

# St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Fourth Sunday of Lent  
Year A, 15 March, 2026

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



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



## Welcome Fr. Francois to our Parish Community:

We are delighted to welcome Fr. François to our parish community as he joins us as associate pastor for the coming months. It is a joy to have him among us, and we pray that his time here will be filled with rich blessings and meaningful encounters. May he find joy in his ministry as he serves our parishioners with generosity and pastoral care.

Originally from Madagascar, he completed his philosophical and theological studies in Melbourne, Australia at Yarra Theological Union, University of Divinity, Melbourne, Victoria. He was ordained in Australia and has served for the past five years as Assistant Parish Priest at Saint Patrick's, Emerald, in the Diocese of Rockhampton. We look forward to working alongside him, sharing in faith and mission together, and supporting him as he shares his gifts with our community.

Welcome, Father Francois. We are glad you are here.

Fr. Mikhael Loke

## Project Compassion Lenten Prayer

God of all love, we remember that on the night before he died Your son, Jesus, prayed that his friends "may all be one" Yet we see so much division in the world. War, conflict, violence and hatred must all distress you.

Millions of people suffer when they don't have peace and respect. They lack the necessities of life, food, water, health, education and security.

We pray that we may all *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*. May our support for **Project Compassion** be a sign to ourselves and others, of our hope for a better world.

This Lent, we pray that our dedication To prayer, fasting and almsgiving Will help restore your vision of justice and peace.

Guided by the Holy Spirit,  
We pray in Jesus' name.

**Amen**

## Next weekend will be the last week of Lent. Mass times below:

### 4th Sunday of Month - 21/22 March

\* Saturday, 9.00am, Proston  
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai  
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon  
Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah  
Sunday, 2.30pm, Mundubbera  
Sunday, 6.00pm, Goomeri

\*Fr Mikhael or Fr Francois will say Mass at Proston on Saturday, 21 March 2026,. Weather permitting.

## Mass times for Holy Week

### Palm Sunday - 28 /29 March

#### **Murgon Parish**

Saturday, 9.00am, Proston  
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai  
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon

#### **Gayndah Parish**

Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah  
Sunday, 10.30am, Mundubbera  
Sunday, 2.30pm, Eidsvold

### Holy Week - 2, 3, 4 and 5/April

#### **Murgon Parish**

Holy Thursday (2 April) 9.00am, Murgon  
Holy Thursday (2 April) 9.00am, Castra  
Good Friday (3 April) 10.00am, Wondai  
Good Friday (3 April) 3.00pm, Murgon  
**Easter Vigil** (4 April) 5.00pm, Wondai  
**Easter Sunday** (5 April), 8.00am, Murgon

#### **Gayndah Parish**

Holy Thursday (2 April) 7.00pm, Gayndah  
Good Friday (3 April) 10.00am, Gayndah  
Good Friday (3 April) 3.00pm, Gayndah  
**Easter Vigil** (4 April) 6.30pm, Gayndah  
**Easter Sunday** (5 April) 9.00am, Mundubbera

## Today's readings

Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13 Ephesians 5:8-14;  
John 9: 1-41

*Response:*

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

*Gospel Acclamation:*

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!



## Fourth Sunday of Lent

There are many occasions when we ask the question why and can't find the answer for which we are looking. Why did we miss out on a job? Why did someone we love get cancer? Why can't we find a place to live that we can afford? Why do some days seem so difficult?

It is good to sit with our confusion and even grief. It is good to share it with the Lord who loves us so tenderly. But sometimes we have to step aside from the question why did this happen? It may be better to start with where can I go from here? What small steps will enable me to face the future in a positive spirit?

Today's readings touch upon these issues. In the Gospel, Jesus encounters a person who was born blind. The bystanders want to know why this happened. They think it must be because either he or his parents did something wrong. They are looking backwards. Jesus prefers to look forwards. He says, 'he was born blind so that the works of God may be displayed in him.' In other words, his blindness presents opportunities for growth, not a pretext for blame. The letter to the Ephesians similarly reminds us that we are on a journey from darkness to light. The whole of Lent could be described in those words. The letter says, 'try to discover what the Lord wants of you.' It asks us in terms of possibilities! The same thing happens when Samuel anoints David. It doesn't matter that David is a young

shepherd. He has a big future, as anyone familiar with the Bible well knows.

This week, Caritas Australia, through Project Compassion, draws us into the story of Manaini, a 44-year-old mother and subsistence farmer in remote northern Fiji. She has transformed her family's life through food processing and organic farming, thanks to a Caritas-supported project. Once reliant on more store-bought food and prone to food waste, she now produces homemade flours, dried foods, and sells produce and baked goods from local crops. Her passion for learning has made her a key player in her community, working with others to embrace more sustainable, empowering ways of living. Thanks to the generosity of the Australian Catholic community, hundreds of thousands of people such as Manaini are finding an answer to the question, 'where can we go from here.'

*(Project Compassion, Parish Booklet, 2026)*



## Pope Leo speaks about Vatican II teachings, and all Catholics should listen:

It has been well said that the opposite of Catholicism is not Protestantism but sectarianism. In his catechesis, the pope leans into the universalism of the Christian message. "Precisely because [the Church] is brought about by God, this convocation cannot be limited to a group of people, but rather is destined to become the experience of all human beings". Later he states, "Union with God is reflected in the union of human beings. This is the experience of salvation".

*(Michael Sean Winters, National Catholic Reporter)*



## 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](mailto:murgon@bne.catholic.net.au)  
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:

Therese Bolger; Amira Bond;  
Graham Burgess; Rodney Euler;  
Colin Heit; Margaret Hobbs;  
Nerla Knight; John Kruger;  
Dr Graham McAllister; Carmel McKeering;; Bob Ricketts; Greg Ryan;  
Joe Ryan; Joshua Smith; Kai Vera;  
Judith Wessling.



## INVITATION

### A celebration for the entire Archdiocese

Archbishop Shane Mackinlay invites you to the annual, CHRISM MASS, to be held on, **Thursday, 26 March 2026** at 7.00pm, at the Cathedral of Saint Stephen, 249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane.

**All Welcome.** The undercover carpark will be available from 6.00pm

## Collections 7/8 March 2026

Murgon ..... \$355.05  
Wondai..... \$110.00  
Goomeri..... \$50.00  
**Total:.....\$515.05**