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MASS TIMES		
St Mary's - Bowen		
	Mass	8.00am
Tuesday	Adoration	8.30am
28 July	-	4.00pm
Wednesday	Mass	8.00am
29 July		
Thursday	Catholic Education Week	
30 July	School Mass	9.00am
Saturday 1	Vigil Mass with Bishop	
August	Tim	6.00pm
Sunday	Confirmation and First	
2 August	Communion Mass	8.00am
Our Lady of Lourdes – Collinsville		
Sunday	Mass	5.00pm
2 August		
DATE CLAIMERS		
Saturday	Cent Sale	
5 December		



Bowen Parish Bulletin

St Mary's Church Bowen &
 Our Lady of Lourdes Church Collinsville

Email: stmarysbowen@tsv.catholic.org.au

Mission Statement: **"St Mary's Parish walks with Jesus, serves others and shares his message of love"**

26th July, 2026 – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



Catholic Diocese
 of Townsville

Support the Bishop's Appeal for Diocesan Ministries:

The Annual Bishop's Appeal for Diocesan Ministries will be held this weekend throughout the Townsville Diocese. It is an important appeal which supports various pastoral initiatives around the diocese. Some of the ministries supported by this appeal are: Outreach to youth and young adults; Parish renewal and faith formation; Social Justice and Cultural Diversity programs; Vocations to priesthood and consecrated life; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ministry; Chaplaincy in prisons and hospitals; Ecumenical and interfaith initiatives; Marriage ministry and tribunal services.

Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference. Help us reconnect with God's mission and become new in Christ. There will be a second collection this weekend for the appeal. You can use the envelopes provided or you can donate online via the QR Code



Priest's Roster (below) is subject to change. Please look for the 'Priest's Roster' each week to know in advance about the weekend Mass. Fr Sibi will be available in Proserpine whenever there is a weekend Mass in Proserpine.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
	8.00am Mass Bower	8.00am Mass Bowen	9.00am Catholic Education Week School Mass Bowen	9.00am Catholic Education Week School Mass Proserpine		8.00am Confirmation Mass with Bishop Tim Bowen
					6.00pm Vigil Mass Proserpine	5.00pm Mass Collinsville
					6 pm Vigil Mass Bowen, Bishop Tim	

HELP THE CHURCH TO CONTINUE ITS MISSION

If you would like to contribute to help the Parish to continue its mission please scan the QR Code to make a donation.

Weekly Collection

Bowen Sunday 19/07/2026

Envelopes \$109.00

Loose \$441.95

2nd Collection \$511.90

Total \$1,062.85



DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Angela Audoss, John Slonski, Jose Gonzales, Lorna Leather, Jack Pierce, Margaret Crocker, Louise Gray, Ena Otto, Alex Urban, Allan Audoss, Kate Brady, Edna Bullemor, Henry Cullen, Maudie McGregor, Adam Malone, Gary Lydom, William Aland, Ruth Menzies, Norman Waters

BOWEN AND COLLINSVILLE NOTICES

Cent Sale: The parish cent sale will be Held this year on Saturday 5th December at McKenna Hall. This is our major fund-raiser for the year. Please start to think of donation of items for the cent sale and raffles and how you can help in any way. Please contact Mel Menzies, Rachel Young, Maria Firth, Jenny Brazil or Cheryl Hammond if you are able to help in anyway or if you would like any information.

Mowing Roster: There are vacancies in the roster if you are able to help – simply add your name to the list at the back of the church.

ROSTER	SAT	SUN	SAT	SUN	SAT	SUN
	25/07/2026	26/07/2026	01/08/2026	02/08/2026 Confirmation	08/08/2026	09/08/2026
Commentator	Kerrie-Ann Wilson	Steve Wilson	Margaret Darwen	Rachael Young	Mikki Menzies	Angela Gonzales
Communion Minister 1	Margaret Darwen	Gloria Fisher	Clare Brazil		Margaret Darwen	Jenny Brazil
Communion Minister 2						
Reader 1	Mikki Menzies	Bev Lowcock	Katy Ward	Peter Tawse	Kerrie-Ann Wilson	Sarah Romano
Reader 2	Krystal Land	Karl Recklies	Krystal Land	Bev Lowcock	Maria Lloyd	Karl Recklies
Altar Server 1			Colten Ward	Joel Young		
Altar Server 2		Saoirse Gentle		Zhian Andes	Kendal Malone	
Children's Liturgy		Mary-Kate Gentle		Melanie Menzies		
Church Cleaner 1	Bernie Burgess		Helen Jacobsen		Helen Jacobsen	
Church Cleaner 2	Annette Doyle					

Excerpt from Pope Leo XIV first encyclical 'Magnifica humanitas: On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence.'

107. We cannot be satisfied with merely calling for the moralization of machines — the so-called “alignment” of AI with human values — without also having the courage to insist on a further condition: the possibility of openly discussing the ethical frameworks involved and subjecting them to shared standards of social justice. Otherwise, those who control AI will impose their own moral vision, which will become the invisible infrastructure of these systems. A more moral AI is not enough if that morality is determined by a few. What is needed is a more active political involvement that is capable of slowing things down when everything is accelerating, and of protecting the opportunities for communities still to be able to participate and ask questions.

