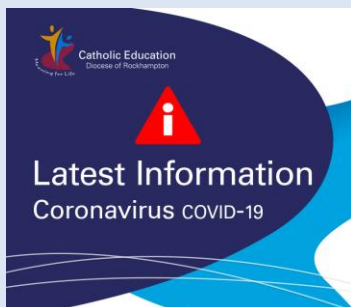


Information is available on the Staff Portal under the following graphic



Please continue to reference updated [COVID-19](#) information on the [Queensland Health](#) website or [Australian Government](#) website.

Also available via the Staff Portal are **Counselling Resources**

**Download the COVIDSafe App** with information via the following [link](#)

### Reflection from Pope Francis



Belonging to Christ, and the resulting way of life, do not isolate the believer from the world, but rather make him or her the protagonist in a service of love for the common good.

### Date Claimer:

**Ashwin Acharya will be ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Rockhampton on 18 November 2020.**

The ordination will be live streamed, and information will be provided closer to the date. We continue to keep Ashwin in our prayers.

**Friday 13 November 2020**

Good morning everyone

This week was recognised nationally as NAIDOC Week celebrating the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples under this year's theme *Always Was, Always Will Be*. Although we held our NAIDOC Masses in Term 3, it is important during this delayed official celebration of NAIDOC week that we recognise that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years and are spiritually and culturally connected to this country.

Remembrance Day was also commemorated on Wednesday this week – a time when we call to mind and honour the memory of those who died or suffered in all wars or armed conflicts. I thank you all for continuing to observe the time-honoured tradition of one minute's silence to reflect on the sacrifice of so many for the freedoms we enjoy today. *Lest we forget.*

Today, as the Diocesan Education Council (DEC) meets for the final time for 2020, we farewell Jim Hanley who has been a Council member for the past 6 years. I wish to acknowledge Jim's significant contribution to the Council and offer my sincere appreciation for his dedicated service. We have been indeed blessed to have a person with Jim's wisdom, knowledge and strong commitment to the mission of Catholic Education serving on the DEC. Thank you Jim, it has been both a pleasure and a privilege to have enjoyed your guidance, support and friendship over these past many years. I wish you every blessing today and into the future as you conclude 51 years of outstanding, faith-filled and selfless service to Catholic Education.

Earlier this week, I was delighted to attend a session presented by our former Catholic Education Director, Joe McCorley OAM. The topic was 'Stewardship within Parishes' and was part of the ongoing regional response to the Diocesan Assembly held in Rockhampton last year. Joe explored some new perspectives focussed on discovering our own gifts and talents and how we can best contribute to our parishes through the use of our gifts. It was wonderful to see our 2021 student leaders from Emmaus College and The Cathedral College present and I congratulate them on their engagement and participation. My thanks to the Central Regional Pastoral Council for coordinating this worthwhile initiative and to our dear friend and champion of Catholic Education, Joe, for his great insights and call to serve.

Our Board Chairs held their annual in-service meeting this week with a presentation from Professor Br David Hall on the importance of Catholic schools retaining their sense of purpose and mission in today's world. Referencing *Voices and Visions*, a recently published resource by the Australian Catholic University, Br David led discussions on its use by Boards and school communities to start conversations around the mission and purpose of contemporary Catholic schools. My thanks to John Kennedy for his work in coordinating this formation opportunity.

Many of you will have seen the beautiful works of long-time talented artist and friend of Catholic Education, Brian Kehoe, dotted in numerous school foyers and offices depicting our buildings and various scenes around our diocese. Brian completed about 40 of these commissioned artworks for us over the years and this weekend he is convening his final exhibition of general works at his Emu Park Studio (information available on page 2). I offer our sincere appreciation to Brian for the beautiful works of art that he has provided to Catholic Education. I am sure you join with me in wishing Brian every one of God's many blessings today and into the future.

Finally, our best wishes to the Year 12 ATAR students who complete their external exams in the coming days. Please keep them in your prayers.

God bless,

*Leesa*

**National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC)** has launched the 200 Years Catholic Education Website for the Bicentenary of Catholic education in Australia November 2020 to December 2021.  
<https://200years.catholic.edu.au/>

Additional information will be provided over the coming weeks.

# Notification of intention to apply for HAT and LT 2021 certification

Teachers – if you are thinking about applying for Highly Accomplished or Lead Teacher certification in 2021 you will need to complete a notification of intention to apply online **by 17 November 2020**. Visit the website for all the details: <https://hatandlt.qcec.catholic.edu.au/applicants/>

**Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Springsure** (pictured below) were very appreciative of the support from the Sisters of Mercy Range Celebration Endowment Fund which the school has put to good use assisting students within the school community.



