

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

FIRST READING**Acts 13:14, 43-52**

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats. When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

I have made you a light for the nations,
so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.' It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

RESPOROSIAL PSALM**Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3**

(R.) We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy. (R.)
2. Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock. (R.)
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age. (R.)

SECOND READING**Rv 7:9, 14-17**

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms

in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**Jn 10:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL**Jn 10:27-30**

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;
I know them and they follow me.
I give them eternal life;
they will never be lost
and no one will ever steal them from me.
The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone,
and no one can steal from the Father.
The Father and I are one.'

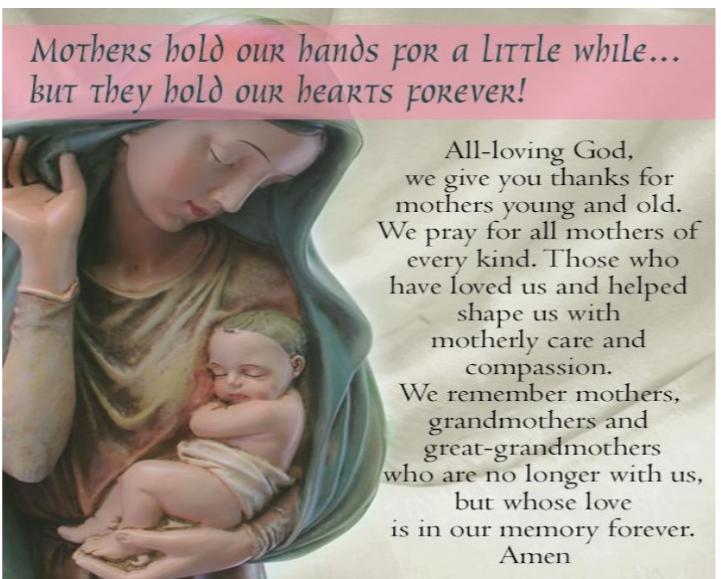
COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

FOLLOWING THE MISSAL

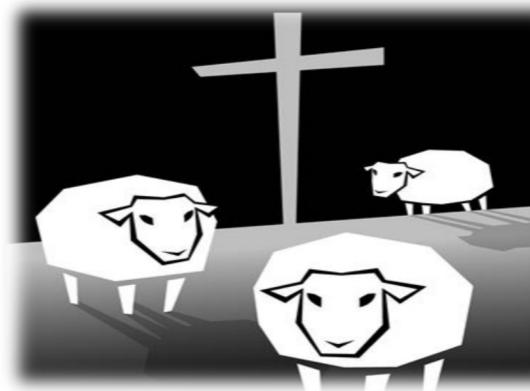
Preface: III of Easter, Eucharistic Prayer II

Next Week's Readings: (4th Sunday of Easter)

Acts 14:21-27; Rev 21:1-5; John 13:31-35



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YR C

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OFFICE HOURS:**Days:** Tuesdays & Thursdays**Time:** 8.30am to 4.00pm**NAMBUCCA PRESBYTERY:****Telephone:** 02 6568 6642**PARISH SCHOOLS:****St Patrick's Primary School—Macksville**

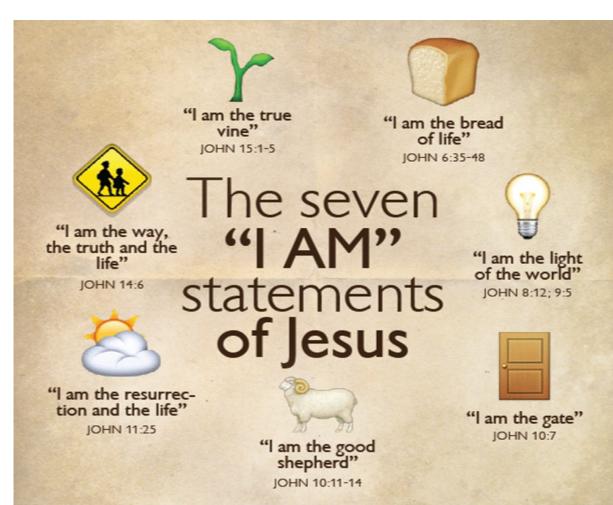
32 Macksville Heights Drive, Macksville

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4 Carbin Street, Bowraville

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Website: www.bwpplism.catholic.edu.au**Blessed to be part of the flock**

The image of God as shepherd of his people is strong in both the Old and the New Testament. Indeed, one of the earliest and most loved images of Jesus in the early Church was of him as the Good Shepherd who so loves his sheep that he lays down his life for them.

