

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

Jesus said to the crowd:

‘I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.’

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: ‘How can this man give us his flesh to eat?’ they said. Jesus replied:

‘I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you.

Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood

has eternal life,

and I shall raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food

and my blood is real drink.

He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me

and I live in him.

As I, who am sent by the living Father,

myself draw life from the Father,

so whoever eats me will draw life from me.

This is the bread come down from heaven;

not like the bread our ancestors ate:

they are dead,

but anyone who eats this bread will live

for ever.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

18 AUGUST 2024

LIVE FOREVER

What does it mean for us to live forever, to abide in Christ and have Christ abide in us? This is the question that lingers for me. I invite you to ponder too.

The reading from Proverbs brings an invitation from Wisdom to a banquet where a question is raised: Will you leave the way of ignorance and join the way of insight? This is the only way forward to life. This snippet links to the Gospel where the Bread of Heaven discourse continues by reiterating the final sentence from last week's Gospel. We observe that ‘Whoever eats of this bread [the living bread from heaven] will live forever’ is replicated in the last line, ‘But the one who eats this bread will live forever.’ These sentences frame the ‘Amen, Amen’ (‘I tell you solemnly’) saying given in response to the Judeans dispute about eating Jesus' flesh. Life, eternal life, is only possible for those who partake of Jesus' flesh and blood.

These readings remind us how difficult it must have been for first century followers to understand fully who Jesus is and what he offered. For the Johannine community the reinterpretation of the Mosaic Law to a new understanding of the Christ causes distress. It isn't that easy for us to understand today. What we might understand is our deep need to be in communion in the body and blood of Christ in the community. How much we missed that during the pandemic. Blessed, broken, shared and given: the body of Christ, Amen.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING

Prov 9:1-6

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

Come and eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared.

Wisdom has built herself a house, she has erected her seven pillars, she has slaughtered her beasts, prepared her wine,

she has laid her table.

She has despatched her maidservants

and proclaimed from the city's heights:

‘Who is ignorant? Let him step this way.’

To the fool she says,

‘Come and eat my bread,

drink the wine I have prepared!

Leave your folly and you will live,

walk in the ways of perception.’

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 33:2-3, 10-15. R. v. 9

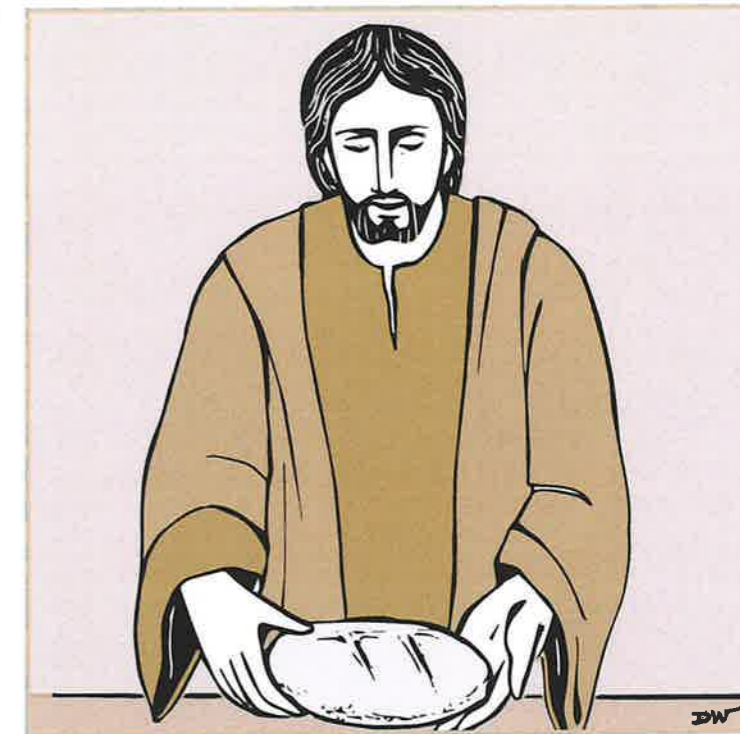
R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

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. Revere the Lord, you his saints. / They lack nothing, those who revere him. / Strong lions suffer want and go hungry / but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing. **R.**

3. Come, children, and hear me / that I may teach you the fear of the Lord. / Who is he who longs for life / and many days, to enjoy his prosperity? **R.**

4. Then keep your tongue from evil / and your lips from speaking deceit. / Turn aside from evil and do good; / seek and strive after peace. **R.**



SECOND READING

Eph 5:15-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

Be watchful that you may know the will of God.

Be very careful about the sort of lives you lead, like intelligent and not like senseless people. This may be a wicked age, but your lives should redeem it. And do not be thoughtless but recognise what is the will of the Lord. Do not drug yourselves with wine, this is simply dissipation; be filled with the Spirit. Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to God who is our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 6:56

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I in them, says the Lord. Alleluia!

