

Liturgy of the Word

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or hymn) O Sing a new song to the Lord! Sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, Strength and honour in his holy place.

FIRST READING **Is 8:23 - 9:3**

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase, they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM **Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14. R. v.1 (R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

1. The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; Before whom shall I shrink? **(R.)**

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long,

to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life,

to savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple. **(R.)**

3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.

Hope in the Lord! **(R.)**

SECOND READING **1 COR 1:10-13, 17**

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

MT 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MT 4:12-23

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned.

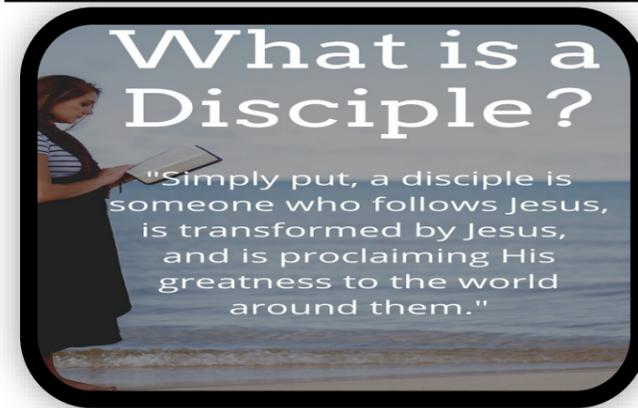
From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him. He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) : Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

FOLLOWING THE MISSAL...

Preface II Sundays in Ordinary Time; Eucharistic Prayer II
NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: (4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A)
Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13; 1Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12

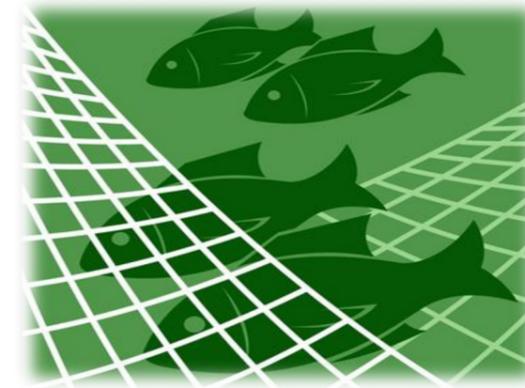
**Catholic Parish of the Nambucca Valley**

Corpus Christi, Bowraville
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Nambucca Heads

St Patrick's, Macksville
Christ the King, Taylors Arm

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A
22nd January 2023

We Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Gumbaynggirr People, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.



ADMINISTRATOR: Fr Shelwin Fernandez

PARISH SECRETARY: Zofie White

PARISH OFFICE:

Postal Address: PO Box 38, Macksville 2447
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Phone: 02 6568 1107
Email: nvparish@lismore.catholic.org.au

Website: www.nvparish.org.au
Urgent Matters: 0481 277 532

OFFICE HOURS:

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Time: 8.30am to 2.00pm

NAMBUCCA PRESBYTERY:

Telephone: 02 6568 6642

PARISH SCHOOLS:

St Patrick's Primary School—Macksville

32 Macksville Heights Drive, Macksville
Phone: 02 6568 1397
Website: www.macvplism.catholic.edu.au

St Mary's Primary School —Bowraville

4 Carbin Street, Bowraville
Phone: 02 65647369
Website: www.bwvplism.catholic.edu.au

**PEOPLE WHO FOUND THE LIGHT**

Galilee was no one's idea of a place that could launch a 'world changing movement'. Galilee's history was not glorious. The readings today refer to it as the "land of Naphtali", which was one of the breakaway tribes of the Jewish people that formed the northern kingdom of Israel.

According to the Old Testament, these tribes did not remain faithful to God, committing idolatry and gross injustices. The northern kingdom was later invaded and its people taken captive by the Assyrian empire. The area around the Sea of Galilee remained largely deserted for centuries.

By the time of Jesus, Galilee had been repopulated by Jewish people who had formed several prosperous towns and villages. Although its population was fervently Jewish, their countrymen in Judea and around Jerusalem regarded Galileans as barely qualifying as Jewish, with their blended ethnic heritage and stereotypes about them being lax in religious practice.

They had identifiable accents and would have been regarded by Judeans as their less-sophisticated country cousins. Throughout the Gospels the Judeans repeatedly dismiss Jesus and his disciples when they learn they are from Galilee.

These are people today's readings describe as "people who walked in darkness", and with history the Scriptures depict as 'degraded by God'. But it is to the people of Galilee, "on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death, light has arisen."

