



Liturgy of the Word

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or hymn):
Cf Psalm 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

FIRST READING Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26
(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever! (R.)
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord all families of the nations worship before him. They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. (R.)
3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.' (R.)

SECOND READING 1 John 3:18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we

keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in Him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION John 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:
'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit He cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes to make it bear even more.
You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you.

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in Me, with Me in Him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Cf John 15:1,5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

PREFACE : Preface IV of Easter
NEXT WEEK (6th Sunday of Easter, Year B)
Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Psalm 97; 1 John 4: 7-10-;
John 15: 9-17



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

**5th Sunday of
Easter Year B
28th April 2024**

*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*



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Zofie White

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St Mary's Primary School —Bowraville
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The true vine that feeds us

In these weeks after Easter and before the feasts of Ascension and Pentecost, our gospel readings come from Jesus' farewell discourses in the Gospel of John. These are the teachings which Jesus shared with his disciples in that precious time just before his arrest and crucifixion.

His teachings offered solace to his disciples who were soon to endure his passion and death. We now read and ponder them in the light of his resurrection and Ascension. They also offer comfort to us in our time and place, as we face life's challenges and sorrows.

Last week, the gospel recounted Jesus telling the disciples that he is the Good Shepherd, who knows his sheep by name, who cares for them and protects them, and whose love and care are so great that he lays down his life for his sheep. This image of the Good Shepherd and his sheep describes a relationship of steadfast love and care.

This week, Jesus describes his relationship to his followers differently, this time in terms of a vine and its branches. This image highlights the intimacy, interconnection, mutuality and reciprocity of the relationship of Jesus to us, of Jesus to the Father, and of Jesus and the Father to us, individually and as a community.

Jesus explains that he is the true vine, the Father is the vine grower, and we are the branches. The image reminds us that we, just like the vine and its branches, rely on each other in order to bear fruit.

But, most important of all, Jesus urges us: "Abide in me as I abide in you." To abide means to remain, to stay, to dwell, to make a home in, to endure, and to hold fast. This notion of 'abiding' is of utmost importance in John's Gospel. (Even in today's short reading this word, abide, occurs 8 times.)

Jesus is very clear: this abiding is essential and core to our relationship with him. It is this abiding in him and he in us that will result in great fruitfulness. The fruits will be life-giving fruits, internal as well as external, for us personally and for the community. They will be peace, freedom, justice, joy, and the flourishing of creation.

What then is the call and the challenge for us? It is to nurture our relationship with Jesus. This is the discipleship to which he calls us: it is abiding in him, keeping company with him, living in daily conversation with him. We are called to a life-long process of entering ever more deeply into this relationship with him, learning to abide in his love, and learning to love one another as God has loved us. It is learning to live like that every day!

And, in the process, we will gradually come to better see the world, ourselves, other people, and whatever situations we face with our hearts and minds attuned to his.

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Welcome everyone! Especially to the new members of our parish and to our visitors from near and far

PARISH DIARY

Tuesday 30TH APRIL	9.30 am Mass, Macksville
Wednesday 1ST MAY	9.30 am Mass, Bowraville
Thursday 2ND MAY	9.30 am Mass, Macksville ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS
Friday 3RD MAY	9:00 am Adoration 9:30 am Mass, Nambucca Heads
Saturday 4TH MAY	4:30 pm Reconciliation, Nambucca Hds 5:00 pm Mass, Nambucca Heads
Sunday 5TH MAY	NOTE CHANGE 8.00am Mass, Macksville 9.30am Mass, Bowraville <i>6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</i>

PLEASE NOTE

NEW PARISH MASS TIMES COMMENCING NEXT WEEK **MAY 2024**

Saturday evenings stay the same:
 4.30pm Reconciliation OLSS, Nambucca Hd
 5.00pm Mass, OLSS, Nambucca Heads

Sundays 8.00am Mass, Macksville
From 9.30am Mass, Bowraville

5th May Taylor's Arm masses cancelled permanently
From 3rd May all weekday masses will be at 9.30am:
 Tuesdays 9.30am Mass, Macksville
 Wednesday 9.30am Mass, Bowraville
 Thursday 9.30am Mass, Macksville
 Friday **9.00am Adoration, Nambucca Heads**
9.30am Mass, Nambucca Heads

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
 Every Saturday 4.30pm Nambucca Heads

Sacrament of Baptism, Anointing of Sick and Marriages

Baptisms: Saturdays 3.00pm Nambucca Heads or Bowraville
 Sundays 11.00am Macksville

Anointing of the Sick: by appointment

Marriages: by appointment

Pope Francis' prayer intentions for 2024

Each month Pope Francis shares a prayer intention as part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. The monthly prayer intentions express the Holy Father's concerns for humanity and the mission of the Catholic Church.