In the Roman catacombs, the ancient cemeteries outside the city of Rome where the early Christian martyrs were buried, we find very early images of the Good Shepherd. He is shown carrying a lamb on his shoulders. Holiness, goodness and grace radiate from his youthful figure. His sheep gaze trustingly at him and graze peacefully in his care. They know him, they recognise his voice, and they know that he will protect them from danger. He knows each of them by name and will never desert them.

The image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd must have been a great source of consolation for Christians in the face of persecution. Indeed, a common prayer in the early Church for those who had died was that they should be taken to heaven "borne on the shoulders of the Good Shepherd".

Two thousand years later, Christians continue to find the image of the Good Shepherd deeply consoling and comforting, especially in times of trouble and distress. Psalm 23 is one of the most loved and prayed of all the psalms, often used at funerals. It speaks to us so powerfully of the unfailing tenderness and steadfast love with which God cares for us, individually and as a community. Psalm 100 proclaims his kindness and faithfulness and in it we rejoice that we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

But let us reflect for a moment about us as the sheep of his flock! Now, those of us who have grown up in the country and watched sheep dog trials, or waited on a country road while a flock of sheep is moved by a farmer and his sheep dogs from one side of the road to the other, know how stupid and wayward sheep can be and how much patience and skill it takes to manage them! Though we human beings are blessed with capacity for intelligence and insight, we too, like sheep, often behave in scatterbrained and foolish ways.

But no matter how foolish or scatterbrained or uncooperative we might be, our Good Shepherd shepherds us, looks out for us, comes to find us when we are lost, and carries us when we need to be carried. He loves us and cares for us with an everlasting love. How very blessed are we to be the sheep of his flock! May the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd remind us to keep our eyes on him, to listen to him, and to hold firm to our faith and our trust in him.

Anne Hunt©

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PARISH DIARY



Tuesday 10TH MAY	5:00 pm Reconciliation, Macksville 5:30 pm Mass, Macksville ST JOHN OF AVILA
Wednesday 11TH MAY	9:30 am Mass, Bowraville ST WALTER OF L'ESTERP
Thursday 12TH MAY	9:00 am Adoration before Mass 9:30 am Mass, Macksville ST NEREUS, ST ACHILLEUS & ST PANCRAS
Friday 13TH MAY	8:30 am Adoration before Mass 9:00 am Mass, Nambucca Heads OUR LADY OF FATIMA 1ST FATIMA APPARITION
Saturday 14TH MAY	9:30 am Mass, Macksville 5:30 pm Reconciliation, Nambucca 6:00 pm Vigil Mass, Nambucca ST MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE
Sunday 15TH MAY	8:00 am Mass, Macksville 9:30 am Mass, Bowraville 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally called "Good Shepherd Sunday". This name stems from today's Gospel passage, taken from the tenth chapter of John. Although we continue throughout our lives to stray from God. We need the Good Shepherd each day.

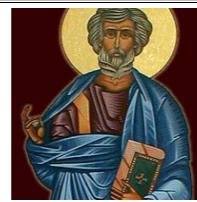
Collection Envelopes are in your church, for the Education of future priests of the Diocese.

Position Vacant: Parish Secretary/Business Manager Bellingen Parish

We are looking for an experienced secretary/bookkeeper who has the ability to work within the mission of the Catholic Church. **Selection Criteria** includes the following:

Able to produce and monitor rosters for masses and church cleaning etc; experienced in Microsoft office applications – especially EXCEL; experience in bookkeeping—Reckon desirable; accounts payable and receivable; well organised; able to write reports and provide financial reporting to the Parish Priest and Finance Council. Ideally, the successful applicant will be a practising Catholic with a good knowledge of parish and diocesan structures and compliance obligations. The position entails 3 days a week.

If you, or anyone you know, might be interested, please submit your resume and covering letter addressing the selection criteria to: Diocesan HR Manager, Mr James Hay, Email: jobs@lismore.catholic.org.au



Saint of the Week St Matthias the Apostle

May 14th

How does one qualify to be an apostle?

The first act of the apostles after the Ascension of Jesus was to find a replacement for Judas. Why was this important? Twelve was a very important number to the Chosen People: twelve was the number of the twelve tribes of Israel. If the new Israel was to come from the disciples of Jesus, a twelfth apostle was needed. But Jesus had chosen the original twelve. How could they know whom he would choose?

One hundred and twenty people were gathered for prayer and reflection in the upper room, when Peter stood up to propose the way to make the choice.