Jesus' ministry in Galilee is a fitting example of how God ministers first to the lowly and humble and chooses them to do wonderful things for him. The people of Galilee are the first to hear the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Their people are chosen to be disciples of Israel's promised Messiah and messengers of God to the ends of the earth. And it is to the Galileans that Jesus first travels "teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people."

Today's gospel brings us hope for our own land, currently assailed by secularism and our own history of injustices. Our country could also be a spark for God's plan of salvation for the entire world. What we learn is that God is looking to bring the kingdom of heaven to people who have the humility and willingness to follow him.

If the kingdom of heaven is to come through us, then it must start with the two messages that Jesus' preaches in the gospel: "Repent" and "Come after me." Jesus calls the people of Galilee, and us today, to leave the darkness of our past sins behind us and follow him, the one true light.

May we all pray that we, a people who walk in darkness, see the true light of Christ and become "fishers of men" for him to the ends of the earth. May every corner of our country know Jesus' teachings, his healing and his love for people.

Joseph Doyle

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PARISH DIARY	
Tuesday 24TH JAN	5:00 pm Reconciliation 5:30 pm Mass, Macksville ST FRANCIS DE SALES
Wednesday 25TH JAN	9:30 am Mass, Bowraville THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL THE APOSTLE
Thursday 26TH JAN	9:00 am Adoration before Mass 9:30 am Mass, Macksville AUSTRALIA DAY / ST PAULA
Friday 27TH JAN	8:30 am Adoration before Mass 9:00 am Mass, Nambucca Heads ST TIMOTHY, ST TITUS & ST ANGELA MERICI
Saturday 28TH JAN	9:30 am Mass, Macksville 5:30 pm Reconciliation, Nambucca Heads 6:00 pm Vigil Mass, Nambucca Heads ST THOMAS AQUINAS
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">PLEASE NOTE</div>	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">NO CHANGE</div> of Mass days/times for the 5th Sunday this month	
Sunday 29TH JAN	8:00 am Mass, Macksville 9:30 am Mass, Bowraville 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saint of the week
St Paula

Born in Rome of a noble family on May 5, 347. Paula married Toxotius, and the couple had five children - Toxotius, Blesilla, Paulina, Eustochium, and Rufina. They were regarded as an ideal married couple, and on his death in 379, she renounced the world, lived in the greatest austerity, and devoted herself to helping the poor.

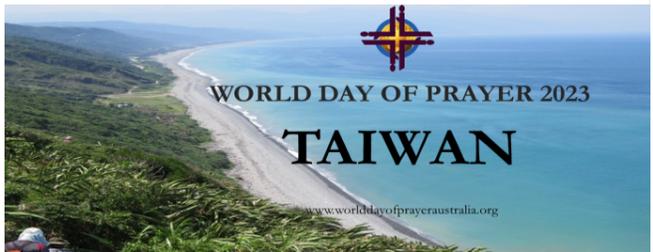
She met St. Jerome in 382 through St. Epiphanius and Paulinus of Antioch and was closely associated with Jerome in his work while he was in Rome. Paula helped Jerome in his translation of the Bible from Hebrew and Greek into Latin. The work was done at her suggestion and she provided the reference works necessary for the undertaking. Being versed in Hebrew, she edited Jerome's manuscripts. She and her daughter Eustochium copied the work for circulation. She became Jerome's closest confidante and assistant, taking care of him and helping him in his biblical work, build numerous churches, which were to cause her financial difficulties in her old age.

The death of her daughter Blesilla in 384 left her heartbroken, and in 385 she left Rome with Eustochium, traveled to the Holy Land with Jerome, and a year later settled in Bethlehem under his spiritual direction. She and Eustochium built a hospice, a monastery, and a convent, which Paula governed.

Paula died at Bethlehem on January 26. She is the patroness of widows. Her feast day is January 26.

St Jerome grieved over her death but knowing how innocently she had lived, he was sure she was already in Paradise.

"O dear Saint Paula," he prayed,
"help me now by your prayers and do not forget me, who taught you to live for God and Heaven. Your faith and your piety, have already placed you in the bosom of God and I know, He cannot now refuse to hear you. Oh, then, my child, pray, pray for me."



The Nambucca Valley Catholic Parish will be proudly hosting this Year's World Day of Prayer 2023
Motto: *Informed prayer and prayerful action*
**To be held at St Patrick's Church, Macksville
Friday, 3rd March 2023**

The World Day of Prayer service is an international event, celebrated in over 170 countries around the world. It is held on or near the first Friday in March. This year's focus country is Taiwan and in 2023 the service is prepared for us by Christian women in Taiwan. Their wish for you:
May God grant you peace – a peaceful relationship with God and with one another
Both women and men, as well as all Christian denominations are invited to attend.

