St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Twenty-Third Sunday Ord. Time Year C, 7 September, 2025 Embracing the communities of Cherbourg, Goomeri, Murgon, Proston and Wondai

## Unity in Siversity ... being one in Christ through Baptism!





#### Luke 14: 25-33

The language in today's Gospel from Luke certainly packs a punch. It looks like we are being asked by Jesus to hate our family, take up our cross and to give up everything we own if we want to be his disciples. Jesus was using strong language to make a fundamental point about Christian discipleship - that in our life we must put nothing before God – not even our family or the things we own. Everything and everybody we have in our life is a gift from God, to be stewarded well for the sake of the kingdom, not clung to for personal comfort. Most of us won't be asked to give up all our possessions (although some in religious life voluntarily make this vow of poverty), but rather we are asked to recognise them as God's gifts and not to place them on a pedestal above God, turning possessions or even family relationships into idols. When we prioritise God and follow Jesus we are ordering our lives rightly. But there is a cost to discipleship, and that is the cross. The cross, at its heart, is a radical self-giving in love and at various points in our life that

cross can feel heavy, but if we keep our eyes on Jesus and conform our life to his, then the cross will not only guide and sustain us in this life, but lead us to life everlasting.

(God's Word Daily Reflections 2025)

### Invitation to attend

# a Sunday Mass at the Catholic Church, Cherbourg:

Everyone is welcome to attend the regular Sunday Mass on the second Sunday of month at the Catholic Church Cherbourg. Thank you for your support and care for the Cherbourg Catholic Community.

Fr Mikhael



# Weekend Mass schedule

#### 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 Sundy, 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

#### 4th Sunday of Month - 27/28 September

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

#### 1st Sunday of Month - 4/5 October

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

## Today's readings

Wisdom 9: 13-18; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14: 25-33

Response:

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws. Alleluia!



I come to my place of prayer, and slowly allow myself to become still. Then I turn to the text. I might want to place myself in the scene, perhaps as part of the great crowds following Jesus. I imagine the excitement and intensity of the situation. Perhaps I am trying to get Jesus's attention, or stand out above the rest? Perhaps I am happy simply to follow the crowd and observe?

How do I react to Jesus's words? It might help to replace the word 'hate' with the alternative words 'forsake' or 'love . . . less'. I spend time reflecting on what it means for me to respond to Jesus's call to love God above all things, even those relationships, possessions, positions and values that are very dear to me. I consider who and what guides my decisions and reactions. Do I have a tendency to defer to the opinions and values of others, rather than truly discerning what God is calling me to do? Perhaps there are times when I am impulsive or reactive?

I talk to the Lord openly about whatever rises to the surface. Slowly, I reflect on how and when I might more actively take a breath, "sit down", and listen to what God wants of me when I respond to particular situations. When I am ready, I end my prayer with an 'Our Father . . .'

(Australian Catholics: Courtesy of St Bueno's Outreach in the Diocese of Wrexham, UK)

"Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel."

Pope Leo XIV



"Holy Spirit may my heart be open to the Word of God, may my heart be open to good, may my heart be open to the beauty of God, every day." Pope Francis



For Fathers' Day this Sunday we pray for all fathers and those in a guiding and mentoring role.

God our Father, we give thanks and praise for fathers, young and old.

We pray for young fathers who are newly embracing their role. May they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for fathers around the world whose children are lost and suffering. May they know the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but who still mentor and guide us with fatherly advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers and great grandfathers who are no longer with us, but who continue to live in our memory, having nourished us with their love.

For fathers who carry a daily cross of failure, loss or rejection, that they will not become embittered but be healed by the power of God's Spirit and the care of loving friends

Blessings, Michele Frankeni, Australian Catholics editor

#### 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.au

#### We pray for those who are sick:

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

If you know anyone in need,
please contact Lindsay Poilly
President, Saint Vincent de
Paul Conference, on
0437 864 667 or 5459 5234



#### Collections 23/24 August 2025

Murgon ...... \$463.00 Wondai ...... \$168.25 Goomeri ..... \$20.00 Total: ..... \$651.25

Direct Debit BSB 064-786 Account 100011987