



BURDEKIN GROUP OF PARISHES

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A  
30<sup>th</sup> July 2023



Est. 1912

**AYR**  
*Sacred Heart*

98 Edwards Street, Ayr  
PO Box 206, Ayr, 4807

Est. 1952

**CLARE**  
*St. Joseph's*

Nelson Street,  
Clare, 4807

Est. 1941

**GIRU**  
*St. Joseph's*

13 Church Street,  
Giru, 4809

Est. 1926

**HOME HILL**  
*St. Colman's*

62 Tenth Street,  
Home Hill, 4806



burdekinparishes@tsv.catholic.org.au



www.tsv.catholic.org.au



St Colman's Parish  
Home Hill



Sacred Heart Parish  
Ayr

**Fr. Manoj Mathew,**  
C.Ss.R.  
Parish Administrator

**Fr. Vitalis Oguh**  
Associate Priest

**Arina Rada**  
Secretary

Office Hours: 9am-12 pm  
Monday to Friday



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## Heaven is a pearl worth pursuing



Much like today, different gods and life philosophies were plentiful in the ancient Roman world. They were like different pearls, available for people to pick and choose which they liked and wanted to keep.

However, say you had come across a pearl greater in its beauty and purity than all of the others you had seen, one so valuable it required you to discard all the rest to obtain it. There's a sense of urgency in the decision too. A pearl this valuable, like treasure found in a field, will not remain available like this for long. Looking at it, you know you must decide quickly while it is still available.

Would it be worth it to you? When Jesus talks about the 'kingdom of heaven' or the 'kingdom of God' being like a pearl of great price, he's referring to the value of the new way of living available through him.

As St Paul explains in today's second reading, the kingdom of heaven is not just about eternal life. It is primarily about being shaped to become like Jesus, including in the here and now. We share Jesus' wisdom, his capacity to love others and his relationship with the Father. We live with Christ's life, we become moulded to his ways, and we take on Christ's whole way of being as our own.

The imagery offered by the parables in today's gospels describes the right response to finding the kingdom of heaven, which is to give up everything else that has value in order to pursue it. Whether it costs us success, security, pleasure, or the respect of others, the kingdom of heaven is worth the very highest price.

St Matthew understands how the kingdom of heaven can change a person. Not only has he given up everything, including riches and security, for the kingdom of heaven but, in attaining it, he is like the head of a household who can welcome others into the kingdom and give its treasures away. However, there is no understanding of the kingdom of heaven as Jesus describes it without a life-changing commitment to stay on its course. As our first reading explains, King Solomon, at the start of his life, found this pearl of great price and placed it at the very centre of his life. Solomon disregarded offers of health, wealth and security and instead prized knowing the heart and mind of God. However, as the books of Kings go on to document, the wealth and life of pleasure drew Solomon's focus away from the wisdom he once prized above everything.

The life on offer from God gives us meaning and joy. It offers us a life where "all things work for good for those who love God." It is worth it to cast everything aside to attain it.

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St Francis  
Primary School  
Ph: 47832877



St Colman's  
Primary School  
Ph: 47822030



Burdekin Catholic  
High School  
Ph: 47832366



St Vincent  
de Paul Society  
Ph: 47833278

# SCRIPTURE SCRUTINY

1 Kings 3: 5, 7 - 12

Romans 8: 28 - 30

Matthew 13: 44 - 52



The readings refer to the finding of treasures but everyone's treasure may be different. The challenge is to discern what your treasure is and evaluate it in God's terms. When God asked

the newly-appointed King Solomon what he wanted, it was not longevity, riches or the death of his enemies. It was the wisdom to discern good from evil and how to best serve his people. (Perhaps he already had some wisdom). His choice showed that what we are is more important than what we have. Perceptive insight (see the case of the two women and the baby later in 1 Kings 3) has greater value than the blind following of rules.