April Intention: For the role of women
 We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

MORE CHANGES

After further discussion with church leaders and also faithful parishioners we have come to the conclusion there will be **further mass changes** from 3rd May onwards to the Weekend Mass times.

We are going back to the old mass time of 8.00am at Macksville and 9.30am at Bowraville and 5pm Nambucca.

Further, every first Sunday of the month, Macksville will have a cuppa after the 8am mass.

Nambucca Heads will also have a cuppa every **fifth Sunday of the month.**

Therefore, **on the fifth Sunday of each month mass will be swapped with Macksville mass at 5pm on Saturday and Nambucca Heads at 8am on Sunday.**

Of course you will be reminded in bulletin the week-end before each morning tea.

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

In context

The imagery that Jesus used in his parables and in extended metaphors such as the one used in this week's gospel sometimes seems a little foreign to a 21st Century audience. However, the world in which Jesus lived and taught was dominated by small scale farmers and producers in an agrarian economy. His use of images such as 'shepherd', 'vine', 'tenants', 'farmers' and 'wineskins' would all have been immediately recognisable to his audience. They would also have appreciated much more than we do the subtlety of Jesus' use of such images when he twists them in an unexpected way.

Ministry Roster - 4th & 5th May 2024

	Nambucca Heads 5.00 pm, Saturday	Bowraville 8.15am, Sunday	Macksville 9.30am, Sunday
Commentator	S Dwarte	N Slingsby	S Allan
Reader	M Harris	M Dal Santo	H Murphy
Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	B Hawke		I Allan
Procession of Gifts	S & W Bolton		Volunteers
Altar Servers	A Smith, E Betts, T Nguyen		
Sacristan	M Tait		S Nebauer
Counters	J & M Harris		
Church Caring			B & L King

UPCOMING PARISH DATES TO NOTE:

8th May— Parish Finance Council Meeting
 13th to 17th May—Priests Retreat NO MASSES that week.
 14th May—Mass, Riverside Gardens 11am
 21st May—Confirmation Parents' Information Night at St Patrick's Church, Macksville
 25&26 May—Confirmation Commitment Masses at all parish churches that weekend.



THREE C's MOTHERS DAY RAFFLE

A wonderful array of prizes for mum.

Tickets are on sale today, Sunday 5th and finally on the 12th May.

Please join us for a cuppa after Mass on Mother's Day 12 May when the raffle will be drawn. Good Luck!

Tickets are \$2 .00 each or 3 for \$5.00

Thank you Ursula

Ursula Goodwin, Sacristan at St Patrick's Church for many, many years is retiring, but will still help with minor works. We all thank Ursula for her dedication to our Church over the years.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Cor 9:7)



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 for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.



Mass intention envelopes are located at the back of the church

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Joye Thorne, Maddie Mackay, Judelyn San Antonia, Reg McGuigan, Kerry McBride, Peter Moroney, Josephine Spears, Amanda Howle, James Wheeler, Samuel Wheeler, John Clarke, Jim Hallam, Frances Yorke, June Branford, Trevor Smith, Gloria Connors, Uncle Mark Smith, Veronica Laverty, April Miller, Alan & Pam Halls, Noreen Fuller, Tony & Doris Jensen, Ken Munday, Noelene Lawrence, Leonie McLachlan, Shaun Forrester, Monica Dunbar, Kath Mitchell, Eileen Barbellar, Fr Anthony Lemon, Michael Foley, Lorraine Freeman, Elizabeth Armer, Lynn Tonkin, Jacob Ingold, Peter Finlay, Adam Connolly

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Fr Edward Crawley, Kathleen Darlington, Molly Forrester, Ron Forrester, Patrick Ryan, Leila Walsh, Bishop John Satterthwaite

PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED: Patricia Smith, Judy Urquhart, Tom Tegg, Trevor Ballangarry, Bernie Heffernan, Pauline Welsh (nee Cooke), Mike Ryan

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 Peter can arrange a visit and administer the sacrament for the sick. Phone: 6568 1107

