

# St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Fifth Sunday in Ord. Time  
Year A, 8 February, 2026

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



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



## Matthew 5: 13-16

Have you watched the TV shows about building or renovating houses? Often priority is given to letting in as much light as possible to illuminate dark spaces. Sometimes it is almost as if the beauty of the outside comes inside. The result not only creates a beautiful space within, but the house looks appealing to the passerby too. It's all about sharing the light.

Today Isaiah is responding to the people's complaint that God did not seem to be noticing their fasting and penance. Isaiah tells them that fasting is not only related to God but to their neighbour. The fasting that God wants to see is about good works – sharing with the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the poor. Then their light will shine and not only God, but others, will notice.

Jesus tells his followers that they are the light of the world. They have something worth showing and sharing. High praise indeed! Could Jesus praise me in this way too? Today I will reflect on how I allow God's light into the spaces of my life

and how I show that light to others so they may see the face of God in our world today.

*(God's Word 2026)*



## World Day of Prayer 2026

Join our local prayer service  
focused on Nigeria

Date and Time: 6 March at 9.30am

Venue: Church of Christ, Murgon

Address: 20 Thorn Street, Murgon

Contact: Elaine Thompson

Mobile 0419 693 602

Could you please advise if you can  
attend (catering) and if you can  
participate in the readings.

**World Day of prayer will  
also be celebrated on  
6 March at the Baptist  
Church, Cnr Scott and  
Cadell Streets, Wondai.  
Morning Tea at 9.30am,  
followed by Service at  
10.00am.**

**LENT BEGINS WITH ASH WEDNESDAY  
ON 18 FEBRUARY 2026**

## Weekend Mass schedule

### 3rd Sunday of Month - 14/15 February

Thursday, 9.00am, Castra, Murgon  
Saturday, 9.00am, Proston  
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai  
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon  
Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah

### 4th Sunday of Month - 21/22 February

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston  
(Liturgy of the Word)  
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai  
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon  
Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah  
Sunday, 2.30pm, Mundubbera  
Sunday, 6.00pm, Goomeri

### 1st Sunday of Month - 28 Feb /1 March

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 - 7 March /8 March

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston  
(Liturgy of the Word)  
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai  
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon  
Sunday, 10.30am, Cherbourg  
Sunday, 2.30pm, Mundubbera  
Sunday, 6.00pm, Goomeri

## Today's readings

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

*Response:*

A light rises in the darkness for  
the upright.

*Gospel Acclamation:*

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the  
world, says the Lord; the man who  
follows me will have the light of life.  
Alleluia!



The official journey toward the International Eucharistic Congress 2028 ([eucharist28.org](http://eucharist28.org)) to be held in Sydney, has formally begun with the launch of the Eucharist28 website and the rollout of national parish resources across Australia.

Eucharist28 coincides with the centenary of the first International Eucharistic Congress held in Sydney in 1928. The Congress is being shaped as a multi-year national pilgrimage of prayer, formation, and renewal, inviting Catholics across Australia, Oceania, and beyond to rediscover the transforming power of the Eucharist.

Parishes across Australia from this month will begin receiving Eucharist28 Starter Packs, containing prayer cards, posters, and introductory materials that outline the vision of the Congress.

In the Autumn 2026 Australian Catholics magazine, available later this month, the article 'Tabernacles with feet' by Sebastian Condon says the Congress offers the chance to become what we receive – 'The Body of Christ'.

We pray for the success of the Congress.

*Blessings, Michele Franken*  
Australian Catholics editor



## The Presence of Christ in the Eucharist

Jesus Christ is present to us in many ways and most especially in the Eucharist. The Risen Jesus is present in his word (the Bible), in his Church's prayer "where two or three are gathered in my name, I am with you"; in the poor, the sick and imprisoned; in the sacraments of which he is the author; in the sacrifice of the Mass; in the person of the minister.

Most especially, Jesus is wholly and entirely present in the Eucharist when bread and wine become his body and blood for us to share in his risen life: we are joined to Jesus' thanksgiving and love of our Father in Heaven and to his work of sharing the Good News of salvation and life everlasting.

(See Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraphs 900 and 1373)

(Resources from the Eucharistic Congress 2028 website – [eucharist28.org](http://eucharist28.org))

## Strength and Hope

Pope Leo invites us to pray that terminally ill children will never lose strength or hope. That request may initially sound odd, because terminal illness is defined by the certainty that it will end in death. It will also be accompanied by the loss of many capacities. Clearly, the strength that the prayer asks for is an inner strength of spirit that accepts



## 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](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)

## We pray for those who are sick:

Amira Bond; Graham Burgess; Rodney Euler; Colin Heit; Margaret Hobbs; Nerla Knight; John Kruger; Dr Graham McAllister; Carmel McKeering; Bob Ricketts; Joshua Smith; Kai Vera.

the limitations of bodily strength but is committed to live fully within them. It is not about being passive in relationships and in living, but about living as fully as possible.

The hope that we are asked to pray for is not for a miraculous cure, though of course that may be part of it. It is the deeper hope that in life and in death all will be well. We Christians imagine this as life with Christ in a world beyond our own. This hope is a precious gift. But hope is not confined to Christians. For all human beings it is founded on gratitude for a life lived, for friendship shared, and on surrender to the unknown.

(Andrew Hamilton, 28 January 2026, Australian Catholics)

Available in all Churches this weekend: **'The Journey Home'**  
Daily Reflections for Lent, Year A,  
**Price \$6**

## Collections 31 Jan/1 February 2026

Murgon .....	\$484.15
Wondai.....	\$110.00
Proston.....	\$240.00
<b>Total: .....</b>	<b>\$834.15</b>