Paul tells the Romans that God will 'cooperate with those who love him and fulfil his purpose'. We see an insight into christian vocations as God 'predestined some to become true images of his son'. Our recent Seminarians, Bradley and Grant, have followed this path but Paul infers the Roman christians all have this potential. Are "Ignite" and "WYD" conferences 'cooperating and fulfilling' in this sense? Paul reinforces the insight Solomon was given - knowing the true essence of love God intends. We cannot love God unless we love others. And as seen in the lives of the Apostles, it is no bed of roses (Paul still achieved God's work from a prison cell). As we now form new Councils in our Burdekin Catholic

Parish, we need to look within ourselves for an openness to work for his purpose.

In Matthew's gospel, we again see Jesus using parables. Finding a treasure in a field or a fine pearl you've been looking for are reason enough to make huge sacrifices to secure them. Jesus likens these to the search for the kingdom of heaven. There are parallels here in Matthew 19: 21 when the young rich man is told to sell his possessions and follow Jesus. Sacrifices can be required in the paradoxes of everyday choices. We're confronted with possessions versus relationships, work versus family, and christian values versus alienation. Choosing this treasure is not without risk.

The third parable reflects the parable of the weeds. Just like the weeds, the by-catch in the dragnet will be discarded and excluded from the dinner plate (not sure that came out right). Finally, he refers to the connection of the treasures in the Old and New Testaments. Reflect on what both Solomon and Paul perceived as their treasures.

It is important to note how in one parable, one man stumbles on his treasure in a field and the other finds his pearl after a long search. If you've found your treasure, how did you come across it?

*Shane Baxter* (This scrutiny is aided by research of Catholic commentary on-line)



**Pray for the Sick, Please:** Anne Barnett, Andrew Beltrame, Jaiden Booth, Jill Burke, Jeffrey Calligaro, Clare Clark, Kevin Crooks, Tom Devlin, Gert Drain, Sandra Falco, Harry Fewster, John Frasson, Tina Giarusso, Nathan Graham, Josie Lamari, Nardina Laspina, Vince Mahon, Joan McIntosh, Robert Marriott, Patrick Neville, Peter Newland, Mavis Paige, John Pattinson, Irma Pool, Bernadette Raabe, Joe Rigano, Sofia Rol, Thea

Sheehan, Yvonne Shemlowski, Belinda Suito (Stubbs), Kellie Turner and all in the Aged Homes and Dementia ward.

## THE DECREE FROM BISHOP TIM IN BRIEF:

- The current four separate parishes will officially become one parish from the 1<sup>st</sup> October this year.
- The new parish will be known as Burdekin Catholic Parish.
- The four main worship centres, with the four Churches, will continue to provide Masses and other Sacraments, and be places of community gathering.
- The Decree requires Fr Manoj to ensure that, by the 1<sup>st</sup> October, Burdekin Catholic Parish has a Parish Mission Leadership Team, a Parish Mission Council and a Parish Finance Council.
- From the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, all the assets and liabilities of the four parishes will become the assets and liabilities of Burdekin Catholic Parish.
- The Decree is to be published by copies being displayed on noticeboards in the four parishes and posted to the parishes' webpages and social media sites for one calendar month from the weekend of the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2023 when this pastoral letter is to be read to attending parishioners by the celebrants of Masses in the four parishes on that weekend.
- The Diocese will support the transition process in an ongoing way:
- Mark Fleming will continue as the parish Mission Renewal Advisor. Comprehensive Parish Mission Planning will commence after the 1<sup>st</sup> October leading to the preparation of the first Mission Plan of Burdekin Catholic Parish. Mark will also assist in coordinating with other diocesan support personnel for the transition process, including:
  - o preparing parish financial systems for a 1<sup>st</sup> October changeover
  - o parish rituals for endings and beginnings
  - o archival requirements for the process of transition to a new parish.

This is the beginning of a new chapter for the Burdekin Region, which is your mission field.



