

# St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ord. Time  
Year C, 5 October, 2025

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



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

## Welcome

Fr Stanley Orji to our parish this weekend. We really appreciate your generosity for standing in for Fr Mikhael who is on annual leave.



## Luke 17: 5-10

The famous poem promoted by Saint Teresa of Calcutta includes: "What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; Build anyway. The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; Do good anyway". It speaks of a trust beyond what we can see in the present. Our building and doing good has value that we may never experience and may only feel at a spiritual level. God has this trust in us. We have been trusted to "look after something precious", even though we so often fail and forget our responsibilities. God believes in us and our potential. So we are called, also, to trust in an unknown future. Where there is outrage and violence all around, let us see the vision of hope. Let us wait patiently, no matter how slowly it comes. When there is hardship and shame, let us trust in the small sparks of God's goodness, and let us fan them into full flame. When there is doubt and fear, let us believe in the power of the 'mustard

seed' of faith. And when there is exhaustion and ingratitude, let us trust in the value of what we have done. Let's do good anyway.

*(God's Word Daily Reflections 2025)*



## Fan into flame the gift of God

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.

As I prepare to pray, I take a couple of deep breaths, taking the time to become conscious that I am in God's presence and asking the Spirit to help me pray. When I'm ready, I take up the text and read it slowly a couple of times.

I may observe the apostles. Their request, 'Increase our faith', follows some challenging teaching by Jesus. Are they overwhelmed? When do I feel like this? How does Jesus respond? What will their little seed of faith achieve? With honesty and humility, I ponder my own seed of faith. I speak to the Lord from my  
*continued on next page...*

## Weekend Mass schedule

### 2nd Sunday of Month - 11/12 October

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 - 18/19 October

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 - 25/26 October

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston

(Liturgy of the Word)

Saturday, 9.00am, Goomeri

Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai

Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon

Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah

Sunday, 2.30pm, Mundubbera

### 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

## Today's readings

Habakkuk 1: 2-3; 2: 2-4;

Timothy 1 6-8, 13-14; Luke 17: 5-10

*Response:*

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

*Gospel Acclamation:*

Alleluia, alleluia! The word of the Lord stands for ever: it is the word given to you, the Good News. Alleluia!

...continued from previous page

heart. What do I ask for? Or maybe, what does he ask from me?

I may wish to rest here, knowing that the Lord can work in and through me if I cooperate. The second parable about the servant is different. How do I react to it? Maybe there are privileges that I expect? Or maybe I wish to consider the selfless service of others? Or I can simply contemplate the service of my Saviour himself.

I gather my prayer together, and spend some time in silent gratitude. I end with a Glory be . . .

*Courtesy of St Bueno's Outreach in the Diocese of Wrexham, UK*



## Trust in God's faithfulness

Paul's sense of 'faith' here (which I think is echoed in the second part of the Gospel) is not exactly what Habakkuk had in mind. However, both cohere in the sense that faith is fundamentally enduring trust in God's faithfulness, despite appearances to the contrary. Remote and obscure as the words of Habakkuk may appear at first sight, the prophet's sense of the way faith must confront the reality of social injustice and what seems to be divine inaction in the face of that injustice, will, if carefully expounded, strike a resonance in the hearts of many committed believers today.

The Gospel falls into two rather different parts. In the first, the apostles ask Jesus to increase their faith – seemingly in reaction to the very demanding teaching he has just been giving about forgiveness. His response does not imply that the disciples have no faith. Rather, the

little faith they have is enough to work outstanding miracles if only they exploited its possibilities to the full.

As so often is the case in Jesus' teaching, the imagery is exaggerated: the mustard seed is notoriously small; mulberry trees were not only large, their extensive root system made the difficulty of uprooting them a byword. Likewise, the idea of a tree 'planted' in the sea is over the top. Jesus indulges in hyperbole to make his point: to take the risk of faith is to clothe oneself with the power of God. It is people of faith who let God's power in the world.

The second part of the Gospel comes close, as I mentioned above, to the attitude towards God that Paul saw supported in the text from Habakkuk. We might find offputting not only the image Jesus takes from the practice – widespread at the time – of slavery but also the actual content of what he says. Does God really regard us as 'worthless slaves', who deserve no gratitude whatsoever? [We should keep in mind here the rather opposite direction of a very similar image in 12:37, where the master who finds his servants watching when he returns actually does sit them down and waits upon them.]

*Fr Brendan Byrne SJ, Australian Catholics*



## COLUMBAN CALENDAR

The 2026 Columban Art Calendar is available in all Churches.  
Cost \$10.00 each



## 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:

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

## Fr Mikhael's Annual Leave and SVD Assembly

Fr Mikhael is away from the parish for his annual leave and SVD Assembly. In his absence this week Fr Stanley Orji will preside the weekend masses:

Saturday only, 4 October (Mass in Proston at 9.00am and Wondai at 5.00pm).

Please make him feel welcome in our parish. Thank you.

Fr Mikhael will return to the parish for this Sunday, 5 October for the 8.00am Mass at Murgon and the masses in the other church communities as scheduled for the First Sunday of Month.

## Collections 20/21 September 2025

Murgon ..... \$425.30

Wondai..... \$100.00

Proston..... \$220.00

**Total:** ..... \$745.30

**Direct Debit** BSB 064-786

Account 100011987