

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Fifth Sunday of Easter
Year C, 18 May, 2025

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



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



On the Election of Pope Leo XIV

From some time back, I thought Cardinal Robert Prevost was a rough chance to be elected Pope. But I was surprised when I woke early to the news of his election as Pope Leo XIV. I was also delighted.

He is US-born but is a genuine citizen of the world and the kind of polyglot that presumes. His father was of Italian-French background and his mother had Spanish heritage, which is why he looks Latin. He's spent much of his ministerial life in Peru, and for some years was the Prior General of the Order of Saint Augustine. This took him to every part of the world, including Australia which he visited several times.

It was Pope Francis who tapped him, surprisingly, for the crucial role of Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops which oversees the appointment and management of bishops around the world. This too gave him a birdseye view of the global Church and a sense of how the Roman Curia works. It also gave him a profile among the Cardinal electors.

In the role, he quickly acquired a reputation as approachable, modest, pastoral, non-ideological, reasonable

and firm – qualities he had shown as Prior General of the Augustinians.

My own brief dealings with him left me impressed. He struck me as a man who could listen and who was hard to fluster, a good driver in heavy traffic. His rise to bishop, cardinal and pope has been rapid; so too was his election. But he isn't a man to rush things; he has an air of calm about him. That will serve him well as Pope.

He will continue basic trajectories of the Francis pontificate, but he will be his own man. In some ways he's a Francis creation, but he isn't a Francis clone.

The choice of Leo as his papal name is intriguing. I presume it looks back to Pope Leo XIII at the end of the nineteenth century who led the Catholic Church's engagement with the modern world. It may also look back to Pope Leo I known as the Great. He was Pope in the chaotic fifth century as the Western Empire decayed and new barbarisms threatened.

In our own chaotic time as new barbarisms appear, the Church cannot retreat into a self-protective world. Pope Leo XIV looks to be the Spirit's surprising choice to lead a new engagement and to bring fresh hope not just to the Church but to the world. Echoing the Psalmist, we pray: "May the Lord preserve him and give him life and make him blessed upon the earth".

The Most Reverend Mark Coleridge
Archbishop of Brisbane

✠ Mark Coleridge
9 May 2025

Weekend Mass schedule ahead

4th Sunday of Month - 24/25 May

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston
(Liturgy of the Word)

Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon

Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah

Sunday, 6.00pm, Goomeri

1st Sunday of Month - 31 May/1 June

Sunday, 10.30am, Murgon
(this is the only Mass in the parish this weekend)

2nd Sunday of Month - 7/8 June

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston
(Liturgy of the Word)

Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai

Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon

Sunday, 10.30am, Cherbourg

Sunday, 6.00pm, Goomeri

3rd Sunday of Month - 14/15 June

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston

Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai

Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon

Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah

Today's readings

Acts 14: 21-27; Apocalypse 21: 1-5;
John 13: 31-35

Response:

I will praise your name for ever, my king
and my God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new
commandment: love one another
as I have loved you. Alleluia!

Australian bishops welcome Pope Leo XIV

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) has welcomed the election of Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost as the Pope, now to be known by the name Leo XIV.

Background

Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost, OSA, will be the first Pope from the United States.

The Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops, Archbishop-Bishop emeritus of Chiclayo, was born on 14 September, 1955, in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

In 1977 he entered the novitiate of the Order of Saint Augustine (OSA) in the province of Our Lady of Good Counsel, in Saint Louis.

In August 1981 he gave his solemn vows. He studied at the Catholic Theological Union of Chicago, receiving a diploma in theology.

At the age of 27 he was sent by the Order to Rome to study canon law at the Pontifical Saint Thomas Aquinas University (Angelicum).

He received priestly ordination on June 19, 1982. He received his licentiate in 1984 and was then sent to work in the mission of Chulucanas, in Piura, Peru (1985-1986).

In 1987 he was awarded a doctorate with the thesis: "The role of the local prior in the Order of Saint Augustine".

In 1999 he was elected provincial prior of the 'Mother of Good Counsel' province, Chicago. After two and a half years, the ordinary general Chapter elected him prior general, a ministry again entrusted to him in the 2007 ordinary general Chapter.

In October 2013 he returned to his province (Chicago) to serve

as teacher of the professed and provincial vicar, roles he held in November 2014 when Pope Francis appointed him apostolic administrator of the diocese of Chiclayo, Peru, elevating him to bishop and assigning him the titular diocese of Sufar.

He served as bishop of Chiclayo from November 26, 2015. In March 2018 he became second vice president of the Peruvian Episcopal Conference. Pope Francis appointed him a member of the Congregation for the Clergy in 2019, and member of the Congregation for Bishops in 2020.

On April 15, 2020, the Pope appointed him apostolic administrator of the diocese of Callao.

On January 30, 2023, Pope Francis appointed Cardinal Prevost as prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops and president of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America.

Paul Osborne, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

The Installation Mass for Fr Mikhael Loke as Parish Priest of Saint Joseph's Catholic Parish Murgon and as Administrator of Saint Joseph's Parish Gayndah will be held on Sunday, 1 June 2025, 10.30am, Saint Joseph's Parish Church, Murgon.

The Mass will be officiated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge and followed by a luncheon in the Parish Hall, Angel Avenue, Murgon.

The Mass will be the **only Mass in the Murgon Parish that weekend** and there will be **no Mass in the Gayndah Parish on that weekend**. All from both Murgon Parish and Gayndah Parish are encouraged to attend. A list will be available in all churches this weekend so that parishioners can indicate their attendance, apology and their contribution to the lunch. Please complete and have lists returned to Murgon Parish by 25 May 2025.

Elaine Thompson
Murgon Parish Pastoral Council



Parish Directory, Saint Joseph's Parish

Parish Priest: Fr Mikhael Loke SVD

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Parish e-mail: murgon@bne.catholic.net.au

24 Angel Avenue, MURGON

PO Box 60 Murgon 4605

Parish website:

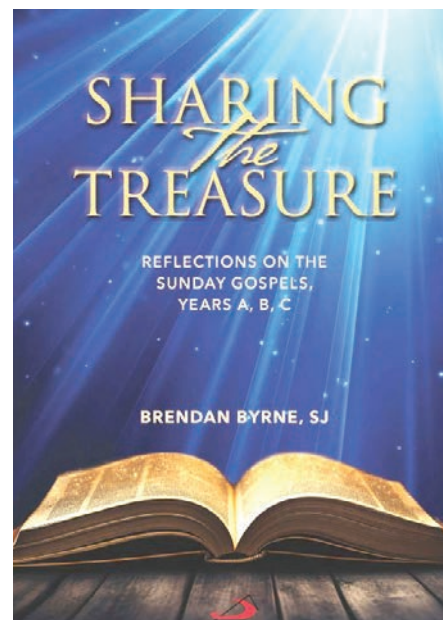
murgon.brisbanecatholic.org.au

We pray for those who are sick:

Jess Bradbury; Graham Burgess;

Rodney Euler; Kevin Fry;

Nerla Knight; Dr Graham McAllister.



In *Sharing the Treasure*, scripture scholar Fr Brendan Byrne brings a lifetime of study to his reflections on the Sunday Gospel readings. His book is a great gift to preachers, teachers and to people at prayer. His reflections are masterly in their conciseness, in providing necessary information about context, and in revealing the depth of meaning and the distinctive insights of each of the Gospels.

Available from Saint Paul's Bookshop
<https://secure.stpauls.com.au/strathfield/sharing-the-treasure.html>