18th / 19th January, 2020
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR
Fr Joshy John
ASSOCIATE PRIEST
Fr Joseph Chalichirayil
Contact: 4775 7688 OR
marymac@tsv.catholic.org.au

HOLY TRINITY
Tuesday 6.30am
Wednesday 6.30am
Friday 6.30am
Saturday 5.00pm
Sunday 7.30am
Reconciliation
Saturday 10.00am

VILLA CHAPEL
Monday/Thursday 9.00am
Sunday 9.30am
Reconciliation after Mass
on Monday

Meditation - House of Prayer
Tuesday 10.00am
Thursday 5.30pm

Centred in Jesus Christ, we are a vibrant worshipping Catholic Community who care for each other and the World.

Mary MacKillop Community includes:
St Joseph’s School Mundingburra, St Margaret Mary’s College & St Mary MacKillop Early Learning Centre

We acknowledge the Wulgurukaba and Bindal people as traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to elders past, present and future.
May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY
Every Sunday in school term
Prep to Year 6 (Pre-preps require a guardian)

BAPTISM
By appointment

WEDDINGS
3 Months Notice
2nd Sunday of the month

RCIA
SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM
12 Month Process – contact Parish Team
Contact Parish Team for details


BULLETIN NOTICES - ejones@tsv.catholic.org.au

PASTORAL COUNCIL
Pria D’Souza (Chair), Ross Horner, Maureen Mosch, Tom Tarttelin, Alanna Jacoby, Cris Dall’Osto, Justen Orford, SMMC Rep (TBA in 2020)

FINANCE COUNCIL
Mary Wallace (Chair), Ed Burke, Justen Orford, Stephen Rufus, Vina Cacopardo, Pauline McGuire

Vinnies Bushfire Appeal

Bishop Tim has joined with all Australian Bishops to support the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal with a special collection in all parishes on the Australia Day Weekend – 25th and 26th January. All contributions to this collection will be deposited directly into the St Vincent de Paul account.
Should you wish to make a donation directly to St Vincent de Paul’s Bushfire Appeal, go to https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-nsw/vinnies-nsw-bushfire-appeal-nsw
MINISTRY ROSTERS
25th / 26th January, 2020
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

READINGS
1st Reading: Isaiah 8:23 - 9:3
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17
Gospel: Matthew 4:23

Acknowledgement/News
Saturday
Loris Zanotto
Power Point
Saturday
Clare Plant
Readers
Saturday
1st
Priya D’Souza
2nd
Trish O’Reilly
POF
Alanna Jacoby
Sunday
Justen Orford
Pauline McGuire
Jimmy Reponse
Collette Brickhill
Geraldine Feaver
Joy Henderson

Communion Ministers
Saturday
Clare Plant
John O’Brien
Frank D’Souza
Sunday
Giordano Laguna
Anna Ardill
Lorraine Abel

Altar Servers
Saturday
Flynn Mintern
Nicholas Winn
Sunday
-

Musicians
Saturday
Ed Burke
Sunday
Peter Cristaudo
Graeme McCourt

Welcomers
Saturday
-
Sunday
Tricia Abel

Hospitality – Sunday
Bernard Fraser
Joan & Richard Kennedy
Bruce Cook

Church Cleaning
TEAM 2

Youth Rally with Fr Rob Galea

Following on from ACYF19 in Perth, Fr Rob Galea will be in Townsville for a special Youth Rally. Join with those who experienced ACYF19 and join in this special event on Friday 24th January at the Mary MacKillop Performing Arts Centre on Morindo Drive.

The Rally will commence at 6pm and will finish at 8.30pm after a light dinner. Feel free to stay for Adoration at the Ryan Community Centre from 9pm. Fr Rob is a Priest from the Sandhurst Diocese and has performed at many World Youth Days, ACYF and was a finalist on X-Factor in 2015. This will be an amazing night. Entry will be by Gold coin donation. For more information email youth@tsv.catholic.org.au

TOWNSVILLE DIOCESE
Diocesan Safeguarding policies and procedures are available at www.tsv.catholic.org.au/safeguarding
Are you interested in participating in the 2020 Lenten Program?

Mary MacKillop Parish would like to offer people the opportunity to journey the Lenten program together as a group. If you are interested in joining the Lenten program, please contact the parish office on 4775 7688 (and leave a message on the answering service) or email your expression of interest to marymac@tsv.catholic.org.au

Given that Lent begins on 26th February, we will have to order the program within the next week so your immediate response would be greatly appreciated.

MACKILLOP GATE MINISTRY
Help newly released prisoners with essentials for the first 72 hours. Donate towels, soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste and deodorant (ROLL ON ONLY). All donations, including cash, can be given to Mary Mackillop Parish. For more details, contact Pauline McGuire at pmcguire@tsv.catholic.org.au or Erin Jones at ejones@tsv.catholic.org.au

Saints Catholic College (accommodation at James Cook University)
'More Than Just a Place to Live'

Saints Catholic College is situated at James Cook University in Townsville and provides accommodation to tertiary students. As part of the accommodation, residents are provided with private rooms, all meals included, Wi-Fi, free parking, overnight security, staff on site and after-hours support.

