I don’t know about you, but for me this year has flown by. It’s amazing how quickly the days, weeks and months can get eaten up with a myriad of commitments, obligations, meetings, events, personal time, community connections and the run-of-the-mill everyday things of life. Already we are looking towards Christmas, which is barely 5 weeks away. Even amidst the busy-ness of life, I encourage us all to take some time to reflect on how our year has been thus far. Has it been all we’d hoped it to be? Have there been some unexpected challenges? Have we lived out the ‘best version of ourselves’ in all we’ve done and said? What have we learnt about ourselves and others this year? Where has God been in all of this? Am I being the person God intends for me to be?

In the midst of questions like these, it is important for us to pause and take stock of our lives. So too as a church we should also ask ourselves the question: Are we living the best version of what it means to be a Christian community in the Catholic tradition in this place? In order to know and understand what this is, we must be a people who listen, pray, engage, share and commit. This requires opportunities for the community to come together, listen to God and one another, share their hopes and ideas, and become part of a stronger and brighter future by engaging in planning and action. This Sunday, November 22nd at 10:30am in the Gayndah Arts and Cultural Centre Function Room, the Church of St. Joseph’s will be hosting a PARISH ASSEMBLY, facilitated by Sr. Kari Hatherell from the Archdiocesan offices for evangelisation in Brisbane. It will be followed by a communal lunch, with people bringing food to share.

This gathering is an opportunity for all Catholics, both those who are regular members of our worshipping community and those who are not, to ponder, discuss and plan for the future ministry opportunities in our parish. If you would like to be part of this conversation, and perhaps share some of your own story regarding the faith, then you are most welcome to join us. This is your chance to share with us how we can better welcome and serve you, and how you can then serve others.

Since this year is marching towards the next, we are all systems go for the PARISH FETE coming up on Friday November 27th beginning at 5:30pm. As has always been the tradition, the fete is held on the last Friday of November each year. As such, the parish fete is really a celebration of our whole community. The church and school are part of the one parish community, where we gather together to celebrate and rejoice in the special bonds that are formed as members of this one family. Of course, it’s a lot of hard work also, and many people both on the night and behind the scenes are responsible for making this event such a joy-filled success. First and foremost are our fete convenors, Helen and Dennis Smith. Their involvement in leading fete preparations and organisation has seen the event grow and blossom. Their commitment and hard work are a blessing to our community and a great witness of service and selfless generosity. We are deeply grateful for their tireless efforts and inestimable contributions. Also, this year we have been greatly blessed by the generosity of the school Parents and Friends Association (P&F) who have kindly donated $750 from their tuckshop profits towards the major raffle prize. Such generosity has been equally met by parishioners to make for a great prize! I offer my sincere gratitude and thanks to all the members of the P&F and the many parents, staff and children who contribute towards making the parish fete such a wonderful community event. It is greatly appreciated. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Blessings, Fr. Jason Middleton PP
A Prayer for Community

God our Maker,
We praise you for the gift of community.
Thank you for the communities in which we work and live.
Thank you for the community that is your Body, the Church.
Fill us with Your Spirit today so that, as one,
we reflect your light and love to each other and to the world.

In Christ we pray,
Amen

(Taken from Alliance for Catholic Education)

Our Good Samaritan Values

Today we outline the values of Community and Hospitality. At this busy time of the school year, it is great to stop and reflect on the notion that we are a Community who supports one another. It is present in our school - in our symbolism, and our interactions with one another. At St. Joseph's we open our doors daily in welcome to all and in the coming weeks you are welcome to join us as a community for our Awards night, Parish fete, Graduation Mass, and end of year Mass. Below is an overview of how we feel, act, and think when displaying these values at St. Joseph's.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hospitality</th>
<th>Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Romans 15:7</td>
<td>Matthew 18:20</td>
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</table>

THINK:
- Openness
- Welcome
- Sharing
- Caring for others

ACT:
- Responsibly
- Co-operatively
- Kindly
- With initiative
- Generously
- Genuinely

FEEL:
- Happy
- Confident
- Humble
- Belonging

THINK:
- Rejoice
- Loved
- Encouraged

ACT:
- Co-operatively with others
- Team Work
- Seek the Good
- Respect

Feel:
- The presence of someone else
- Loved
- Supported

St. Joseph's Christmas Story 2015

Next Tuesday 24th November, we will be holding our Annual Awards evening at St. Joseph's School. The children are asked to wear their formal school uniform for the evening. All children will also be participating in the Christmas Story – The Journey to Bethlehem. This year each class will be presenting the Christmas Story from the viewpoint of a particular participant at the time. We will not be wearing costumes this year to present this part of the evening.

