Second Collection This Weekend

There will be a second collection held at all parish Masses THIS weekend. This collection is for the Australian Catholic Bishop’s Conference to send financial support to the many refugees suffering in the Middle East.

Mass Times

ST JOSEPH’S NORTH MACKAY
Monday: 6.30am Lay-led Service
Tuesday: 6.30am Mass
Wednesday: 9.30am Anointing Mass
Thursday: 6.30am Mass
Friday: 6.30am Mass
Saturday: 6.00pm Mass
Sunday: 9.00am Mass

Reconciliation: St Joseph’s Saturday 11.00am-11.30am

ST BRENDA’S BUCASIA
Sunday: 7.30am Mass

ST BRIDG’S FARLEIGH
Wednesday: 6.30pm Mass
Friday: 9.30am Mass
Saturday: 6.00pm Mass
Sunday: 7.00am Mass
Sunday: 9.00am Mass
Sunday: St Peter’s Midge Point 9.15am
St Peter’s Sunday 11am
St Joseph’s Sunday 9am
St Helen’s Sunday 9.30am
St Brigid’s Sunday 9am

St Bridg’s Church, Farleigh
St Helen’s Church, Calen
St Peter’s Church, Midge Point
Sts Peter and Paul’s Church, Habana
Star of the Sea Church, Seaforth

Third Sunday of Advent - Year B
Sunday, 14 December 2014

Traditionally, the third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of Joy. The joy of this Sunday comes both from the message of the readings and from the anticipation that Christmas is nearing. As described in the Isaiah passage, the Messiah is the one imbued with the spirit and with the power of the prophet, the one who will fulfill the promises of God. It becomes obvious in the Gospel that the Messiah is the one proclaimed by the Baptist. John cleared a path for the coming of the anointed one, and from that time on the lives of believers have been the pathway through which the Messiah has entered the world.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS

Advent is also a time for renewing our trust in God especially through acts of charity or reconciliation. This year, our parishes are invited to join in a Second Rite of Reconciliation to highlight Advent as a season of forgiveness. The Second Rite includes a liturgy of The Word (Scripture Readings), an examination of conscience and then individual confession is available for those who wish to go to the Sacrament. It is a communal rite of reconciliation, and a number of priests across our district will be joining in these celebrations. Below are the dates for the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation.

DATES FOR 2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

* Monday 15th December 7:00pm, St Joseph’s Church North Mackay.
* Tuesday 16th December 7:00pm, St Francis Church West Mackay.
PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR RECENTLY DECEASED: Madeline Huygen, Anna Rostriolla, Noeleen McKay, Gregory Cash, Dr Nicholas Tonti-Filippini, Pat Herlihy, Bob Schofield.

ANNIVERSARY: Doris Sciberras, Paul Vella.

REMEMBRANCE MASS: Brian Boland, Mary Ellul, Patrick Herlihy, Dr Nicholas Tonti-Filippini, Bob Schofield, Noeleen McKay, Sam & Doris Sciberras, Salvatore & Teresa Zammit, Agnes Dempsey.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Grace Sealey, Neil Rogers, Ray Jackson, Terry Devery, Jennifer Davies, Noeleen McKay, Greg Smith, Josephine Thurgood, Chanel Lenicka, Jo Gauci, Belinda Ward, Laura Lucas (Brisbane), Kenny Davison, Joanne Agius, Julie Rowen, Ursula Murray, Toni Maree Vella, Steven Senini, Beth Thomas, Barry Riddel, Josephine McMahon, Gwen Phillips, Merle Fitzgerald, Jim Bartolo, Sylvia Splent, Elaine Hogan, Barry Waddington, Dave Ryan, Jim Scrha, Gail Fallis, Barbara Sands, Amanda Chetcuti, Jim Hanks, Jim Wright, all the sick of the parish.

PRAYER MEETINGS

MOTHER’S PRAYER MEETINGS
* Paula Becker on 4959 9862 or 0400258569 or email p.becker@bigpond.com (See notice on notice board)

AVE MARIA PRAYER GROUP
Saturdays 4pm. All Welcome. For details phone Lyn 49556826, Denise 49551610.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP
Weekly Prayer gatherings. For further information phone Josephine 49424746 after 5pm

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR
Tuesday night 7:00pm at St Patrick’s Church River Street.

ST BRENDAN’S CHURCH ROSARY
Tuesdays at 9:00am anyone wanting a lift, phone Isobel 49695457.

EL SHADDAI—PRAISE & WORSHIP
Everyone is invited to join in praise and worship. Saturdays 7:30pm—9:30pm at St Joseph’s Church.

MARANATHA CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP
Meets Weekly Adult Faith Centre, cnr Macalister & River Sts. 7.30pm Friday. All welcome. Contacts 49424524/49427042.

ST JOSEPH’S CHURCH ROSARY
The Rosary will be prayed every day before the 6:30am Mass on week days starting at 6.00am and on Saturdays, before the Vigil Mass we would love to have a chat with you.

