

PARISH DIARY	
WEDNESDAY 4TH	11:30am, Funeral—Prayer Service Mary Laverty
Saturday 7TH	5pm, Mass, Nambucca
Sunday 8TH	8am Mass, Macksville 9:30am Mass, Bowraville



Christmas Ministry Roster

If you would like to be included on the Christmas roster please let the Parish Office know by Tuesday 4th December.



We will do our best to accommodate all requests.



REMINDER:
Nambucca Valley Parish Christmas

Lunch will be held on Sunday the 1st December at Nambucca RSL—if you haven't RSVP'd or paid, no problem just let Mary Harris or Mary Henry at mass this weekend.

Ministry Roster 7th & 8th Dec

(**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: M Henry	
Altar Servers:	NH: T Nguyen, T Nguyen, K Soutter		

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**2024 CHRISTMAS
MASS TIMES**

4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday 21st December:

4:30pm Reconciliation, Nambucca

5:00pm Mass, Nambucca

Sunday 22nd December:

8am Mass, Macksville

9:30am Mass, Bowraville

Christmas Eve

Tuesday 24th December:

5:00pm Mass, Nambucca

7:00pm Mass, Macksville

Christmas Day

Wednesday 25th December

8:00am Mass, Bowraville

9:30am Mass, Nambucca



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



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, Wednesdays & Thursdays 8.30am to 4.00pm **EMAIL:** nvparish@lismore.catholic.org.au

WEBSITE: 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.macvpplism.catholic.edu.au

St Mary's Primary School - Bowraville

4 Carbin Street, Bowraville

Phone: 02 65647369

Website: www.bwppplism.catholic.edu.au

The coming of the kingdom

At the year's end, God comes – Christ is coming – as a baby at Christmas, coming into the dailiness of our lives, and at the end of time. It may seem odd at the beginning of Advent to hear Jesus speak of the second coming, but when Jesus says we're to watch and stay awake, he doesn't say it to play on our fears. Instead, he calls us to be alert to the signs of God's presence in our lives, encouraging us to have faith in God who is present in the person with whom we are talking, and in the smallest act, though we may only come to understand this sometime later. As we grow in our faith, his coming 'with power and glory' will seem less a fearful prospect than the moment of our liberation. One way we can prepare for it, says Jesus, is not to let the cares of life overwhelm us. But what might we say to the woman with a life-threatening illness who said recently: 'My mental health is an ongoing battle because I live in the unknown. I'm scared every time I get sick. I live in fear.' Her words speak to us whenever we find ourselves adrift in the unknown, where nothing makes sense anymore and everything we've done to secure our future is called into question. Often our fears are disabling, and we wonder where we might find help to face them. This is what Jesus is offering us in the gospel, the gift of himself; and receiving it, in turn we're asked to give it away. It's what the vivid, apocalyptic language of the gospel seeks to do: to help us be more aware of God's presence in our lives. As we gradually grow into this awareness through prayer and our being with one another, when God's kingdom is revealed in its glory at the end of time, we will find ourselves able to stand with confidence before the Son of Man and we will be with God forever. This is the liberation of which Jesus speaks. In the first reading, while the false prophets speak only of doom and gloom in the face of exile and what seems like impending disaster, Jeremiah re-assures the people that God will remain true to his promises and send them a ruler of honesty and integrity. Enabled to face what is happening, alert to God's presence, the prophet discovers there, not simply an end, but a new beginning. In the second reading, Paul describes the life we're called to live in preparation for Christ's coming again. Whatever our differences, loving one another in a community of hope reveals the life of Christ to us and to 'the whole human race.' Whenever this happens, God's kingdom is made real on earth, as in heaven. It's the coming of the kingdom both now and in the future: it's the promise of Advent.

Damian Coleridge

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame .

Cf Psalm 24:1-3

FIRST READING

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: ‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’

Jeremiah 33:14-16

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)
3. His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will. The Lord’s friendship is for those who revere him; to them he reveals his covenant. (R.)

Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14. R.v.1

SECOND READING

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Thessalonians 3:12-4:2



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

PSALM 84:8

GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-28. 34-36


Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand. ‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Psalm 84:13

Happy 90th Birthday to Shirley Laverty.



Happy 92nd Birthday to Joye Thorne.

May God’s love and grace fill your heart with joy. Wishing you a blessed and beautiful year ahead !

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL



Please help provide vulnerable families the urgent relief they desperately need this Christmas. Envelopes will be located in the churches. Every little bit helps.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support.

OFFICE Closed

The Parish office will be closed between the 24th Dec and 1st Jan 2024 for the Christmas Break.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK:
Joan Frew, Peter Moroney, Margaret Wisemantle

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:
Mark Schadel, George Schadel, John Clough, Gwenda Freeman, John Malone

WE PRAY FOR THE RECEINTLY DECEASED:
Jim Hallam, Denise Robinson, Emily Frew (Canada), Leo Yorke, Tommy Harris

We also pray for the Holy souls—Members and friends of the Singleton & Farrell Families.

Mass intention envelopes are located at the back of the church