Parish Fete
Save the Date ……..

Friday 27th November, 2015

Have you got your ride wrist band yet? Only $27 for a night of rides and slides.
What about Raffle Tickets? You don't want to miss out on an opportunity to win one of the major prizes.

What's On at St. Joseph's….

Friday 20th November—9am Assembly—Hall—Year 4
Tuesday 24th November—Awards Night—St. Joseph's School Grounds—6pm
Thursday 26th November—Gunther Village—Prep
Friday 27th November—9am Assembly—Year 2/3—Advent
Friday 27th November—St. Joseph’s Parish Fete

A question to discuss…..

What is Advent?

See next week’s news for an answer!
PARISH FETE: Sold and unsold raffle tickets are due back to the school office by Monday 23 November. Thank you for your support!

LOST PROPERTY: A size 8 sports shirt belonging to Blake Harris was misplaced at our Interhouse Swimming Carnival on Friday 30 October. The shirt is named; could you please check to see if your child has brought the shirt home by accident.

DANCE CREW: Our last Dance Crew for the year will be next Thursday, 26th November.

Are you able to assist with our Parish Fete on Friday 27th November? If you are able to help please fill out the form below and return to the school office. Many thanks!

Yes I can help with the following: (Please tick)

- Food preparation Friday morning 27th Nov
- Stall set up Friday afternoon 27th Nov
- Working on a stall at the Fete
- Clean up after the Fete

Name…………………………………...      Phone number:……………………………… .

Age Champions
9yrs Boys—Kaiden Ratcliff
9yrs Girls—Kimberley Weston
10yrs Boys—James Parr
10yrs Girls—Courtney Bryant
11yrs Boys—James Robertson (GSS)
11yrs Girls—Elle Colvin
12yrs Boys—Sam Whitaker (GSS)
12yrs Girls—Brianna Whitaker (GSS)

Awards night, next Tuesday, 24th November, 6pm. Students are to wear formal uniform, and parents if possible please bring a chair.
Community Notices

FETE RIDES: Ride tickets are available for purchase from the office.

GAYNDAH ART GALLERY: Will be open Fete night, come and see our current exhibition “From Bush to Beach”.

BINJOUR PLATEAU STATE SCHOOL P & C: Raffle—1st Prize Thermomix TM5 valued at $2089. 2nd prize—Hamper of Goodies. Tickets $10 each. Drawn 4th December, 2015. All funds raised are going towards our 2016 School Camp. Contact Julie 4161 3241 or Jas 4161 3101.

ST MATTHEW’S ANGLICAN CHRISTMAS FETE: Friday 4th December, starting at 5.30pm. BBQ, Ham Wheel, Stalls, children’s games, Jumping Castle. A fun night for all the family.

ST LUKE’S ANGLICAN SCHOOL: Homestay for Rural Students. St Luke’s Anglican School based in Bundaberg offers Homestay options for rural students. For more information, call the main office on 4132 7555, or email stlukes@stlukes.qld.edu.au

“St Joseph’s Primary School
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Gayndah
Queensland 4625
Phone: 07 4161 1889
Fax: 07 4161 2655
Email: pgayndah@bne.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.stjosephsgayndah.qld.edu.au

“In All Things Glorify God”

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL TERM DATES 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 28 Jan—Thurs 2 April</td>
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<td>Term Two</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 21 April—Fri 26 June</td>
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<td>Term Three</td>
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<td>Tues 14 July—Fri 18 Sept</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Four</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 6 Oct—Fri 4 Dec</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 20 April—Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 8 June—Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 13 July—Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 5 Oct—Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 19 Oct—Pupil Free Day</td>
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Diary of Coming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tues 24 Nov</th>
<th>Fri 27 Nov</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awards Night</td>
<td>Fete</td>
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<tr>
<th>Wed 2 Dec</th>
<th>Thurs 3 Dec</th>
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<tr>
<td>Whole school pool excursion</td>
<td>Year Six Graduation Mass</td>
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| Fri 4 Dec   | End of Year Mass 11am |

Available through the IWC in North Burnett
We offer services to everyone:
- Individual health assessments
- School visits
- Help accessing doctors and specialists
- Chronic disease screening
- Mum-to-be clinics
- Ear health screening
- Referrals to other services, ie eyes, feet, psychology, Home Care, dental, Alcohol & Other Drugs, emotional wellbeing

Contact us: Ph 4161 4800 or 1300 402 402

The IWC North Burnett Clinic is at the cnr of Gordon & Pineapple Sts, Gayndah