

Migrant and Refugee Celebrations in Diocese of Rockhampton

Various events have been rolled out to celebrate Migrant and Refugee Week in Rockhampton, Queensland, with more than a thousand parishioners attending the Eucharistic celebration presided by Bishop Michael McCarthy at the Rockhampton St Joseph's Cathedral held on Sunday, 26th August 2018, followed by a community soiree at the St Joseph's Cathedral grounds.

Some of the highlights of this event are songs and dances from various parts of the world; a showcase of various costumes from different countries; a parade of national flags participated in by school children in the Parish; and a shared meal of special cuisines from different countries, served and prepared by members of migrants and refugees community who have now called Rockhampton home.

Meanwhile, the cultural festival at the Heritage Village in Rockhampton ushered in the Migrant and Refugee Week with a "Fiesta" for more than 8000 sharing and enjoying the food from various countries; the Parade of Nations and a Luminous exhibition of lanterns created by school children and other members of the community.

Rockhampton is home to more than 80 ethnic groups from all over the world. The Region has also welcomed refugees and asylum seekers who are now gainfully contributing to its vibrant socio-economic development, and very much involved in various social and faith community activities.

This annual event provides an opportunity for everyone to explore, share and enjoy the different cultures and traditions of the world.