

PARISH DIARY	
Tuesday 27TH AUG	9.30am Mass, Macksville
Wednesday 28TH AUG	9:30am Mass, Bowraville
Thursday 29TH AUG	9:30am Mass, Macksville
Friday 30TH AUG	9.00am Adoration 9.30am Mass, Nambucca
Saturday 31ST AUG	4:30pm, Reconciliation, Nambucca 5pm, Mass, Nambucca
Sunday 1ST SEP	8am Mass, Macksville 9:30am, Mass, Bowraville



**Thank you** to John & Sue Nebauer and Stephanie & Peter Allan for your assistance with scaffolding and moving furniture at St Patrick's to help the electrician instal the new lights. This was a very big job and we appreciate the bright new lights in our Church!

**CHANGES TO DIRECT DEBIT ACCOUNT:** We have opened a **NEW** bank account for the Parish at NAB Macksville. We still have accounts open with CBA and will for a while but if you could update details over time that would be appreciated.

**1st Collection (Clergy Fund) - STILL CBA—no change**

BSB: 062 568 Account Number: 2800 1766

Account Name : Catholic Parish of Nambucca Valley

**2nd Collection (Parish Fund) NAB - NEW account**

BSB: 082 356 Account Number: 8053 84996

Account Name: Catholic Parish of Nambucca Valley

Thank you for your ongoing support—we truly appreciate the increase in DD payments. For further info regarding donations and/or use of funds please contact The Parish Office.

**Ministry Roster 31st Aug & 1st Sep 2024**

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

<b>Commentator:</b>	<b>NH:</b> S Dwarte	<b>M:</b> N Allan	<b>B:</b> C Doolan
<b>Reader:</b>	<b>NH:</b> S Bolton	<b>M:</b> J Hasson	<b>B:</b> S McNally
<b>Ex Minister of Holy Communion:</b>	<b>NH:</b> J Ingold	<b>M:</b> P Wolf	
<b>Procession of Gifts:</b>	<b>NH:</b> B Hannaford	<b>M:</b> M Henry, J Lennon	
<b>Sacristan:</b>	<b>NH:</b> M Dwarte	<b>M:</b> S Nebauer	
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	<b>NH:</b> A Smith & 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](http://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

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**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*Yr B*  
**25th Aug 2024**  
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**ADMINISTRATOR: Fr Peter Rebello, OCD**

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

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 8.30am to 4.00pm Wednesdays & Fridays 8:30am to 12:30pm

**EMAIL:** [nvparish@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:nvparish@lismore.catholic.org.au) **WEBSITE:** [www.nvparish.org.au](http://www.nvparish.org.au)

**NAMBUCCA PRESBYTERY:** 02 6568 6642 **URGENT MATTERS:** 0481 703122

**St Patrick's Primary School - Macksville**

32 Macksville Heights Drive, Macksville

Phone: 02 6568 1397

**Website:** [www.macvplism.catholic.edu.au](http://www.macvplism.catholic.edu.au)

**St Mary's Primary School - Bowraville**

4 Carbin Street, Bowraville

Phone: 02 65647369

**Website:** [www.bwvplism.catholic.edu.au](http://www.bwvplism.catholic.edu.au)

**Staying in the game with God**

It must have been tough being a disciple of Jesus, an eloquent public speaker, who could sway large crowds with his rhetoric. He healed the sick, cast out demons, stilled a storm at sea, walked on water and raised the dead. Jesus appeared to bear all the hallmarks of the expected Messiah. And yet, there were times when Jesus said and did things that made him look like he was demented or demon-possessed.

At one point in Mark's gospel, as we heard back on the Tenth Sunday of the Year, Jesus' family sought to "restrain him" because people were saying "He has gone out of his mind" (Mk 3:21).

The gospel presents us with another of these episodes where Jesus' claims proved a threat to the cohesion of his team of disciples. Last week, we heard how Jesus said he was "the bread of eternal life" whose "flesh is real food and [whose] blood is real drink" (Jn 6:55), and "anyone who eats [his] flesh and drink [his] blood has eternal life" (Jn 6:54). This week, we learn that numerous members of Jesus' team found this teaching "intolerable" (Jn 6:60). But, instead of offering an explanation, Jesus chose to up the ante by making an even more outrageous claim about his pre-existence as a being come down from heaven.

The reaction of his teammates was perfectly understandable. Such claims were "intolerable" on purely rationalistic grounds. Jesus refused to compromise, saying, in effect, "take it or leave it". John tells us that "many" decided to "leave it". They turned aside from their commitment to Jesus; or, as we would say, "they took their ball and went home" (Jn 6:66). By contrast, when challenged, the Twelve through their spokesperson, Peter, admitted that despite their confusion they were prepared to stick with Jesus, because Jesus alone "had the words of eternal life" (Jn 6:68). In Peter and the Twelve, we find our models of discipleship – women and men who, despite doubts and dark moments of uncertainty, choose to stay in the game. Faith is not built entirely on reason – although it is far from completely irrational. It is built on a relationship with a personal God whom we have experienced as one who stays in the game with us. And so, like Peter we stay and say back to God, "To whom [else] can we go?" (Jn 6:68)

Every time I read this gospel story, I am reminded of these words from the prayer of Thomas Merton: My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end... But I know you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or hymn)

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long elsewhere.

## FIRST READING

Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.' perception.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 33

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad (R.)
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal (R.)
3. They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. (R.)
4. Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him. He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken. (R.)
5. Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. (R.)

## SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:21-32

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their

husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

JOHN 6:63—68

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia !

## GOSPEL

JOHN 6:60-69

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? 'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, says the Lord, and I will raise him up on the last day.

### FOLLOWING THE MISSAL:

Preface: VI in Ordinary Time; Eucharistic Prayer: VII

**NEXT WEEK (21st 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:

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

### 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\**



The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contacted if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss options you have available to you. Contact the Safeguarding Office: Phone 02 6621 9444 or email [safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)