Happy 83rd  
Birthday to  
Angie Pasquale



Happy 75th  
Birthday to  
Terry Chandler

## Upcoming Events

July/August		
Mon	31	St. Ignatius of Loyola
Tue	1	St. Alphonsus Liguori
Wed	2	Mass at Regis Care in Ayr 10.00 am St. Colman's School Mass at 9.00 am
Thu	3	St. Dominic
Fri	4	St. John Vianney
Sun	6	Youth Mass in Home Hill @ 6.00 pm

## WEEKLY MASS TIMES

### Churches and Services

	Sacred Heart	St. Joseph's	St. Joseph's	St. Colman's
	AYR	CLARE	GIRU	HOME HILL
Monday	7.00 am			
Tuesday	5.30 pm			
Wednesday	9.00 am			9.00 am
Thursday	9.00 am			
Friday	7.00am			6.30 am
Saturday	6.00 pm	2nd&4th 6.00 pm		
Sunday	9.00 am 5.30 pm		7.00 am	7.00 am 6.00 pm (Youth Mass)

### NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER

	Time	Commentator / Prayers of the Faithful	Readers	Ministers of the Eucharist	Music	Cleaners	Counters	Mowers
AYR	SAT 6:00pm	M Felesina	J Walsh S Pearce	P Hawkins (H) K Duggan (GF) G Nosworthy (W)	Gloria, Kevin Joyce, Carol	M McLaughlin	B Rye	R Tomarcho
	SUN 9:00am	F Cardillo	R Rodrigo R Mills	P Anderson (H) A Cardillo (GF) S Holm (W)	Josh Lee-Ann, Sue	DITTO	DITTO	R Oar
	SUN 5:30pm	T Chandler	S DiGuglielmo L Bandiera	C Caspanello (H) F Nucifora (GF) A Rada (W)	Ann Maria Terry, Ruth	DITTO	DITTO	DITTO
Home Hill	SUN 7:00am	P Scuderi	E Falco G Fiamingo	G Fiamingo	R Santarossa	NO CLEANING	S Murer	P Scuderi P Cardillo
	SUN 6:00pm	G Vass	N Woods L McLaughlin	-	-	DITTO	D Musumeci	J Eadie



**Legion of Mary (Ayr):**  
Meeting every Monday at 9 am in Ayr



**ADORATION IN AYR**  
ADORATION IN AYR ON TUESDAY 12 PM TO 4.45 PM  
ADORATION ON WEDNESDAY AT 9.30—12 PM



**PASTORAL CARE IN HOME HILL**  
A priest is available at St. Colman's parish office every Wednesday from 10 am to 12 pm. All are welcome



**Confessions every Saturday at 11 to 11.30 am at the Sacred Heart Ayr**

### BAPTISMS:

**AYR:** 1st & 3rd Sundays - 10.30 am

**HOME HILL:** 2nd and 4th Sundays - 10.30 am.

**BAPTISM FORMATION:** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 9.00 am at the parish office for parents and godparents. Baptism forms available on the Parish website.

**RECONCILIATION:** **AYR:** Sacred Heart Church every Saturday from 11am-11.30am.

## The Sacraments

**CLARE:** Before and after Sunday mass

**GIRU:** Before and after Sunday Mass

**HOME HILL:** Half an hour before or after Sunday mass

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME:** Forms available on the Parishes website.

**WEDDINGS**—by appointment. Six months' notice required.



## MESSAGE BOARD FOR ALL PARISHES



A Combined Meeting; meeting of Ayr, Clare, Giru and Home Hill PPC and PFC on **Thursday, 3rd August**, at Home Hill Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome to this meeting as we will discuss and clarify the transition process and the formulation process of the leadership Teams for the new Parish. The meeting will be only for an hour. Mark Fleming will be available at this meeting and **on 4th August** if you would like to have a cup of coffee with him.

### Marriage in Catholic Church after Divorce

Often Catholics whose Marriage has ended in divorce would like to know what is required before they are free to marry in the church. If this is your situation, or if someone you know is in this situation, a member of the Marriage Tribunal staff would be happy to speak with you. There are several procedures used depending on individual circumstances. It is important to know that what applies to one person may not apply to another. Anyone wishing to arrange a confidential meeting to discuss this matter can phone 4726 3243 or email [tribtsv@tsv.catholic.org.au](mailto:tribtsv@tsv.catholic.org.au) Usual office days are Wednesday and Thursday, but a message can be left at any time and your call will be returned.



