



The Bush Ministry Fund

Thank you to members of our parish for supporting the Bush Ministry Fund.



Parts of the west have recently had good rain however it will take many good seasons to overcome the financial and emotional toll the long drought has had (and indeed many parts, are still having) on the people on the land and in the surrounding towns.

The Bush Ministry Fund is vital to maintaining priestly and pastoral ministry in the communities of the west.

How can you help?

1. Take a Bush Ministry Fund money box and bring it in for collection in October 2009
2. "Take the Pledge" — pledge \$1 per week to the Bush Ministry Fund — add your name to the sign-up sheet on the table or see Ros Kean. This is collected in May and October (\$26 per half year or \$52 annually).

If you are one of the people who pledged \$1 per week, your half yearly donation is due.

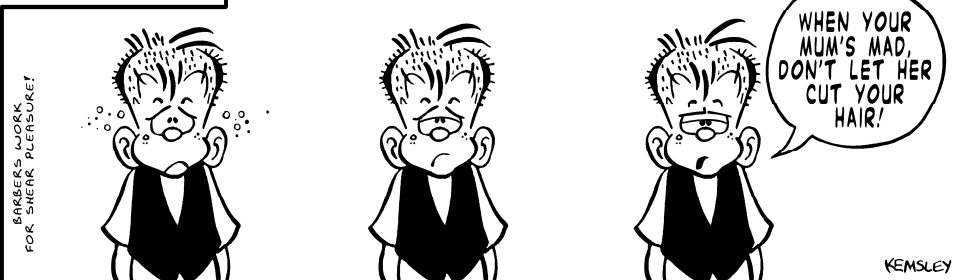
If you have a Bush Ministry Mission Box, please return it to Ros Kean or Marilyn in the Parish Office.



Courage is not defined by those who fought and did not fall, but by those who fought, fell, and rose again.

KIDWISE #1

www.hinet.net.au/~meggs



Good Shepherd Church

Anglican Parish of Bundaberg West

George & Takalvan Sts. Bundaberg

Rector: Rev'd Dr Richard Bowie 41528810
Phone & Fax - Office (07) 41528810
BOX 5120 Bundaberg West Qld 4670

Churchwardens:
Ian Lohse Ph 41 512210
Russ Ford Ph 41516929
Lesley Christensen Ph 41523860

Parish Office: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9am – 12 noon

Email address: goodshepherdwest@bigpond.com

Web Site: www.goodshepherdbundaberg.org

The 'family church'... where you're a stranger only once.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT



7TH DECEMBER, 2008

The Second Sunday of Advent:

Leader: Last Sunday, we lit the first candle in our Advent wreath, the candle of *Hope*.

We light it again today, remembering that the light of *Hope* shines for us in the darkness.

(The first candle is re-kindled.)

Speaker: Peace is one of God's gifts to us.

John the Baptist was a prophet calling the people of Israel to repent, to find peace with God. John also declared that it is in our actions of love and justice that God's peace is shown. May we by our actions help to prepare the way for the coming of Peace.

Leader: We light this second candle to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of Peace. His light helps us find ways to share God's peace with others.

(The second candle (peace is lit))

Leader: The prayer of St. Francis asks God to help us be peacemakers. Let us say it together:

Everyone

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is sadness, joy; and where there is darkness, light. Grant that we may not seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood, as to understand, to be loved, as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive, in pardoning that we are pardoned, and in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.



*The Good Shepherd Family — our purpose is to grow together in Christ,
to worship and learn, to be the Good News.*

Parish Family News!

Celebrating Birthdays

7th Bill Hailey
8th Charlotte Bryan
Carolyn Wood
9th Meg Pearson
Hannah Petersen
12th Arthur Wedemeyer



Best wishes from all your parish family

Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries.

11th Ray & Jenny Jose
(32 years)



Congratulations & much love from us all.

ANNIVERSARY SONG

Tell me I may always dance
the ANNIVERSARY WALTZ
with you,
Tell me this is real romance,
an anniversary dream come true,
Let this be the anthem to our future years,
to millions of smiles and a few little tears,
May I always listen to



The “Sew & Sews”
Christmas Breakup
is this **Thursday**



11th December at the
River Cruz Restaurant, Quay Street,
Bundaberg at 11.00am for 11.30 start.

**Any parishioners who would like to
join them are most welcome.**
R.S.V.P. Marg Tuffield 41556616
by tomorrow

If you need a parish name badge—please let
us know via a care & courtesy slip.
The price is right — free!

BLESSED ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING
GOOD NEWS!

Christmas Services

CHRISTMAS EVE: SPECIAL CHILDREN'S
SERVICE AT 7PM

CHRISTMAS DAY: CHRISTMAS SERVICE
AT 8.30AM

Archbishop's November Appeal



Thank-you to all who supported the
Archbishop's November Appeal to help
the people of Papua New Guinea.
We'll have a final total next Sunday.

A huge thank you to all who
supported our Christmas
Cent Sale last Tuesday.



The members of the “Sew & Sews” excelled themselves with their beautiful craft items. *What a dedicated, talented group of ladies we have.*

Joan and her helpers did a marvelous job in organizing the event and parishioners were so supportive and generous with their donations to the table.

Our profit was \$2,290.90. Praise God!

Feed the “Cookie Jar”

It loves both notes & coins.

Mow the Church lawns by proxy!



COAT—Thank you to all who are supporting the Chinese Orphans Assistance Team—those who have pledged and those who give when they can—your donations make such a difference to these little children's lives.



December donations are due!

This week in the Parish:

Monday		Rector's Day Off
Wednesday	9.00am 10.00am	Midweek Service Pastoral Focus Visitors Mater Hospital
Thursday	7.00am 11am for 11.30am	Pastoral Focus Home Visits & Bedside Communion Mater Hospital Sewing Circle Break-up at River Cruz Restaurant
Friday	7.00am 8.00am	Prayer Group meet in the church Bedside Communion Riverlea & Gracehaven
Sunday	7.00am 9.30am 4.00pm	Holy Communion Family Communion Service & Sunday School Breakup Laate Home Group Contact Andrew & Louise 41542680



It's time again for this ever-popular musical treat!

Bundaberg Orpheus Singers & Bundaberg Youth Choir
together with the Bundaberg Municipal Band

Christmas Concert

Christmas melodies and memories....old and new
in Holy Rosary Church
TONIGHT at 7.30pm .

**Admission \$5.00 payable at the door.
Christmas Hamper Raffle \$1 per ticket**



Please note: There will not be any mid-week services in January—last service 20th December. Services resume Wednesday 7th February.

Your used stamps really help. Support ABM. Please leave used stamps in the box near

Sunday Services after Christmas—One service only at 8.30am until Sunday 4th February. This is a wonderful time for us to worship & fellowship together.

Your mind can only hold one thought at a time so make it a positive and constructive one.

Help! We need volunteers for the January Roster.

If you are available PLEASE let the parish secretary know via a care & courtesy slip TODAY.



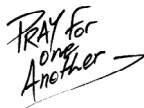
Keeping in Touch

If you've noticed someone missing from church lately and they live near you, why not slip a Pew Sheet into their letterbox or give them a call.

“Things turn out best for the people who make the best of the way things turn out.”

Our Parish Prayer

Father God, equip our Good Shepherd family with the resources we need.
Empower us all by your Holy Spirit.
Strengthen, protect and guide us – especially in our times of need.
Remove the obstacles that would block our endeavours to do your will.
Make us one, within the fold of your church.
We ask in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.



Pastoral Focus Prayer.

God our Father,
Grant us the skills to serve your church;
The ears to hear the calls for help;
The lips to speak your words of truth;
The eyes to see the needs to fill;
The feet to go to those in want;
The mind to meet the doubts we find;
The heart of love to share your peace;
The hands to work without reward;
We ask this only to do your will,
Through Jesus, our Saviour, Redeemer and Friend. Amen.



Prayer of Evangelism.

Heavenly Father, Set our hearts on fire to go into the world in your name.
Grant us wisdom, and the confidence to speak your word.
Give us the strength and the will to continue through all circumstances.
Help us take the Good News to all who will listen,
so they may know Jesus as their Lord and master.
May we glorify your name in all we say and do. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.



In your prayers, please remember:-

Our Parish Family prayer list this week (from our parish directory – to show we care)

Colin, Sharyn, Jacob & Thomas; Michael, Amy, Portia-Lily, Kaleb, Levi & McCauley;
Mark, Michelle, Meg & Cara; Brett, Nicola, Jaron, Natasha, Briannon & Jaslyn; Harry & Cheryl.

Absent Friends: Parish Family not with us today.

For those in need:

Prayers for Healing: "Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest"

Alison; Cindy; Robert; Gia; Barney; Kevin; Florence; Darrell, Ian A; Ruth; Ros; Judy; Bev; Richard;
Sherry;*(and those known only to the Lord).*

Special Needs:

Anthony & Family; Tammy; Kym; Emma; Julia; Bonny & children; Joyce; (& those known only to the Lord)

Pray for peace in the Congo

Our School Chaplains: Fr. Andrew, Paula, Kelli, Steven, Adrian, Noel, Craig, Teresa & Brenda

Our Link Missionaries with CMS – Shirley Gent in Pakistan and the Hayes Family – Bruce, Libby and their children Daniel, Julia, Stephanie & Ruth in Nepal **and BCA Missionaries** - the Keith Family—Rev'd Mike, Chantalle and baby Rachell in Lightning Ridge.

Years Mind – we remember- (i.e. the anniversary of the death of a loved one):-

William Bryce; Roy Ker; Edna Benson;

Thanksgiving for the Life of: Thelma Brewster

Today's Worship—Second Sunday in Advent

Sentence: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together. Luke 3:4

Readings Today:

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm: 85:1-2, 8-13 page 311
New Testament: 2 Peter 3:8-15a
Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Readings next Sunday

Old Testament: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm: The Song of Mary—The Magnificat page 9
New Testament: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28
Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

**Many nations shall come and say,
come, let us go up to the mountain
of the Lord;
he will teach us his ways
and we will walk in his paths.
The Messiah is coming —
he who is called Christ;
When he comes, he will show us all things;
he will teach us his ways.**

YOUR OFFERTORY TRUST

Albert Schweitzer has said that while money will not bring about the Kingdom of God, yet the Kingdom of God cannot be achieved without money.



ABM REFLECTIONS ON TODAY'S READINGS

John the Baptist gave himself totally to the mission God had called him to, but to any given moment he was ready to defer to another whose mission surpasses his own.

In life we often hold onto our own achievements. The Christian response to God insists that it is not our own achievements that have any merit, for it is by Grace that we have been saved through faith. For us today John the Baptist is still pointing the way to faith in Christ.

- Pray that our eyes may be open to see the true way to faith.
- Give thanks for the work of the Diocesan Bishops and Assistant Bishops of the Anglican Church of PNG.