

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Thirtieth Sunday in Ord. Time
Year C, 26 October, 2025

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



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



Luke 18: 9-14

Who are we as we come before God today? Poor, humble, weak, broken-hearted, ill, exhausted, in need of God's mercy? God's face is always turned towards such people. In the Mass today, the penitential rite is a great opportunity to stand in that place of humility with the tax-collector. Presiders sometimes use their own words to introduce the prayers of Mercy. I have heard one ask us to come to our God of love and compassion "for forgiveness of our sins, for peace in our hearts and for healing in our lives". Another calls us to "reflect on our need for healing in our relationships with God, others, ourselves and our environment". The penitential rite is a great equaliser and reality-check; we can all recognise aspects of ourselves that are rough or broken. We come to receive Jesus' gift of himself in Communion not because we are perfect, but because we are in need of him. He wants to feed and nourish us because we are hungry and thirsty. If we come to him full of ourselves, we may not appreciate this gift and we may leave unchanged. So let us be open to God's mercy and healing today.

(God's Word Daily Reflections 2025)

Change to Mass Roster for Goomeri

Sunday Mass at Goomeri will return to 6.00pm Mass on every 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. This will commence on **Sunday, 9 November**.



Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist for Rosie Wallace :

Our parishioner, Rosie Wallace, will receive the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion on Sunday, 9 November 2025 at the 8.00am Mass at Saint Joseph's Church, Murgon. May we ask you to keep Rosie in your prayer as she prepares to receive these Sacraments.

All Souls Day Celebration

The All Souls Day will be celebrated in all the Weekend Masses both on Saturday and Sunday. To mark the All Souls Day, there will be a prayer for a blessing of candles for people to take home in remembrance of those who have passed away. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Weekend Mass schedule

1st Sunday of Month - 1/2 November

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 - 8/9 November

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

3rd Sunday of Month - 15/16 November

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 - 22/23 November

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

Today's readings

Sirach 35: 12-14, 16-19;
Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18; Luke 18: 9-14

Response:

The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!



God issues the prizes

The Pharisee illustrates the attitude of those who can only bolster their own self-image by putting down others. For such people life is a competition in virtue. God assesses the results and issues the prizes. Prayer is an opportunity to keep God informed about one's own success and also about the shortcomings of others. As so often in Jesus' parables, it is all a bit of a caricature. But nonetheless, if we are honest, we can ask ourselves how often we catch ourselves out doing much the same?

The tax-collector, by contrast, stands down the back simply pleading that God be merciful to him, a sinner. In what sense sinner? Because of personal moral failure, for which he now repents? We should not immediately jump to this conclusion. Could it simply be that he finds himself trapped in an occupation that makes him a sinner in his own eyes and those of his world – an occupation which, perhaps, with a family to support and no other job possibilities, he cannot simply abandon? All this the parable leaves open. In any case, as Jesus points out, God's view reverses both verdicts. The one who came to God's house in his own eyes a sinner went home with God's favour ("justified"); the one so sure of his virtue went home without it.

Divine verdict

This double divine verdict recorded in the parable could offer comfort to many people today who find themselves or their loved ones (for example, their children) caught in situations judged objectively

"sinful" on more traditional thinking whether in the area of sexuality, or marital involvement or professional occupation. In a complex world, loyalties often run in several directions. The application of general moral rules and norms to individual lives requires sympathy and pastoral understanding of the pressures and burdens most people have to bear. The parable suggests that God's view, at any rate, does not always run simply along conventional lines. The divine impulse is always towards acceptance, mercy and liberation.

The confidence expressed by Paul as he reviews his life in the Second Reading, 2 Tim 4:6–8, 16–18, looks not so much to his own achievements but to the generosity and faithfulness of God.

(Fr Brendan Byrne SJ Australian Catholics)

DATE CLAIMER

The Parish Mass of All Nations and Multicultural Meal is scheduled for Sunday, **30 November 2025** (5th Sunday). All parishioners are asked to keep this date in mind as it will be the **only Mass in the Parish on that weekend.**

COLUMBAN CALENDARS

The 2026 Columban Art Calendar is available in all Churches.

Cost \$10.00 each



Parish Directory, Saint Joseph's Parish

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We pray for those who are sick:

Graham Burgess; Mary Davitt;
Rodney Euler; Colin Heit; Nerla Knight; Dr Graham McAllister;
Bob Ricketts; Joshua Smith; Kai Vera.

What is humility?

(Real life stories, collected by the Carmelite Sisters)

Echoes from the Past

Humility is just as much the opposite of self-abasement as it is of self-exaltation. To be humble is not to make comparisons. Secure in its reality, the self is neither better nor worse, bigger nor smaller, than anything else in the universe. It is – is nothing, yet at the same time one with everything. It is in this sense that humility is absolute self-effacement... To have humility is to experience reality, not in relation to ourselves, but in its sacred independence. It is to see, judge, and act from the point of rest in ourselves.

Dag Hammarskjöld (1905-1961)

Collections 11/12 October 2025

Murgon	\$343.00
Wondai.....	\$182.15
Cherbourg	\$10.00
Goomeri.....	\$25.00
Total:	\$560.15

Direct Debit BSB 064-786
Account 100011987