

# Important Dates for Week 7

- Monday Parish Mass 9am— Year 2
- Monday Swimming—Yr 3-6
- Morning Prayer
   8.45am—3T
- Friday Assembly 10.45am Awards Only
- Friday—
   Blanket Buddies Sausage
   Sizzle



Click our school crest to go our school website calendar.



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Click the Parish logo to go to the Parish Newsletter.

## Term I, Week 6

3 March 2017

# Principal's News

We are in the process of selling a family home for an aged relative. I noted in the paperwork that the house was purchased in 1954 for about \$4 000 – certainly a far cry from today's house prices. It's little wonder, that people look at such comparisons, and yearn for the good old days when things were considered to be so much better.

If we are really honest though, how good were those 'good old days' really? My parents still took most of their life to pay for their house. The house was only 2 bedrooms and there were 4 boys in my family. When I was young, the toilet was well away from the house, and the stove used for cooking, required one of us to chop wood and cart it up to the house.

When I was a little older we finally got a TV. It was Black and White, and had only one channel – the ABC. My parents insisted upon watching the 7 pm National News – after which we had to say the whole Rosary as a family. This caused arguments – because the news finished at 7:30 and the only show we were allowed to watch started at 7:30. Prayer cut into our TV time. Clearly arguments over screen time are not a new thing

a new thing. Back in 1964, Robert F Kennedy said, 'There are people in every time and in every land who want to stop history in its tracks. They fear the future, mistrust the present, and invoke the security of a comfortable

past which, in fact, never existed.' The reality is, that over time, despite all of our concerns, today will be

one of the 'good old days' for our children. Their world, and their experiences of it, will be very different from our own, but it will still be good, and our children will have great memories of their childhood. Last night for example, about 450 of our 480 students came along to our Welcome Dance with their families. It was a great time to dance, be with friends and family, and enjoy being part of a strong community. I was so proud and so grateful to be 'us'. The support of staff, the preparations by Mrs Brown and Mrs Hammermeister, the help of Parents' and Friends' and the amazing engagement and behaviour of our students, allowed us to create not just a great night, but yet another great memory for our students. Thank you so much for your support in making our school something special.

Congratulations to our new P & F Committee for 2017. They are;

President—Kellie Howard Vice President—Melissa Marschke Secretary—Krystle Hall

**Diocesan Rep**—Jessica Cullinan and we are so lucky to have these people help lead our school.

Today is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the passing of Charlotte Moorehead, a student who was very special to me, and to our school community. Charlotte passed away when she was in Year 3. Please keep her parents Bill and Jackie and their family in your prayers.



Friday, I 0th March \$2 each

Sausages are Gluten Free

without bread







Mark Fox

# Student of the Week



# **Sports News**

#### **Inter-House Swimming Carnival**

The Senior School Swimming Carnival (Years 3-6) will be held on Monday, 27th March at the Bundaberg Swim Academy, Fitzgerald Street. An information letter and a nomination Google form are attached to this newsletter. Please complete the nomination form for your child /children by Friday, 17th March.

School records are displayed on the Library's noticeboard. A program of events will be displayed on the library's noticeboard once nominations have been collated.

A warm invitation is extended to all parents & grandparents who wish to attend and support their child/children on the day. Limited shade will be available for parents and I would encourage you to bring a folding chair. There will be an opportunity for parents/ grandparents to get wet and assist your child's house team in the Salmon Run; so bring your togs and have some fun!

The program for the carnival will be as follows:

Years 3 & 4: 9:00am - 11:00am Years 5 & 6: 11:00am - 12:30pm Presentations: 2:30pm in the covered area

(Overall Points & Age Champions 10-12yrs).

#### **Age Champions**

An Age Champion will be to awarded to a boy & girl born 2005, 2006 & 2007 for each Inter-House Carnival: Swimming, Cross Country & Athletics. In this way, we allow our more mature students the opportunity to achieve in a competitive environment, while maintaining our focus on participation, particularly for younger children. Please note that due to restrictions on the number of lanes at BSA, the Swimming Age Champion will be awarded on times in freestyle, backstroke & breastroke.

We have a wonderful program here at our school, which encourages participation, and offers appropriate opportunities for competition, and it is fantastic to see how much our children both benefit from, and thoroughly enjoy, our program.

#### **Bundaberg Zone School Sporting Representative – 2017**

Softball: Shiloh Atkinson



**BUNDABERG ZONE SCHOOL SPORTS TRIALS - 2017 Touch U12** Girls & Boys Trials: 3/10 March, Bundaberg Touch Grounds, 3:45 – 5:30pm. Golf U12 Girls & Boys: Please submit nomination form to Peter Johnson - Bargara State School by

Tennis U12 Girls & Boys Trials: 16th March, Rotary Tennis Courts, 8:45am - 3:00pm.

Football U/12 Boys: Tuesday 14th March (ONLY BOYS BORN 2006 & 2007); Wednesday 15th March (ONLY BOYS BORN 2005); Wednesday 22nd March & if need be Thursday 23rd March (ALL BOYS INVITED BACK FROM THE PREVIOUS

**WEEK);** Martens Oval, 4:00pm – 5:30 pm. **Football** U/12 Girls: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March & Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March (**must attend both days**); , Martens Oval, 4:00pm - 5:30 pm.

Rugby League Boys: Thursday 16 March, Tuesday 21 March, Thursday 23 March, Tuesday 28 March (if needed); 10 years (born 2007), 11 years (born 2006), 12 years (born 2005). Exceptional 9 year olds born 2008 may trial for the 10 years team; Salter Oval, 3.30 pm - 5.00 pm. ALL PLAYERS MUST

#### WEAR A MOUTHGUARD WHEN TRIALLING/PLAYING!

Wide Bay 10-12yrs Girls Rugby League Emerging Talent Camp; 1-4 April – Pialba SS Hervey Bay

Students wishing to trial must have a consent form issued by the school with authorisation from Mr Plumb or Annette Hammermeister. Students will not be able to participate in the trials without a Bundaberg District Primary Schools nomination form. Do not hesitate to contact Annette Hammermeister if you have any questions or concerns regarding Bundaberg Zone trials.