Peter had one criterion, that, like Andrew, James, John, and himself, the new apostle be someone who had been a disciple from the very beginning, from his baptism by John until the Ascension. The reason for this was simple, the new apostle would must become a witness to Jesus' resurrection. He must have followed Jesus before anyone knew him, stayed with him when he made enemies, and believed in him when he spoke of the cross and of eating his body -- teachings that had made others melt away.

Two men fit this description -- Matthias and Joseph called Barsabbas. They knew that both these men had been with them and with Jesus through his whole ministry. But which one had the heart to become a witness to his resurrection. The apostles knew that only the Lord could know what was in the heart of each. They cast lots in order to discover God's will and Matthias was chosen. He was the twelfth apostle and the group was whole again as they waited for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

That's the first we hear of Matthias in Scripture, and the last. Legends like the Acts of Andrew and Matthias testify to Matthias' enthusiastic embrace of all that being an apostle meant including evangelization, persecution, and death in the service of the Lord.

Clement of Alexandria says that Matthias, like all the other apostles, was not chosen by Jesus for what he already was, but for what Jesus foresaw he would become. He was elected not because he was worthy but because he would become worthy. Jesus chooses all of us in the same way. What does Jesus want you to become?

In His Footsteps: Have you ever felt like an afterthought, a latecomer? Or have you ever resented someone new who was added to your group? Try to see your community as not complete without the newcomer. Welcome any newcomers to your parish, work, or family community this week as someone chosen by God.

Prayer: Saint Matthias, pray that we may become worthy witnesses to the resurrection of Jesus in the way we live the eternal life we have right now.

Ministry Roster — 14th May & 15th May 2022

	Nambucca Heads 6:00 pm, Saturday	Macksville 8:00 am, Sunday	Bowraville 9:30 am, Sunday	Taylors Arm 11:00 am, Sunday
Reader	S Bolton	Z White	K Chessell	
Commentator	M Harris	I Allan	C Doolan	
Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	J Ingold M Dallas	S Allan L McLeod		NO MASS
Altar Servers	M & Z Dillow	H & T Patton-Low	T Leece, I Leece	
Sacristan	J Ingold	S Nebauer		
Counters	B & R McFadyen			
Church Cleaning/Caring		B & L King		



Confirmation
2022 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM
Commitment Mass:
7th & 8th May.
Confirmation Liturgy:
15th June (by Bishop Homeming)

Nambucca Heads, Our Lady Star of the Sea Church

Mothers Day Raffle

Tickets will be sold until drawn on 7th May 2022.

We look forward to your support once again, and Good Luck!

We wish some very special people in our parish,

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Pauline McShane

Jim Hallam

Steph Allan

Janine Hoffman



&

Veronica (Von) Black

...who is turning 90

May God continue to bless you all every day with His love and grace.

The Three C's

are holding a Mothers Day Raffle

Your support will be much appreciated.

Tickets will be on sale until drawn on Sunday 8th May when we will celebrate with a cuppa after Mass.

All Welcome!



WE PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY...

*Lord we ask healing for those who are sick.
We thank you for those who have recovered.
We pray for all who have died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.*



Mass intention envelopes are located at the back of the church

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Pat Quirk, June Branford, Rex Lawrence, Kath Mitchell, Eloise Spear, Lynette Orrego, Eileen Barbellar, Fr Anthony Lemon, Rolfe Reimer, Monica Dunbar, Jim Garland, Michael Foley, Judy Moran, Erin Dalton, Earl O'Connor, Lorraine Freeman, Elizabeth Armer, Ern Thorne, Lynn Tonkin, Jacob Ingold, Peter Finlay, Trish Keaton, Jerry Barber, Neville Ennis, Gloria Connors, Julieanne McIntyre

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Fr Edward Crowley, Bishop John Joseph Carroll, Sr Martha Casserley, Joan Smith, Bruce Baker, John Tome, Patrick Ryan, John Ryan.

WE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fr John Worthington, Ron Forrester.

If you wish us to visit any family members who are in hospital or infirm, please notify the parish office so the Pastoral Care team or Father can arrange a visit and administer the sacrament for the sick.

SYNOD OF BISHOPS

At the invitation of Pope Francis and Bishop Greg, over the last six months people of the Lismore Diocese have reflected and shared deeply on the themes of communion, participation and mission. The result of these contributions is the Diocesan report in preparation for the 2023 International Synod of Bishops. If anyone would like to read this comprehensive report, please contact the Parish Office to arrange a copy.