For more information please contact the office on – 4727 7200 or catholiccolleges@jcu.edu.au or the Principal, Nicole Stott-Whiting, at - nicole.stottwhiting1@jcu.edu.au

Plenary Council Call for Delegates

The Diocese and Plenary Council are seeking expressions of interest from people who feel they would like to be Delegates at the Plenary Council in 2020. The Townsville Diocese will be represented by Bishop Tim Harris and Fr Mick Lowcock VG. We will also have two other representatives. Delegates will be required to attend the Plenary Council sessions in 2020 and 2021. The 1st session will be held in Adelaide between the 4th and 11th of October 2020 and the 2nd session will be held in the 1st half of 2021. For an information pack, please send an expression of interest to plenarycouncil@tsv.catholic.org.au The selection process will take place in February 2020.

PLENARY 2020 – Community Engagement
Listening & Discernment Experience
Phase 2

Parish communities across the diocese are engaging with the National Themes for discernment arising from the earlier Listening & Dialogue phase of Plenary 2020. St Brigid’s, Mary MacKillop and Holy Family Parishes are combining to co-host the six Plenary 2020 discernment gatherings/meetings. The gatherings will provide opportunities for parishioners to encounter the power of discernment, prayer and reflection. Parishioners are warmly invited to attend. 

The next session is......
Theme 4: HOLY FAMILY PARISH (Parish Hall) – Sunday 19 January 2020 from 9.00am-11.30am

STOPline Service

The Diocese of Townsville has recently enhanced its Whistle-blower Program, which enables all workers, volunteers, parents of students and parishioners to play an active role in eliminating improper conduct in the Diocese. The Diocese has contracted an independent external whistleblower service STOPline to allow for confidential reporting.

The Diocese has defined Reportable Conduct in the Policy which can be found on the Diocesan website. Reportable conduct includes suspected abuse, misconduct, mismanagement and policy breaches, The Whistleblower Policy applies to the Diocese (including parishes), Townsville Catholic Education, Centacare North Queensland, Saints Catholic College and NWQICSS.

Information can be shared anonymously.

E: tsvcatholic@stopline.com.au  W: tsvcatholic.stoplinereport.com  P: 1300 30 45 50
Is God pushing You along???

At the end of each quarter the financial pages of daily newspapers regularly provide graphs that illustrate the fortune of the stock market during the period under discussion. It’s rarely a continuous climb – it’s a series of ups and downs as the stock prices rise and fall. Human growth is like that too. We tend to grow in fits and starts, and sometimes we even take a backward step or two. But, unlike the stock market, sometimes we seem to remain in the same place for a long time with no appreciable change. This is because we all have a natural tendency to relax and mark time once we have achieved a place of comfort in life. Perhaps our family life is stable, our work environment is satisfactory, our financial situation is improving, and it can seem like a comfortable place to be – a time to relax, mark time and enjoy life.

But the God of the Bible doesn’t seem to recognise that. Oftentimes when people have found a direction in life, and settles into is, God calls them to make a journey that’s totally different e.g. St Paul was in the process of making a name for himself by rounding up and imprisoning Christians when God intervened. Once that happened, his life began to move in a totally different direction. The Word of God has a tendency to make a surprising break into people’s lives, and to present them with a very different scenario from what they had been expecting. In the First Reading from Isaiah we heard about a nameless prophet who calls himself “Yahweh’s Servant”. He had received a mission to bring back the people of Israel to their God. But now, he becomes conscious of a much greater assignment. God tells him: “Your mission to Israel is too little, it is not enough. I’m going to send you as my messenger to bring God’s light to the foreign nations as well.”

In the Second Reading Paul is writing to the Corinthians in his own name, and also in the name of “Sosthenes our brother”. Sosthenes is a citizen of Corinth. He would have been well-known to the Jews and Christians of the city because he had been leader of the synagogue there. When Paul had been out on trial in Corinth the Jews had attacked and beaten Sosthenes in open court, probably because of his efforts to be fair to Paul. The painful experience of being beaten by his own people opened Sosthenes’ eyes to the meaning of God’s Word that had been spoken through Jesus and he joined Paul as a disciple and brother. In this case it was the experience of violent rejection that brought Sosthenes to the awareness that God was calling him to make a major change in life.

Today’s Gospel describes a process of growing enlightenment in the life of John the Baptist. He tells us that he had not known Jesus, but the Word of God came to him and helped him to recognise the Spirit coming down on Jesus in the Jordan. As a result his ministry takes a major step forward and he begins to testify that Jesus is “the Son of God”.

What about ourselves? Many of us are either relaxing, marking time and enjoying life, or else we are dreaming of the day when we will be able to do so. Is there any room between those two poles for the Word of God to do something with us? We may be certain of – God’s Word is reaching out to touch all of us. God may be trying to enlighten us, as He did John the Baptist, so that we take a major step forward in our lives.

Or God may be allowing a painful experience to happen to us as He did in the case of Sosthenes, so that we might let go of the comfortable place we have achieved for ourselves and move in a different direction. Or God may be trying to enlarge our vision, so that we may see how much more can accomplish than we’re doing at present. In the Word of God we heard today, God is pushing people along; God is not allowing them to sit on their oars or mark time. God is trying to do the same with us too!

How will you respond???

[A Challenge of the Gospel Fr Joseph A Slattery]