ST PATRICK'S PARISH FAMILY

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Croker
Mobile : 0428 190 759
Presbytery 02 8331 7609
Fr. Kose : 0470 498 321

Wednesdays- Fr. is at Bombala Parish
Mass: 9.30am & Delegate 2nd Wed 10.30am

Parish Secretary:
Mrs Sharon Nesbitt 02 8331 7608
Office Opening Hours
Mon, Wed Thu open hours
9am-1pm/ 2pm-4.30pm
Email: cooma@cg.org.au

www.cg.org.au/cooma

Sacramental Program

Fr Mark Croker
 0428 190 759

St Patrick's Parish School

Principal:

Mrs Frances Robertson
 Cnr Murray & Vale Street, Cooma
Phone: 02 6452 1721

<http://stpatcooma.nsw.edu.au>

www.facebook.com/stpatcatholicparishcooma

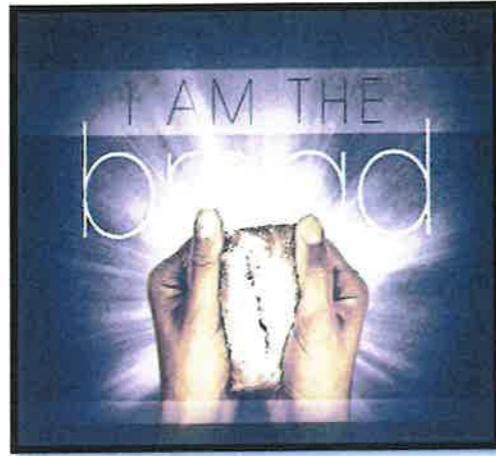
Parish Pastoral Council:

Darren 0429 904 291

www.cg.org.au/cooma

www.cg.org.au/jindabyne

www.cg.org.au/bombala



Baptisms are celebrated Sunday 10am Mass

Baptism- Request Forms can be found online

<http://cg.org.au/cooma/ApplicationForms.aspx>

thank you. Fr Mark

St Patrick's Cooma Mass
Mass Sunday's at 10am
Cooma Reconciliation available as requested following Mass
Adoration - Friday 5.30-6.30pm

St Patrick's Weekday
 Mass: Tues, Thu, Fri 10am
 Except Third Friday of Month
Nursing Home Masses
 9.30am Yallabee Lodge
 11am Sir William Hudson

Adaminaby -9am 2nd Sunday

Nimmitabel

Mass 3rd & 5th Sunday
 *5pm Sat Vigil Mass
 1st 2nd, 4th Sun- LITURGY Sat 5pm

Numeralla

Mass 4th Sunday at 5.00pm
 LITURGY 2nd Sunday 5.00pm

Berridale

Mass 2nd & 4th Sunday of month
Vigil Mass Saturday's at 3.30pm
 1st 3rd & 5th Sunday Liturgy
 of the Word 10am Sunday

Jindabyne

1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th = Vigil Mass 5pm Sat
 5th Sunday Liturgy 5pm Sat



Please Pray for our Recently Deceased, "We have loved them in life, let us not forget them in death"

Michelle O'Neill, Nello Rossi, Anne Crimmins, Leokadia Garszka, Fr. Peter Gannon, Stuart Fletcher, Gloria Bailey, Tania Giuliani.

Anniversaries & Special Intentions: "In loving memory of our departed family and our friends those who have no one to pray for them!"

Marie Goodwin, Gordon Stewart, Maree Dunne, Yarra Gregor, Pat Green

Prayers for our Sick: "We pray for the sick: may they feel the healing power of Christ and find comfort and hope in His constant presence"

Planned Giving receipts 2023/2024 have been prepared. New Planned Givers boxes are available for collection in the Church entrance. We have a few spare boxes available should new or existing parishioners require a box to join the Planned Giving by envelopes.

Adoration: 5.30pm

Fr. Kose would like to offer Adoration, an hour of prayer at St Patrick's Parish Church every Friday evening commencing at 5.30pm - 6.30pm
 Thank you

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL- to be held 31st August & 1st September 2024

Collection for our retired priests: There are 25 priests in our Archdiocese. We should remember our retired priests as we celebrate the theme for the **Second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** "In old age they will still bear fruit" (Psalm 92:15).



August - The Month of the Sacred Heart

Pope Paul VI, on the floor of the Vatican Council at the close of the third session, renewed publicly the consecration of the Church and the world to Mary's Immaculate Heart. He said that his thoughts turned to the whole world "which our venerated predecessor Pius XII . . . not without inspiration from on high, solemnly consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. . . . O Virgin Mary, Mother of the Council, to you we recommend the entire Church." When he visited Fatima on May 13, 1967, the same Pope recalled this "consecration which we ourselves have renewed on November 21, 1964 - we exhort all the sons of the Church to renew personally their consecration to the Immaculate Heart of the Mother of the Church and to bring alive this most noble act of veneration through a life ever more in accord with the divine will and in a spirit of filial service and of devout imitation of their heavenly Queen."

EFT Device TAP n Go is available in Church entrance

for your donations (Archdiocese split 70/30:

1st & 2nd **Choose donation \$ Amount and Tap card** ©

Direct Debit Forms are available at Parish Office for your planned Giving donations

Next weekend Readings

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time / B

1st Reading: Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-18 2nd Reading: Eph 5: 21-32 Gospel: John 6: 60-69

Fr Mark's Jokes:

Grace at dinner party:

A woman was hosting a dinner party and at the table she asked her six-year-old daughter to say grace. "But I wouldn't know what to say," the girl responded. "Just say what you hear Mommy say," replied the mother. The little girl nodded, bowed her head, and prayed, "Dear Lord, why in the world did I invite all these people to dinner?"