Service and dedication to Catholic Education by long serving staff and volunteers will be recognized across the Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton this week, as the Catholic Education community gathers in regional centres for their annual Beginning of the School Year Mass.

Diocesan Director of Catholic Education, Leesa Jeffcoat said each year it was a pleasure to commence the school year together with Mass and to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of so many teachers, staff and catechists and express the high regard in which they are held.

Long serving teaching and school staff along with volunteer catechists will be presented with commemorative plaques at the Beginning of School Year Masses being held this week.

“The experience, wisdom and the wealth of knowledge that these wonderful long serving staff members bring to Catholic Education adds great depth to the story and continuing experience of Catholic Education that is so much part of our Diocese,” Miss Jeffcoat said.

As the Catholic Education Community commences the year, the Beginning of School Year Mass allows time to reflect on the year ahead and provides an opportunity to acknowledge all those who contribute so much support to Catholic Education in the 30 Primary Schools and 8 Colleges across the Diocese. “The Beginning of School Year Mass allows us time to pause and prepare spiritually and practically for the unique ministry of teaching and working in our respective school and college communities.” Leesa Jeffcoat said.