

PARISH DIARY



Tuesday 3RD SEP	9.30am Mass, Macksville
Wednesday 4TH SEP	9.30am Mass, Bowraville
Thursday 5TH SEP	9.30am Mass, Macksville
Friday 6TH SEP	9.00am Adoration 9.30am Mass, Nambucca
Saturday 7TH SEP	4:30pm, Reconciliation, Nambucca 5pm, Mass, Nambucca
Sunday 8TH SEP	8am Mass, Macksville 9:30am, Mass, Bowraville

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to our new parishioners, Arek and Alexandria, to St. Patrick's in Macksville. We all look forward to meeting you soon and wish you all the best as you settle into your new home here in the Nambucca Valley!



We would like to give a heartfelt thanks to all of our dedicated Sacristans who generously volunteer their time each week, working tirelessly behind the scenes to prepare our church for worship. Your quiet service is deeply appreciated.

THANK YOU!

Macksville — Sue Nebauer and Mary Henry

Nambucca Heads — Margaret Tait, Jo Ingold, Margaret Dwart

Bowraville — Catherine Craggs, Tony McNally



Ministry Roster 7th & 8th Sep 2024

(**NH:** Nambucca Heads; **M:** Macksville; **B:** Bowraville)

Commentator:	NH: W Bolton	M: J Thorne	B: S McNally
Reader:	NH: M Harris	M: S Allan	B: N Slingsby
Ex Minister of Holy Communion:	NH: S Bolton	M: I Allan	
Procession of Gifts:	NH: L&R McGuigan	M: D Payne & G McCullough	
Sacristan:	NH: M Tait	M: S Nebauer	
Altar Servers:	NH: T Nguyen, T Nguyen & K Soutter		

Our bulletin is sponsored by the Diocesan Investment Fund (DIF) paying 4.15% effective 01 November 2023. Call 1800802516 or www.dif.org.au



Catholic Parish of the Nambucca Valley

Corpus Christi, Bowraville

St Patrick's, Macksville

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Nambucca Heads

Christ the King, Taylors Arm

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Yr B
1st Sep 2024

ADMINISTRATOR: Fr Peter Rebello, OCD

PARISH SECRETARY: Sheree Foley **PARISH OFFICE:** 78 Wallace St (PO Box 38) Macksville 2447 **PHONE:** 0265 681107

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St Mary's Primary School - Bowraville

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Website: www.bwvplism.catholic.edu.au

What is in our hearts matter

Having observed that Jesus' disciples were not complying with the religious purification laws of the time which required one to wash one's hands thoroughly before eating, the Pharisees challenged Jesus once again. Not following those laws meant that the disciples were eating with hands that were deemed to be "unclean" or "impure". The Pharisees were infuriated Jesus appeared to be unconcerned about this matter of ritual purification. "You hypocrites," Jesus replied. "You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." The hand-washing law, he implied, is a human tradition, a man-made regulation. Jesus threw the challenge back at them: ritual purity is not a matter of cleaning one's hands, he insists, but of purity of heart! He explains: "Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile."

By Jesus' time, the rabbis had identified 613 commands that were prescribed in the Torah (the first five books of the Bible), not just the 10 commandments given to Moses. It was the impossible burden of compliance with all 613 commands that prompted the Pharisees, on another occasion, to ask Jesus which was the greatest commandment. With simplicity and clarity, he replied: love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, and love your neighbour as yourself. It is love that is commanded of us as his followers.

Jesus' challenge to the religious leaders also applies to us and to the Church in our time. Jesus firstly challenges all of us as Church to reflect very carefully on the rules and regulations we set before people. Are they God's commandments? Or are they human constructs? Are they in fact burdens that we have imposed on people? Might some of our rules and regulations actually impede people's progress on their faith journey? The rules may be well-intentioned, but they might also be misguided, not in fact closely aligned to God's commands. Jesus leaves us in no doubt as to what really matters: it is what is in and comes from our hearts. It is, as the Psalmist says, a matter of justice. "One who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord." Here is the benchmark! It is justice. Justice pertains to the way we live our daily lives, how we relate to others; it is right judgement, right intention and right action in all of our dealings.

Anne Hunt
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What I want, says God to the prophet Hosea, is mercy. As Jesus stressed, it is a pure heart that is demanded of us; a heart that lives justly, shows mercy, responds compassionately and loves tenderly. The Letter of James echoes the same message: "Be doers of the word and not hearers only."

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or hymn)

Ps 85:3,5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 14:2-5 R. V. 1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? He who walks without fault; he who acts with justice and speaks the truth from his heart **(R.)**
2. He who does no wrong to his brother, who casts no slur on his neighbour, who holds the godless in disdain, but honours those who fear the Lord **(R.)**
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may; who takes no interest on a loan and accepts no bribes against the innocent. Such a man will stand firm for ever . **(R.)**

SECOND READING

JAMES 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created. Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves. Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

JAMES 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia! The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation. Alleluia !

GOSPEL

MARK 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture: This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

FOLLOWING THE MISSAL:

Preface: VII in Ordinary Time; Eucharistic Prayer: VIII

NEXT WEEK (23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B)

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Joe Pagura, Vincent Bischoff, Jan Richards

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Frieda Keaton, Tom & Madge Harris, Luke Latham, Maxwell Dunbar, Arnold Cooke, Ron Piggott, Clyde Piggott, John Keaton

WE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fr John Kelly, Nola Ryce, Betty Cook, Arturo

Mass intention envelopes are located at the back of the church