108. In fact, as with every major technological shift, AI tends to amplify the power of those who already possess economic resources, expertise and access to data. In light of the common good and the universal destination of goods, this raises serious concerns, since small but highly influential groups can shape information and consumption patterns, influence democratic processes and steer economic dynamics to their own advantage, undermining social justice and solidarity among peoples. For this reason, it is essential that the use of AI, especially when it touches on public goods and fundamental rights, be guided by clear criteria and effective oversight, grounded in participation and subsidiarity. Communities and intermediary organizations must not be reduced to passive recipients of decisions made elsewhere; they must be able to contribute to discernment and oversight. Moreover, ownership of data cannot be left solely in private hands but must be appropriately regulated. Data is the product of many contributors and should not be treated as something to be sold off or entrusted to a select few. It is necessary to think creatively in order to manage data as a common or shared good, in a spirit of participation, as [Saint John Paul II](#) already suggested regarding collective goods. [\[128\]](#)

DIOCESAN NOTICES

Explore Our New Diocesan Website

We're excited to announce the launch of our new Diocesan website. Designed to be easier to navigate, it's a great place to find the latest news, events, parish information, resources, and much more. We invite you to explore everything it has to offer at tsv.catholic.org.au.

Queensland Bishops' Mass

Everyone is warmly invited to celebrate the Queensland Bishops' Mass at 9:30am on Wednesday 19 August at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Townsville. This is a rare opportunity to celebrate Mass with all five Queensland Bishops as we gather in faith under the theme "Hope is Alive." We hope you can join us for this special diocesan celebration.

The Vocation of Marriage

This week we pray for the vocation of marriage. Marriage is a lifelong covenant of love, fidelity and service. In this sacrament, spouses reflect the love of Christ for His Church and build the domestic Church in their homes. Married life is lived through daily acts of patience, forgiveness, sacrifice and joy. We pray for engaged couples preparing for this vocation and for families seeking to grow in faith. May our parish support strong, faith-filled marriages that nurture children and strengthen community.

"Life is not a series of random events. It is a call to love." St John Paul II

Grandparents Day

This weekend we give thanks to God for the wonderful gift of grandparents and older people, whose faith, wisdom, love and example enrich our families, our parish and our community. Grandparents play a special role in passing on the faith, sharing family traditions and nurturing future generations with patience, compassion and hope. On this Grandparents Day, we acknowledge their invaluable contribution and pray that God will continue to bless them with good health, joy and peace.

May Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus, inspire and intercede for all grandparents, strengthening them in their vocation of love and faith.

Eucharist28: This is My Body, Given for You

The International Eucharistic Congress will be held in Sydney in 2028. Known as Eucharist28, it will gather Catholics from around the world to pray, worship and reflect on the Eucharist, the source and summit of the Christian life.

The theme is This is My Body, Given For You. These are the words we hear at every Mass, as the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. As we receive the Body of Christ, we are also called to become the Body of Christ, carrying his presence into our homes, workplaces, schools and community.

Caritas Australia Ukraine Emergency Appeal

Caritas Australia is urging the Australian community not to look away as the war in Ukraine continues for a fifth straight year. As violence escalates in other parts of the world, Ukraine is slipping from headlines, but for millions of people the suffering has not stopped. Caritas agencies remain on the ground because the need remains immense. In 2026, an estimated 10.8 million people in Ukraine will require humanitarian assistance.

As one Caritas Ukraine staff member shared:

"...The realisation of the exhaustion from the war and the necessity to keep living despite it all paralyses me. Before my eyes, night and dawn. Breakfast after the last Zircon missile explodes as if it is inside my head. Getting the child ready for daycare...On the way, I keep thinking about what phoenixes we are."

You can learn more or make a donation today at www.caritas.org.au/ukraine

Mission with Integrity

All Church personnel exercising pastoral ministry have a responsibility to conduct themselves with professionalism and integrity. Our life in Christ is both a gift and a responsibility. Integrity in our Common Mission is a national code of conduct for all those exercising pastoral ministry across the Catholic Church of Australia. This code can be accessed by asking your Parish Priest/Administrator or visiting: acsltd.org.au/our-common-mission/ To report a concern about abuse or misconduct concerning church personnel: contact the Diocese of Townsville directly P: 4726 3264 or E: diocese@tsv.catholic.org.au; or make a disclosure to the Professional Standards Office Queensland (PSOQ) by downloading a disclosure form at psogld.catholic.net.au and send to PO Box 3264 Brisbane Q 4001 or E: psogld@catholic.net.au. Alternatively, contact PSOQ on 3324 3070 or 1800 337 928 (free call).

First Reading 1 Kgs 3:5.7-12

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. *(R.)*
2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. *(R.)*
3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. *(R.)*
4. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. *(R.)*

Second Reading Rom 8:28-30

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to

become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Gospel Acclamation See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father,

Lord of heaven and earth;

you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:44-52

(or shorter form Mt 13:44-46)

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

A burning rubbish tip in Jerusalem (Gehenna) provided Jesus with one image of Hell. Here is St John Henry Newman's image of Hell.

Have you travelled to a foreign country and can't speak the language? There would be lots of weeping and gnashing of teeth.

What if you were born with a good ear for languages, but had deliberately never learnt the language of that other place? You would only have yourself to blame. It would be a living hell.

That is what happens at death. The soul is suddenly transported to a different dimension of existence, and it can be either heavenly or hellish depending on the choices and actions of a lifetime.

So, our lifetime project is to 'learn the language of heaven'. We can mainly do this by following the story of Jesus, the Word of God, the perfect conversation between humanity and God.

We could pause for a moment to move from incommunicado to communion by learning and practising the language of Heaven.

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