



**6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
YEAR A**

**14 May 2023**

**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

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**Response: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth,  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise.  
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! (R.)

2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'  
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men. (R.)

3. He turned the sea into dry land,  
they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him;  
he rules for ever by his might. (R.)

4. Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me. (R.)

**SECOND READING:** A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

**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 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate

to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive

since it neither sees nor knows him;

but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;

I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me;

but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father

and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them

will be one who loves me;

and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.'



## **REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate**

### ***Parallel Truths***

Today's Gospel speaks of an advocate. This translates a Greek word: 'paraclete'. Our Lord says: 'I will send you another Paraclete to be with you forever.' Our Lord was a Paraclete, and he would send another.

What does this strange sounding word mean? Here is a hint. We all know that parallel lines run, well, para-llel. They run alongside each other. A paraclete is a person who stands alongside someone and pleads their case.

That is how our Lord Jesus Christ saw himself. His role was not to condemn but to plead the case for mercy and compassion, to be the intercessor par excellence.

Our Lord promises another Paraclete dwelling within us, individually and as the body of Christ's disciples, the Holy Spirit advocating our cause, assisting us to live Truth-fully by the measure of the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. This Paraclete particularly assists us by acting as the Spirit of Truth.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the two Paracletes, constantly pleading our case before the Throne of Mercy.

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### **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

**Reader:** We pray for the church throughout the world, that in every land the good news will be proclaimed with joy and conviction. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

**Reader:** We pray for an end to the pitiless brutality of war, that killing and destruction will give way everywhere to peace, hope and healing. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

**Reader:** We pray for troubled nations in Africa and Central and South America, that the Christian churches there may be a leaven of justice for all. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

**Reader:** We pray for all who struggle to make ends meet in this land of plenty, that the whole country will welcome measures to reduce inequality and create opportunity. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

**Reader:** We pray for mothers, grandmothers and all who play a mothering role; that they will love their children warmly and be blessed in return with loving appreciation. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

**Reader:** We pray for one another in this faith community, that we will grow strong together in the wisdom and love of the Holy Spirit. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

**Reader:** We pray that the sick will be comforted through God's merciful love, especially Lola Clarke, Len Sheather (Lea Maher's brother), Archbishop Frank Carroll, Jenny Bodman, Eadaoin Corcoran, Maurice Farley, Ann McDougall, Ross Lawless, Val Biggers, Rongo Tee Peeti, Helen Montgomery, Judy Nielson, Tony Riley and all who need our prayers. (pause) Lord, hear us

**Reader:** We pray that those who have died will live in the safety of eternal life, especially Terry Wilson, Simon Jeffery, Michael Williams, Jill Burke, Tony Shepherd,. . . and those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time. (pause) Lord, hear us

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Amighty and ever-living Lord,  
you restored us to life by raising Christ from death.  
May we feel its saving power in our daily life. Amen.*

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**PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mondays: 9am – 3pm; Fridays: 9am – 12pm**

**Weekday Mass: Tuesday Mass resumes May 9.**

**Meditation: Thursdays in Presbytery at 10.30am**

**Social Justice Group: Wednesday 7 June 2023 at 9.30am, at the Presbytery**

**Krawarree Mass: May (date to be advised) at 11am.**

**Pentecost Ecumenical Service: Sunday 28 May, time to be advised.**



*to all our mothers, grandmothers and all who play a mothering role  
in the lives of children.*

**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting:** Postponed until 23 May, following the 10am Mass. A cuppa will be provided. Please try to come along if you possibly can. There is much to be discussed.



**Parish Dinner:** Saturday May 27th is Curry Night (following Mass). There will be a selection of lovely homemade curries (mild) for you to enjoy! So please join us at the Servicemen's Club for a friendly evening to welcome winter! Cost \$30 per person (to be confirmed)

RSVP by Monday 22nd May with exact cash in envelope to: Helen H, Germaine, Cathy or Joy.

**Vinnies Winter Appeal:** the theme of this year's appeal is 'What if your mum, grandma or sister became homeless?' spotlighting women over 55 as one of the fastest growing demographics of people at risk of and experiencing homelessness across Australia. Findings from studies show that older women are at an increased likelihood of homelessness due to rates of domestic and family violence, economic inequality such as lower super balances on average and inadequate income support payments which entrench poverty and disadvantage. The current cost of living crisis is an additional driver with everything from housing, food, utilities and day to day essentials placing older women at heightened risk of homelessness. The number of older women seeking support from homelessness services has risen 55% in the last decade.

Here in Braidwood we do have some homeless people - those who couch surf, live in informal dwellings (read sheds or garages) or camp at Warri in tents or caravans. Imagine living in a tent during a Braidwood winter!! If you are able to make a contribution to the Vinnies Winter Appeal, please do so by using an envelope from your seats (place in 2<sup>nd</sup> collection bag), donating online at [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au) or by calling 13 18 12. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

**Readings for Mass:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Acts 8:5-8,14-17. 2<sup>nd</sup>: 1 Peter 3:15-18. Gospel: John 14:15-21.

**Next week: Ascension:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Acts 1:1-11. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ephesians 1:17-23. Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

**Radio Church:** Michael is giving the reflection on 14<sup>th</sup> May at 6.00pm.

| <b>Ministries for our Mass:</b>  | <b>13 May</b>   | <b>20 May</b> | <b>27 May</b>  | <b>3 June</b>   | <b>10 June</b> |
|--|---|---------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| Welcomer:  | Helen P   | Geraldine     | Helen P  | Cathy F         | Geraldine      |
| Acolyte:   |   |               |  |                 |                |
| Reader 1:  | Wendy M-B   | Ann T         | Michael  | Bobbie          | Wendy M-B      |
| Reader 2:  | Germaine  | Wendy H       | Cathy F  | Tommy           | Germaine       |
| I just noticed I have two June 3 entries on the roster. Please adjust your rosters from that date forward. |   |               |  |                 |                |
| <b>Ministries of service:</b>  | <b>12 May</b>   | <b>20 May</b> | <b>26 May</b>  | <b>2 June</b>   |                |
| Altar Decorating:  | Joy   | Helen P       | Cathy F  | Margaret        |                |
| Cleaning:  |   | Felix         |  | Sarah & Helen P |                |
| Counters:  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday: Pauline & Bobbie.<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday: volunteer please |               | 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Sunday: Wendy H<br>4 <sup>th</sup> : Phil Owen |                 |                |
| Please advise if you are unable to fulfil your roster, so alternative arrangements may be made.            |   |               |  |                 |                |

Take care of each other,

Helen

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.