Our young people in the Burdekin have this fantastic opportunity of attending the Youth Event, **IGNITE**, in Brisbane on **21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> September 2023**. The parishes are happy to support you financially for all your expenses for these four days of faith formation and worship hosted by Ignite Youth. **Please get in touch with Burdekin Youth Coordinators Chiara Guy or Stephanie Ryder for more information:** [cpontarel-lil@bchs.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cpontarel-lil@bchs.catholic.edu.au)



**Home Hill CWL:** Next Home Hill CWL meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd August after the Mass at 9am. We invite all members to come early and say the Rosary before Mass. The agenda items include "Hope in a Suitcase" collation and preparing for the combined Ayr/Home Hill AGM to be held in Ayr on Sunday 20th August.

**AYR CWL NEWS: AUGUST CWL MEETING** is this coming Tuesday, **1<sup>st</sup> August** in the Parish Hall commencing at **7.30pm**.

**Next Mass in Clare: Saturday 12th August 6pm.**

**St. Colman's Parish Feast Day**  
**Dinner in October, 21st and**  
**Mass on 22nd**



Welcome to  
Children's Liturgy



There will be children's liturgy every Sunday at the 9am mass in Ayr, except during school holidays and on Sundays when we have youth mass in the evening. We highly appreciate the attendance of the children and the efforts of the parents and animators in this ministry. The kids enjoy it well. We encourage more parents to bring you children to this very effective spiritual formation.



The year 9 students from BCHS came away from the visits to the Sacred Heart Church, full of knowledge and understanding of the importance of prayer and the Sacraments of Healing. Frs. Manoj, Vitalis and the seminarians led the sessions.

### Dates to Remember

**PPC Home Hill** meeting on Tuesday 8th August at 6.30pm

**NAIDOC service** at BCHS on Wednesday 9th August at 12pm

**God—mission— church—today's world:** a seminar by Fr Stephen Bevans SVD in Townsville on 9th and 10th August at Ryan Community Centre, Kirwan starting at 10.15 am

**Sacramental program's animator training** on Saturday 12th August at 9-11 am at the parish office.

**PFC Ayr meeting** on Thursday 17th August at 5.30 pm



A delightful Sunday morning hosted by the Burdekin Catholic High School Year 11 hospitality students, a high tea fundraiser which enabled the CWL Ayr to sponsor their hospitality shirts. Thank you to all the students, staff, especially Renee, entertainers, Sophia and Will, guest speaker - Monica Licciardello and Olivia for your beautiful singing (truly a gift), our 2022 St Francis Service Award winner, Mary-Ella and to everyone who jumped in and bought a ticket. Congratulations to Romaine, our raffle winner we are so happy your wish came true.



Sacramental Program Parents Formation night on Monday 21st August at 6.30 pm at the Parish Hall Ayr. For more information please email [burdekinsacramental@tsv.catholic.org.au](mailto:burdekinsacramental@tsv.catholic.org.au) or phone the parish office.

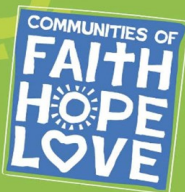


## NOTICE BOARD FOR ALL PARISHES



**Catholic Education Week**

23-29 July 2023



### FOUNDERS' DAY MASS AT BCHS FOUNDERS' DAY CELEBRATION

Last Monday BCHS were joined by St Francis and St Colman's to celebrate Founders' Day. The day started with a Mass presided over by Fr. Manoj and Fr Vitalis. After Mass, the schools were treated to a sausage sizzle, before moving into activities designed to bring all three schools together in community. Students participated in arts, crafts, and sports. This was a great opportunity for the big students to interact with the little kids and lead by example in a range of different activities. Thank you to everyone involved in making the day such a success, BCHS.

One way of promoting our parishes' activities among the families of our young people is by posting them on Facebook. Don't forget to 'like' our pages on Facebook to stay up to date on everything happening. The Facebook of Ayr and Home Hill names are available on the front page of our parish bulletin.