At this service we will be informed about Taiwan, pray for Taiwan using prayers sent from that country, and commit to action by giving to the WDP 2023 project and dedicating ourselves to keep praying for Taiwan in the days ahead.
If there are any parishioners who have links with this beautiful country of Taiwan and can assist with our organizing of this event with cultural information we would love to hear from you!

Reimagining Church Together in Mission

Presenter: Dr Maeve Louise Heaney VDMF Director,
Xavier Centre for Theological Formation

Dates: Friday 24 & Saturday 25 February 2023
Time: 5pm arrival on Friday 24 February, concluding at 1pm on Saturday 25 February.

Venue: Invercauld House, 163 Invercauld Road, Goonellabah,
Lismore NSW
Cost: \$350
Registration is essential by: Monday 30 January 2023

Information and registration: Mrs Katrina Mills 02 6627 6215
katrina.mills@lism.catholic.edu.au
The Xavier Centre is part of the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy at ACU and offers a broad range of theological formation opportunities for lay persons, religious and clergy across Australia.
Learn more: acu.edu.au/xaviercentre

Ministry Roster - 28th & 29th January 2023				
	Nambucca Heads 6:00pm, Saturday	Macksville 8:00am, Sunday	Bowraville 9:30am, Sunday	Taylors Arm 11:00am, Sunday
Commentator	J Ryan	Z White	N Slingsby	
Reader	S Dwart	J Miles	S McNally	NO MASS
Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	M Dallas B Goswell	J Hasson S Allan		
Procession of Gifts	Volunteers please	S & J Nebauer	Volunteers please	
Altar Servers	Theresa N, A Smith	M Lines, J Costa	T & I Leece	
Sacristan	M Dwart	S Nebauer		
Church Caring		*I Dallas		
Counters	P Richards			

The Parish Office is now taking orders for the:
**Triumph Lenten Program
2023 books**

Triumph is an 88-page full colour book (240x170mm) containing short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday) perfect for individual devotional reading in addition to the longer-form Sunday Scripture readings and reflections, prayers and questions (*perfect for individual devotional reading and Lenten groups*).

The short daily reflections have been written by 19 fantastic clergy, religious and lay contributors from around the world.

Triumph also features beautiful religious artworks from the Masters such as Veronese, Giordano, Carracci, Leighton, Muziano, Tiepolo and Poussin with enlightening Artwork Spotlight reflections written by the amazing Monsignor Graham Schmitzer.

Please let the Parish Office know if you are interested in purchasing one for Lent. They will be approximately \$9.00 (plus postage - calculated upon ordering)

Office Hours : Tues & Thurs
8.30am - 4pm
nvparish@lismore.catholic.org.au
Phone 65681107

Welcome in BAPTISM.....

We welcomed **Addie Rose Ryan** into our faith community through the sacrament of Baptism at OLSS Nambucca Heads on Saturday 14th January 2023.

Let us pray for **Addie, and her family**, that God will continue to guide her with His wisdom and grace every step of the way.

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: Eva Smith, Susan Ang, Jodie Bowron, Wendy Tuck, Roy Gore, Rayleen Keaton, Leonie McLachlan, Shaun Forrester, Karen Hasson, David Grimes, Malou Atayde, Therese & Terry Parkhouse, Monica Dunbar, Tui Smith, Neville Stewart, Kath Mitchell, Eloise Spear, Eileen Barbellar, Fr Anthony Lemon, Jim Garland, Michael Foley, Lorraine Freeman, Elizabeth Armer, Lynn Tonkin, Jacob Ingold, Peter Finlay, Jerry Barber, Neville Ennis, Gloria Connors, Julieanne McIntyre, Adam Connolly

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Fr Thomas Patrick Cusack, Rita McLeod, Len Smith, Noel Scrivener, Pam Cross, Maureen Harper, Eulalie Glover

WE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:
Ern Thorne, George Cardinal Pell, Pope Benedict XVI, Danny Martinelli, Rosemary Laws.
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.

Fellow Parishioners
Your Help is Needed

We have a married couple of parishioners who are in need of their son's assistance to maintain their status in their own home. He wishes to move and reside in or near the Nambucca Valley so that he can help them in their day to day lives.

They are seeking suitable accommodation for him in the form of a flat/unit/granny flat/ or a room with some private access.

If you know of anywhere or anyone who can assist in this matter please contact the Parish Office, or Father Shelwin.