DATE CLAIMERS — ST JOSEPH’S CHURCH

ANOINTING MASS
Wednesday 17th December 2014, 9:30am.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS
Saturday 3rd January 2015, 7:00am Mass followed with Holy Hour.

SACRED HEART SODALITY
Tuesday 6th January 2015, 6:30am Mass at St Joseph’s Church.

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE
Next meeting 20th February 2015, 9:00am in the Parish Centre.

COME AND JOIN US!

PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS
Please remember to join Bishop Michael McCarthy in prayer at Midday each day in praying the Angelus, but with a specific intention and that is the Vocation to the Priesthood and Religious life, so that our Catholic communities throughout the Diocese will be staffed, into the future, with Priests and Religious for their sacramental and pastoral care.

(St Joseph’s Church will be open each day at 12noon for Praying the Angelus. Please join us :) 

Catholic Women’s League
In May 2015 the St Joseph’s Branch of CWL will celebrate our 60th Anniversary of our activities in this Parish. We are pleased to relate that we regularly hold executive positions at all levels of the organisation from Branch, Regional, Diocesan, State and National. This gives us a living and active knowledge of the values and efforts that make a difference. It is a great time for us to meet and greet ladies of like minds feel free to give us a call or catch us at Mass we would love to have a chat with you.

ADULT FAITH

Adult Faith Centre, Cnr River & Macalister Sts, Mackay
Adult Faith Co-Ordinator : Leenore Reddy
Ph: 4944 7270 Mb: 0439429742
Email: adultfaith@stpat.qld.edu.au
Office Hours: Monday on appointment and Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 2 pm to 5pm .

MACKAY CATHOLIC CHURCHES
CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2014

Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December
St Francis Xavier’s Church, West Mackay 6:00pm Vigil Mass
St Mary’s Church, South Mackay 6:00pm Vigil Mass
St Joseph’s Church, North Mackay 6:00pm Vigil Mass
Holy Rosary Church, Marian 6:00pm Vigil Mass
St Brigid’s Church, Farleigh 7:00pm Vigil Mass
St John’s Church, Walkerston 6:00pm Vigil Mass
St Patrick’s Church, Mackay 8:00pm Vigil Mass
St Francis de Sales Church, Finch Hatton 8:00pm Vigil Mass
St Joseph’s Church, North Mackay Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Wednesday 25th December
St Patrick’s Church, Mackay 7:00am Mass
Star of the Sea Church, Seaforth 7:00am Mass
St Therese’s Church, Alligator Creek 7:00am Mass
Holy Cross Church, Eton 7:30am Mass
St Brendan’s Church, Bucasia 7:30am Mass
Immaculate Conception Church, Mirani 8:00am Mass
St Helen’s Church, Calen 9:00am Mass
St Francis Xavier Church, West Mackay 9:00am Mass
St Michael’s Church, Sarina 9:00am Mass
St Peter the Rock Church, Midge Point 9:00am Lay-Led
St Francis Assisi Chapel, West Mackay 11:00am Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY GATHERING
We say to people that this is the ‘Alone Person’s Christmas Celebration.’

If you are ‘alone’ or in a small family situation, without extended family here in Mackay, please spend Christmas with us. We will not be ‘alone’ but ‘together.’

WHERE: St Joseph’s Catholic Parish Centre.
21 Grendon Street, North Mackay.


TIME: 11 am – 4 pm – Christmas Lunch and Afternoon Tea.

PLEASE CONTACT THE COORDINATORS:
* Riki Schroeder – Phone: 4969 5207 or 0407 695 207 email: riki@matilda.net.au
* Margaret Russell – Phone: 4957 8531

Everyone is asked to contribute one item to share. Contact Margaret or Riki re: what you would like to contribute. It may be a salad or just a song or two?

All women, men and children feeling ‘alone’ are welcome to attend.
Reflection by Artist

There is some confusion about the identity of John and his relationship to Jesus in this week’s gospel reading. The message is plain - John is not the light, rather he is ‘a witness to speak for the light’. Light is the dominating image of the Advent/Christmas cycle.

The liturgical cycle and the natural cycle are harmonious in the northern hemisphere so that the advent of the light is a powerful image of hope. In Brisbane where I live, we have to reshape the light imagery to suit our seasons: Christmas is in the middle of summer and the warmth and light of the sun are present realities, not future prospects. This is by no means an insurmountable problem: the Advent/Christmas cycle is redolent of past, present and future time imagery. Further, because of its nature as a multivalent symbol, the 'light' image can be read from many different perspectives and still be fruitful.

December the sunflowers I have planted in my garden will, I hope, be two metres tall and flowering in time for the Christmas liturgies. If all goes well they will give powerful witness to the efficacy of light. Advent is a time of watching and waiting (on things natural and spiritual) in hopeful expectation. [Jenny Close]

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM NEWS

We are now at the halfway point in the preparations for the Sacraments. The last Children’s Liturgy of the Word for this year will be this Sunday of 7th December at St Brendan’s Church. The program will resume with a Parent Session “Reconciliation” on 8th February 2015.