## Come and celebrate JESUS IS LORD TUESDAY 29 AUGUST HEALING MASS

5:00PM PRAISE & WORSHIP | 5:30PM MASS  
PRAYERS FOR HEALING AFTER MASS

ALL WELCOME

Celebrated by

**Fr Steve Fletcher**



SACRED HEART PARISH CHURCH,  
98 EDWARD ST., AYR QLD 4807



If you or your family members are turning 80 or over or celebrating, their milestone anniversary please let the parish office know and as a parish community, we would like to pray for them and share this news on the parish bulletin. Thank you.

Mackay and Whitsunday Life is launching a new free weekly newspaper called Burdekin Life! Launching end of September.



## Sacramental Program 2023

**PARENT FORMATION NIGHT**  
**MON, 21 AUG 2023 6:30PM**

SACRED HEART  
PARISH HALL, AYR

At least one parent is required to attend.  
The sacramental candidates' attendance is optional.

Please ensure the fee and registration forms have been completed and handed into the parish office by **14 August**, or at the Parent Formation Night.

FIRST LESSON IS ON WED, 30 AUGUST AT 6PM

☎ **47 832 316**

✉ burdekinsacramental@tsv.catholic.org.au  
PARISH OFFICE - AYR

**please**

**Please refrain from dipping the Host in the chalice:** This has been brought to our attention that quite a

few people in our parishes are taking communion from the chalice by self-intinction, i.e., dipping their own Host into the chalice. This may seem hygienic to some people, but it also risks people's fingers going into the chalice. Therefore, please refrain from this. Ministers who distribute from the chalice are requested to gently place their hand over the cup if someone wants to instinct. Thank you.

Calling all students in  
Home Hill...

*St Colman's Youth Mass*

Sunday 6th August 6pm

Pizza afterwards in the Parish Centre - everyone welcome !

**St Colman's School Mini Vinnies Committee:** This term St Colman's have joined forces with the local Chapter of St Vincent De Paul and the Burdekin Community Association to offer a Community Pantry Stand filled with donated food items for collection by members of the community who are experiencing hardship during these difficult times. We will be kindly receiving goods from Home Hill Bakery and Coles for distribution each week.

If any members of our local parish community have fruit trees, vegetable gardens or farms we ask for donations to be made at the School office for distribution to the community on Tuesday mornings. Our children will be involved in setting up the stand and wheeling it in and out on collection days.

**Please support this much needed community and school initiative where you can.**



## NOTICE BOARD FOR ALL PARISHES



Students and staff members of BCHS, St. Francis and St. Colman's school at the founders day mass.

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM AYR, 2023

Animators' training	Session 2	Saturday, 12th August, at 9-11 am at the parish office
Parent Formation/Enrolment Evening		Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> August, 6.30 – 7.45 pm at Parish Hall
<u>Sessions: Reconciliation 1</u>		30 <sup>th</sup> August, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Reconciliation 2		6 <sup>th</sup> September, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
<i>Celebration of Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>		13 <sup>th</sup> September, 6.00 pm in Sacred Heart Church
Confirmation/Eucharist 1		4 <sup>th</sup> October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Rite of Welcome		7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> of October, at any of the three masses
Confirmation/Eucharist 2		11 <sup>th</sup> October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 3		18 <sup>th</sup> October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 4		25 <sup>th</sup> October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 5		1 <sup>st</sup> November, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 6		8 <sup>th</sup> November, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
<u>Practice Session</u>		<u>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November</u> , 6.00 pm at BCHS, Marcellin Centre.
Celebration of Sacraments		TBC at the Meeting: Weekend of 18-19 November
Thanksgiving Mass and Parish Celebration		26 <sup>th</sup> November, 09.00 am, S.H Church Ayr.

*Monthly Morning Tea*

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A CUPPA EVERY FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AFTER THE MASS.

Fill your cup and your heart in fellowship.

**AYR** after 9:00am mass  
**YRUR** after 7:00am mass  
**HOME HILL** after 7:00am mass

ALL ARE WELCOME

Burdick Catholic Highschool  
Catholic Womens League

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023

High Tea