



6th SUNDAY OF EASTER
YEAR B

5 May 2024

LITURGY AND BULLETIN



OPENING PRAYER

*Ever-living God,
help us to celebrate our joy in the resurrection of the Lord and to
express in our lives the love we celebrate.
Amen.*

FIRST READING: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said, 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. (R.)

2. The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel. (R.)

3. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy. (R.)

Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St John

My dear people,
let us love one another
since love comes from God
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.
Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,
because God is love.
God's love for us was revealed
when God sent into the world his only Son
so that we could have life through him;
this is the love I mean:
not our love for God,
but God's love for us when he sent his Son
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples:
'As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you.
Remain in my love.
If you keep my commandments
you will remain in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments
and remain in his love.
I have told you this
so that my own joy may be in you
and your joy be complete.
This is my commandment:
love one another,
as I have loved you.
A man can have no greater love
than to lay down his life for his friends.
You are my friends,
if you do what I command you,
I shall not call you servants any more,
because a servant does not know
his master's business;
I call you friends,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
You did not choose me,
no, I chose you;
and I commissioned you
to go out and to bear fruit,
fruit that will last;
and then the Father will give you
anything you ask him in my name.
What I command you

is to love one another.'



REFLECTION on the Gospel of John 15:9-17

Dear Parishioners,

Building on the image and teaching Jesus gave us last week – **I AM the Vine and you are the branches** – we have perhaps the most sublime truth in the whole of the Bible:

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love (John 15).

Commenting on this teaching of Jesus, St. John Henry Newman (1801-1890) says:

Reflect and bow down before this awesome mystery, that as the Father loves the Son, so does the Son love you. What mystery in the whole circle of revealed truths is greater than this?

In his humanity, Jesus experiences the love of his Father, and this is the love that he has for us.

Quite incredible. We need a lifetime to get our heads and hearts around this astounding truth. A saint from a much earlier time – St. Catherine of Siena (1347-1380) – phrases it like this:

You are my Creator, eternal Trinity, and I am your creature. You have made of me a new creation in the blood of your Son, and I know that you are moved with love at the beauty of your creature, for you have enlightened me.

It is the same sentiment, but a different accent. How many of us would think of ourselves as beautiful in the eyes of God? Yet, that is what Catherine – not only saint, but doctor of the Church – says explicitly, in and through her own experience of God.

What a wonderful way to prepare for Ascension Sunday next Sunday and then Pentecost Sunday. Have a wonderful day of rest,
Father Tony.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Reader: We pray that the Church will recognise and embrace those who proclaim faith in Christ Jesus. (pause) In your goodness: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That governments will administer justice without favouritism or bias. (pause) In your goodness:

Reader: That those who lay down their lives in service of others will be abundantly blessed. (pause) In your goodness:

Reader: That our community organisations and groups will operate with a spirit of inclusion. (pause) In your goodness:

Reader: That the sick will remain in Christ's love, including Rebecca McPake, Diana Wiley, Patrick Thomas, Kerry Prothero, Dennis Dempsey, Penny Crawford, Patrick Hynes, Tony Riley, Jenny Bodman, Violet Davis, Ross Lawless, Helen Montgomery, Judy Nielson, Val Biggers, Ross Lawless and all who need our prayers. (pause) In your goodness:

Reader: That those who have died will be crowned with ultimate joy in Christ, including Bernadette Campion. (pause) In your goodness:

CONCLUDING PRAYER

*Almighty and ever-living Lord, you restored us to life by raising Christ from death.
Strengthen us that we might feel this saving in our daily lives.
Amen.*

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Father Tony Percy M. 0431 225 574

Braidwood Contact Numbers: Ph. 4842 2444; Mobile: 0430 169 849 (Helen)

Parish email: braidwood@cq.org.au Parish Website: <http://cq.org.au/braidwood/Home.aspx>

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Marylou Gorham Ph. 4842 2413

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tues: 9.30am – 3.30pm; Fridays: 9.30am – 12.30pm until end April

Mass: Saturdays at 5.00pm.

Meditation: Thursdays in Presbytery at 10.30am

Social Justice Group: 7 May at 3pm in the Presbytery

Scripture: Tuesdays at 4pm in the Presbytery.

The St Bede's parish 'Call to Connect' women's Ministry warmly welcomes all women to a Mother's Day Breakfast. Let's come together to celebrate the gift of mothering, enjoy each other's company and pray for one another.

At: St Bede's school hall on Saturday 4th May 2024. 8am-9.30am

Cost: \$12. Sorry no refunds due to costs incurred. RSVP by Monday 29th April with exact cash to James' coffee window.

Mother's Day

Arranging flowers for the church altar. Demonstration in St Bede's Church following the Women's Mothers' Day Breakfast on 4 May. **Please bring any flowers you may have and we will arrange them on the altar.** Call Margaret on 0419 982 004 to secure your place.

Ministry Rosters: will need to be renewed at the end of May. If anyone would like to volunteer for any of the ministries, please contact me on my mobile: 0430 169 849 or after Mass. Helen Hart

Position Vacant: People are invited to apply for the position of Parish Secretary for St. Bede's Parish, Braidwood This is a part-time permanent position of five hours per week.

Essential Requirements:

- Experience with database packages.
- Strong communication and liaison skills
- Strong organisational skills
- Ability to work on your own, and as part of a wider team and take direction.
- Understand and administer areas of regulatory compliance (eg. WHS, child protection, copyright)
- Understanding and respect for the Catholic Church and its teaching
- Current experience in an office environment.

Employment conditions are subject to Clerks Award. Please phone 0430 169 849 for a copy of the duty statement. Applications addressing the Selection Criteria above with attached resume to Father Tony Percy, Administrator of St. Bede's, Braidwood and cc. wilmont289@gmail.com, must be received by 16 May 2024 Email: Tony.Percy@cq.org.au

Readings for Mass: 1st: Acts 10:25-6, 34-35,44-48. 2nd: 1 John 4:7-10. Gospel: John 15:9-17

Next Sunday readings: Ascension: 1st: Acts 1:1-11. 2nd: Eph. 1:17-23. Gospel: Mark 16:15-20.

Radio Church: Sundays at 6pm.

Ministries for our Mass:	4 May	11 May	18 May	25 May
Welcomer:	Geraldine	Cathy F	Helen P	Cathy F
Acolyte:	Felix when available			
Reader 1:	Cathy F	Tommy	Germaine	Anne T
Reader 2:	Michael	Bobbie	Wendy M-B	Wendy H
Ministries of service:	3 May	10 May	17 May	24 May
Altar Decorating:	Helen P	Cathy F	Joy	Margaret
Cleaning:	Helen P & Sarah		Bunny & Ella	
Counters:	1 st Sunday: Pauline & Bobbie.		2 nd : Sunday: Wendy H	
	3 rd Sunday: Brenda		4 th : Phil Owen	
			5 th Helen Bopping	
Special Ministers to the hospital:				
	1 st Sunday: Helen B.	2 nd Sunday: Mary F	3 rd Sunday: Helen H	4 th Sunday: Pauline
				5 th Sunday: Helen
Please advise if you are unable to fulfil your roster or get a substitute from the list on the reverse side of the roster, so alternative arrangements may be made.				

Take care of each other, Helen Hart

The Parish of St Bede's Braidwood acknowledges the Yuin people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for many thousands of years. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.