**Brian Kehoe** pictured left with Leesha, (you may have heard of Brian who is a watercolour artist based in Emu Park) called into CEO last week to meet with Leesha and to let us know about an exhibition he is holding this weekend with many of his very special art works up for sale. The studio in Emu Park at 20 Bright Street will be open Saturday and Sunday 9:00am to 4:00pm an RSVP is requested - please call 4938 8198.



Many of our schools celebrated **NAIDOC Week** this week, with Emmanuel Catholic Primary School, Mackay celebrating culture with 'hands on' activities.

**St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Biloela Parents and Friends Cookbook.** Orders can be placed via the following link:

<https://stjosephspandf.mystrikingly.com/>

A great Christmas gift for family and friends.

Please remember in your prayers recently deceased members of our extended Catholic Education Family.

**Ernie MacGuire**, father of Meredith Grove, St Francis Catholic Primary School, Tannum Sands.

**Kevin Hinchliffe**, father in law of Christine Hinchliffe, The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

**Dorothy Ramm**, mother of Jason Ramm CEO.

Please remember in your prayers those members of our extended Catholic Education Family who are unwell.

**John Hinton**, former Principal, and CEO Leadership Team member.

**Sr Dolores Donnelly** rsm, Rockhampton.

**Deb Campbell**, Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Yeppoon and wife of John CEO.

**Del Rowan**, mother of Di-Anne Rowan CEO.

**Rosemary Weilharther**, Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School, Gladstone.

**Nadene Hottes**, St Mary's Catholic Primary School, North Rockhampton.

**William Piacentini**, former student of St Paul's Catholic Primary School, Gracemere.

## Congratulations to:

**Sheila Challacombe**, on her appointment as Acting Principal St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Clermont.

**Emma Martin**, on her appointment as Acting APRE St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Clermont.

**Zoe Barron** on her appointment as APRE at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Blackall commencing in 2021.

**Nathan Doyle** (St Brendan's College, Yeppoon) on his appointment as Assistant Principal: Students, Chanel College, Gladstone commencing in 2021.

**Kerrie Lisle** on her appointment as Acting Assistant Principal: Administration, Chanel College, Gladstone commencing in 2021.



Thank you, farewell and best wishes to long serving staff who are leaving Catholic Education this year

#### Western Region



**Louise Charker – Marist College, Emerald**

As part of the Marist College community for the past 19 years, Louise has provided dedicated service as a teacher as well as taking on additional roles. Louise, your long service has been of great benefit to the Marist and wider Catholic Education community and are very appreciative of your willing contribution. We wish Louise every future happiness.



**Bernadette Anderson – Marist College, Emerald**

Bernadette joined the Marist College teaching staff 2007. Her 14 years of service at the college has included roles as Full-time Teacher, Assistant Principal Curriculum, Acting Deputy Principal and House Coordinator. We are most grateful to Bernadette for her wonderful service to Catholic Education.



**Roland Kowitz – St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Clermont**

Roland commenced as Principal at St Joseph's Clermont in 2018 moving to Clermont from Brisbane. We thank Roland for his time as Principal and his contribution to the St Joseph's and Clermont Community. Roland and family will now have the opportunity to be closer to extended family and we wish them much happiness in the years ahead.

#### Southern Region



**Christian Taylor – Shalom College, Bundaberg**

We bid Christian a fond farewell after 26 years of continuous service at Shalom College Bundaberg. Working as a Fulltime Teacher from 1995 until 2018, Christian held roles as Year Coordinator, Art Coordinator and from 2002 Assistant Principal: Curriculum. Thank you most sincerely Christian, for your dedicated and loyal service to Catholic Education.



**Robyn Edgar – Shalom College, Bundaberg**

Working at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School and Shalom College in Bundaberg, Robyn has provided Catholic Education with over two decades of dedicated and inspiring service working in Music and the Performing Arts. We are deeply appreciative of the great contribution Robyn has made to Catholic Education.



**Catherine Wilson – St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Bundaberg**

Cathy has served Catholic Education in the Southern Region for 17 years. During that time Cathy worked as a fulltime teacher at St Mary's in Bundaberg and as Assistant Principal: Curriculum at St Joseph's Biloela and St Patrick's Bundaberg. Thank you, Cathy, for your dedicated service and best wishes with your future studies.



**Michelle Halpin – St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Bundaberg**

Michelle started as Administration Secretary at St Patrick's Bundaberg in 2008 before taking on the role of Library Coordinator in 2013. We offer our thanks and appreciation for all her contributions to the St Patrick's school community and pray for good health into the future.