# Girl Guides Bundaberg

Girl Guides provides a non-formal education program that it a dynamic, flexible and values-based training in life skills, decisionmaking and leadership. It is supported by trained volunteer Leaders who are committed to Girl Guides Australia's mission statement: To enable girls and young women to grow into confident, self-respecting, responsible community members.

Girls ages 6-14 are eligible to join the Girl Guides and young women aged from 14-18 have the opportunity to participate in the Rangers program. If your daughter is interested, you can come along and try for free for the first 2 weeks to see what it's all about. Please contact either Marlene Rayner on 4152 6570 or Ann Vautin on 0438532763 if you are interested in finding out more about this wonderful community group.





### CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON

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#### BISHOP'S LENTEN PASTORAL LETTER 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (this coming Wednesday). Most of you are familiar, even very familiar, with the call to prayer, self-denial and works of mercy that are at the heart of Lenten practice. Perhaps we are so familiar that this time could pass over us without achieving the deep transformative change it offers. Therefore, I write to you asking you to consider the familiar readings differently.

During the Bishop's In-service Days, many of you heard me speak of the ancient practice of people joining our Church through baptism at the Easter Vigil. This practice was revived and gifted to us by the Second Vatican Council and I encourage our parishes to relook at this marvellous tradition of the Church now known as the RCIA (The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). By it, new members (Catechumens) are nurtured in our parish communities as they are prepared to be welcomed into the Catholic faith. During Lent those preparing for baptism, our Catechumens, move into a more intense time when they seek to enlighten their minds, hearts and experiences in the Light of Christ. It is through our example and witness to the Catholic faith that those seeking entry into the Church will experience the same transformation that we seek. It is our prayer that our light, as the Light of Christ, will shine as an example for our new Catholics.

#### Light from the Gospels

The purpose of light is not just to shine, but to shine on things so that they can be seen in the truth. Next Sunday, we hear the extraordinary story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. Jesus, the sinless one, is driven by the Spirit into the desert and in the midst of hunger and weakness he experiences temptation.

Each of His temptations are, in some way, an invitation to separate Himself from God and from sharing in our common humanity. Jesus chooses not to 'go it alone' but rather to be led by God and be one with us in our brokenness.

Temptation provided the illumination to see God's plan for Him. We are all tempted, each in our own ways. This Lent, I invite you to allow the Spirit to lead you to face your own temptations and to see how sin draws you away from God and other people. In the light of that knowledge, may you see God's call to be bearers of His life and grace.

In the following Sundays of Lent, we have the great teaching Gospels for us and our Catechumen companions: the story of the Woman at the Well, the story of the Man born Blind and the story of the Raising of Lazarus.

Each of these stories throws light on the great drama of the human condition. With the Woman at the Well, the Samaritan Woman, we see how Jesus gently but firmly uncovers the brokenness of her heart and life. Her desire for love and acceptance, inadequately expressed, has led to a splintering of her heart and rejection by her community. Jesus loved the woman and in the light of that love, she could honestly face her messed-up life. In doing so she became a light for her community, drawing them to Jesus.

In the story of the **Man born Blind**, we see different raucous voices telling the healed man what he should believe, not based on the truth, but on their own prejudices. When the man claims and owns his own experience, he comes to an inner healing that surpasses his physical healing. He steps into the Light and worships Jesus.

In the story of the **Raising of Lazarus**, we are faced with the great grief and fear we all have towards death. We shall all die, and sadly, we also suffer the death of our own loved ones. In this story, we see Jesus come and stand in the midst of death and grief. These poignant words, 'Jesus wept.' the shortest verse in the Bible, sum up Jesus' response to the tragedy of sin and death. In Jesus' Light, we can face squarely the depth of our grief, because we have the hope that comes from His being with us.

My brothers and sisters, I invite you to join me in taking time this Lent to allow the Light of these Gospels to change our lives. As we ponder over our own temptations, the desires of our hearts, our experience of learning the truth in Jesus and the reality of death, may we know even greater depths of God's life working within us.

Light from the Royal Commission.

I cannot conclude without offering a few reflections on the Royal Commission.

During these weeks, the light of the Royal Commission has been shining brightly on the Catholic Church. These weeks and past years of the Commission, while very difficult, have assisted us as a Church to face our past with honesty, as our sins have been highlighted. The Royal Commission is calling us as a Church to accountability and offers us a path to the future.

As your bishop, I will accept with humility the recommendations of the Royal Commission and during my episcopacy I will work to ensure our Church is a safer place. I offer my deepest apology to those who carry the pain of our sins and for the suffering and spiritual scars they endure. I thank each one of the survivors for their bravery in coming forward to assist in bringing the Church to account and illuminating our failures.

I ask your prayers for me, your bishop, and I ask that we all work together on the mission of Jesus Christ in making the Diocese of Rockhampton a safer place for everyone and especially for our young people.

May the illuminating Light of Christ shine into our Church this Easter so that we may all embrace Him who is the source of all healing and forgiveness.

Yours sincerely

Most Rev Michael McCarthy

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Bishop of Rockhampton





Saturday 18th March, 2017





We have been advised that Bundy Bowl & Leisure are running a "Lock-in" Child Minding Service for the day and will donate \$5 per child back to the Catholic Schools (based on a minimum of 10 children attending). Full details are provided below:

