

# St Joseph's Catholic Parish

The Epiphany of the Lord  
Year A, 4 January, 2026

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



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



## Matthew 2: 1-12

The adoration by the Magi of Jesus, the new-born King of the Jews, completes the Christmas story. The child Jesus was revealed not only to the shepherds of Israel, but also to pagans from the east call 'magoi' or 'magi'. The Magi had taken leave of the comforts of home and allowed disruption of their normal routine for one compelling reason: they had seen an unusually brilliant star that loomed on the horizon. The star led the Magi to Israel, first to Jerusalem and later to Bethlehem where they found and worshipped the child Jesus. Gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh were laid before the Child. These gifts symbolise Jesus' destiny as King of kings, eternal High Priest, and Lamb of eternal sacrifice.

They completed their journey in peace with the realisation that the new-born King of the Jews would not rule in a palace nor be surrounded by trappings of power. The ordinariness of the place over which the guiding star stopped did not prevent them from recognising the King before

whom they prostrated themselves in homage. Like the shepherds, they recognised that the glory of the Son of God is revealed to people of good will and humble hearts.

(*God's Word 2026*)



## Pope Leo XIV Sends Emergency Aid to Ukrainian Families

Pope Leo XIV has once again paired prayer with concrete action, sending humanitarian assistance to families in Ukraine suffering amid ongoing bombardments and winter shortages.

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## Weekend Mass schedule

### 2nd Sunday of Month - 10/11 January

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston  
(Liturgy of the Word)  
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai  
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon  
Sunday, 10.30am, Cherbourg  
Sunday, 2.30pm, Mundubbera  
Sunday, 6.00pm, Goomeri

### 3rd Sunday of Month - 17/18 January

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 - 24/25 January

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston  
(Liturgy of the Word)  
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai  
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon  
Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah  
Sunday, 2.30pm, Mundubbera  
Sunday, 6.00pm, Goomeri

### 1st Sunday of Month - 7/8 February

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

## Christmas readings

Isaiah 60: 1-6; Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6;  
Matthew 2: 1-12

*Response:*

Lord, every nation on earth will  
adore you.

*Gospel Acclamation:*

Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star  
in the East; and have come to adore the  
Lord. Alleluia!

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According to Catholic News Agency, three trucks carrying emergency aid were dispatched to some of the areas hardest hit by the war, where residents continue to face severe shortages of electricity, water, and heat. The delivery was made public on December 27 by Cardinal Konrad Krajewski, the Pope's almoner, who emphasized the pastoral meaning behind the effort.

The convoy carried special food designed for extreme conditions — provisions that require only a small amount of water to prepare. Cardinal Krajewski explained that the shipment included food that "can be dissolved in a small amount of water to produce energy-rich soups with chicken and vegetables," a practical solution for families living without reliable utilities, according to Catholic News Agency.

The timing of the delivery was intentional. Cardinal Krajewski said the aid was meant as "a small gesture of closeness from the pope to Ukrainian families" on the feast of the Holy Family, celebrated December 28, according to Catholic News Agency. The feast, which reflects on the humble and often difficult circumstances faced by the Holy Family, offered a fitting backdrop for the Pope's outreach to families enduring displacement and hardship.

The trucks arrived at the Vatican shortly before Christmas carrying supplies donated by Samyang Foods, a South Korean food company. As on previous occasions, including similar efforts during the pontificate of Pope Francis, the aid was redirected from the Vatican to war zones most severely affected by ongoing strikes, according to Catholic News Agency.

Cardinal Krajewski noted that the initiative reflects the Pope's desire to remain close to those who suffer most. He said the delivery shows that the Holy Father not only prays for peace but also wants "to be

concretely present with families who are suffering," according to Catholic News Agency.

As winter deepens and the conflict continues, the Church's humanitarian outreach stands as a reminder that charity remains at the heart of the Pope's call for peace — a peace lived not only in words, but through tangible acts of mercy for families struggling to survive.

(Abigail James, December 29, 2025  
*Catholiconline.news*)



Fr Robert Prevost and Fr Robert Greenup in Mareeba

### How a rural Australian town welcomed Pope Leo XIV when he was Fr Robert Prevost

BEFORE he was Pope Leo XIV, Father Robert Prevost visited a rural Australian town two decades ago.

At the time, Fr Prevost was the Prior General of the Order of Saint Augustine, and part of his role was to visit missions.

He spent a night at the priory in Mareeba, a town in Far North Queensland.

Former Mareeba parish priest, now semi-retired Fr Robert Greenup, recalled driving Fr Prevost from the airport in Cairns on 6 December, 2005.

Fr Prevost was "a very unassuming, unpretentious, and easy fellow to get along with".



### Parish Directory, Saint Joseph's Parish

Parish Priest: Fr Mikhael Loke SVD  
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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:

Graham Burgess; Mary Davitt; Rodney Euler; Colin Heit; Nerla Knight; John Kruger; Dr Graham McAllister; Carmel McKeering; Bob Ricketts; Joshua Smith; Kai Vera.

He was treated to music, dinner and the company of parishioners at the Spanish Club by the Augustinian parishes of Mareeba and Dimbulah.

"Jokingly I said to a few people at that time in 2005 that we're both just Fr Robert," Fr Greenup said.

"Well, I'm still Fr Robert, and he's now Pope Leo."

Kymberlee Gomes, *Catholic Leader*.  
Read the full article at

<https://catholicleader.com.au/news/qld/how-a-rural-australian-town-welcomed-pope-leo-xiv-when-he-was-fr-robert-prevost/>

### COLUMBAN CALENDARS

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