;
Nerla Knight; Dr Graham McAllister;
Bob Ricketts; Joshua Smith; Kai Vera.



Signs of hope on the edge: Serving homeless people with mental ill-health

Australia is facing a deepening crisis. Over 273,000 people sought help from homelessness services last year, many also struggling with mental illness. Services are overstretched and many people are left without care, shelter, or hope. Many who are homeless also live with serious mental health challenges. Services are overwhelmed, and too many

people are left without the help they desperately need.

This year's Social Justice Statement calls us to follow the example of Jesus, who always noticed, listened to, and cared for those on the edge of society. Just as Jesus healed the blind man Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46–52), we are called to see and respond to the needs of our sisters and brothers living in hardship.

The statement shares powerful stories of real people:

Michael, who found new life through care and community after years on the street and battling depression; Sally, who faced deep loneliness and an impersonal health system; Carol, who became homeless at 67 after losing her husband; and Luis, who quietly bore his suffering with dignity. These stories show the human face of homelessness and mental illness. They remind us that everyone has a name and a story, and that everyone deserves to be seen, heard, and loved. We are challenged to go beyond charity and comfort.

The Church must become a place of encounter, where people are not just helped, but befriended and embraced as equals. We must notice those on

the edge, truly get to know them, and walk with them in love. The Bishops call for practical action: more affordable housing, better mental health services, stronger support systems, and an end to policies that leave people behind.

But above all, they call on each of us to respond with compassion, courage, and hope. This is not just the work of professionals or institutions.

Every Christian is called to step into the lives of those who are suffering, to befriend them, advocate for them, and journey alongside them.

Catholic Social Justice, next Sunday (31 August) reminds us of the breadth of God's love and concern for us and for our world.

(Signs of Hope on the Edge: Social Justice Statement 2025-2026)

Collections 16/17 August 2025

Murgon	\$440.90
Wondai.....	\$170.00
Proston.....	\$255.00
Total:.....	\$865.90

Direct Debit BSB 064-786
Account 100011987