If you haven’t already put your name to be a prayer partner for a child, there are still plenty of vacancy. Please continue to pray for the success of the program.

If anyone would like to be part of the Sacramental Team, your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Please phone Chris at the Parish Office 49574855.

LOOKING FOR CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas handcrafted items now available from the Pious Good Store. The Stall is open 11am to 130am Saturday mornings and before and after Mass every Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

Have you checked the prices you will be pleased.

2014 CHRISTMAS “SHOE BOX” APPEAL

The Stella Maris Seafarers Centre once again holding its appeal to assist Seafarers this Christmas. So many Seafarers who will spend Christmas without their parents, brothers, sisters, wives and probably most importantly of all, their children. Some gift suggestions include: (Please remember that the Seafarers are male.) Small Address Book, Blank CD’s, Toiletries (non aerosol), Fishing gear (hooks, sinkers, fishing line reels), Playing Cards, Board Games, Torch, Batteries, DVD’s, Magazines & Books (New, particularly sports related), Puzzles & Crosswords, Puzzle Books, Souvenir biro/pen, T Shirts, Wallets, Travel Alarm Clock, Caps, Nail Clippers, Towels, Photo Frames, Writing sets, Vitamins, Socks, Handkerchiefs or perhaps a cash donation (we will purchase something on your behalf).

Donations can be left at the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre, 43 Brisbane Street between 9am and 4pm daily or by arrangement by calling 49534038 (we can collect).

FINANCE CLERK

St Joseph’s Church is offering a temporary position for a Finance Clerk, requiring five hours per week for the month of January 2015. The position requires Accounts Payable skills.

Interested persons are asked to contact the Finance office by Friday 19th December.

THANK YOU FROM ST. VINNIES

St. Vinnies would like to thank the parents, teachers and students of our four schools for their generous donations of groceries and cash etc towards our Christmas Hampers for the disadvantage in our parish. For those not involved with the schools, and would like to donate towards the hampers—groceries or cash—can be left at the paper counter or parish centre.

This year the hampers will be delivered on SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER.

Assistance to deliver these hampers would be appreciated, if you can help please come along on Sunday 21st December to the Parish Centre.

There MUST be TWO people doing the deliveries.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission as the people of the North Mackay and Northern Beaches Catholic Parish, sustained and nourished by the Word and Sacraments, is to build and develop a Catholic community, which continues Christ’s mission in the world.

PATHWAYS OF ST PAUL

Join parishioners from Holy Innocents’ on a 20 day Pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey, departing Monday 20th April 2015. Walk in the footsteps of St. Paul, visit the Basilica of St John built over the tomb of “The Apostle and the “House of Mary” where it is said Revelation, and of summer and the warmth and light of the sun are present realities, not future prospects. This is by no means an insurmountable problem: the Advent/Christmas cycle is redolent of past, present and future time imagery. Further, because of its nature as a multivalent symbol, the 'light' image can be read from many different perspectives and still be fruitful.

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Krigovsky, admin@holyic.org.au

Brochure and Booking Form please contact Fr. Peter

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An invitation is extended to all those involved in Catholic Education, Adult Faith Education and Catechesis to attend the Opening School Mass to celebrate the beginning of the 2015 School Year.

This special Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph’s Church on Friday 23 January 2015 at 9.00am. Presentations of plaques for the recognition of service and the introduction of new staff will be made following Mass.

REGIONAL SCHOOLS OPENING MASS

An invitation is extended to all those involved in Catholic Education, Adult Faith Education and Catechesis to attend the Opening School Mass to celebrate the beginning of the 2015 School Year.

This special Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph’s Church on Friday 23 January 2015 at 9.00am. Presentations of plaques for the recognition of service and the introduction of new staff will be made following Mass.

Kimberley Catholic Volunteer Service

WANTED: VOLUNTEER WORKERS

The Diocese of Broome, WA, requires volunteers to assist with the work of the local Church on Aboriginal Missions. There are various important voluntary tasks: administration, building maintenance, gardening, shop staffing, cooking, cleaning etc. Placements are preferred for a period of 6 months plus.

For further details, and an application form, please contact:

Volunteer Coordinator Anneliese Rohr: 08 9192 1060
Email: volunteers@broomediocese.org
Web: www.broomediocese.org
Mail: PO Box 76, BROOME WA 6725

PO Box 76, BROOME WA 6725
RESPONSORAL PSALM: My soul rejoices in my God in my God, my soul is glad.

THIS WEEKEND’S READINGS:
Third Sunday of Advent Year B
1st Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11.
2nd Reading: Thessalonians 5:16-24.

NEXT WEEKEND’S READINGS:
Fourth Sunday of Advent Year B
1st Reading: Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16.
2nd Reading: Romans 16:25-27.

LITURGY ROSTERS: Blank Liturgy Rosters are now on the notice board for people to fill in for Christmas Period and up to 25th January 2015.