

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Fifth Sunday of Easter Year B

First Reading Acts 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.

They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever

2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him.

They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.'

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Second Reading 1 Jn 3:18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we

be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 15:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-dresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Spiritual Drink

We are too familiar with today's gospel. Christ is the vine and we are the branches, sometimes in need of a good pruning. But God's purpose is not to produce a perfect vineyard. It is to produce a full-bodied wine at the end of history. There is a foretaste of this at every Mass. The wine we offer – 'fruit of the earth and work of human hands' – becomes the spiritual drink which best serves the purpose of our Heavenly Father. How does this happen? For the Jewish people observing an animal whose throat is cut, it is obvious that the life drains out with the blood. 'Life' and 'blood' became synonyms. So, when the Jewish Jesus says of the wine in the chalice at the Last Supper: 'This is my blood', amongst other things he is saying: 'This is my life force, this is my very life given unreservedly for you.' So, when we drink from the chalice at Holy Communion, the life of the Risen Lord courses through our bodies just as the sap of the vine courses through its branches. We share the same ultimate vitality so that our bodily existence builds into the Body of Christ. He becomes truly 'full-bodied' as the Divine Vignerone desires. We could take a moment to pray that we respond to the pruning and the tending and the pressing by our Heavenly Father so as to contribute our distinctive character to the vintage at the end of history, the spiritual drink of the Kingdom of Heaven.

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Saints Of The Week
SUNDAY 2nd - St Athanasius

MONDAY 3rd - Sts Philip & James, Apostles

WEDNESDAY 5th - St Hilary of Arles

THURSDAY 6th - Sts Marian & James, Martyrs



ST BERNARD'S PARISH
BATEMANS BAY
2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536



P.O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536.
Tel: 4472 4153
E: batemansbay@cg.org.au
Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
Office Hours: 10am to 2pm
Tuesday-Friday

Priest: Rev. Martins Aloga
Secretary: Roslynne Trompp
Finance Admin: Anne Jackson
PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall
Asst. PC Co-ord: Sr. Marie McAlister
Youth Minister: Liarna Miller

Principal: Mrs. Jo Wain
St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven
R.E.C: Sharon Beashel
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Erica Drewsen



For the celebration of the Word and the Eucharist



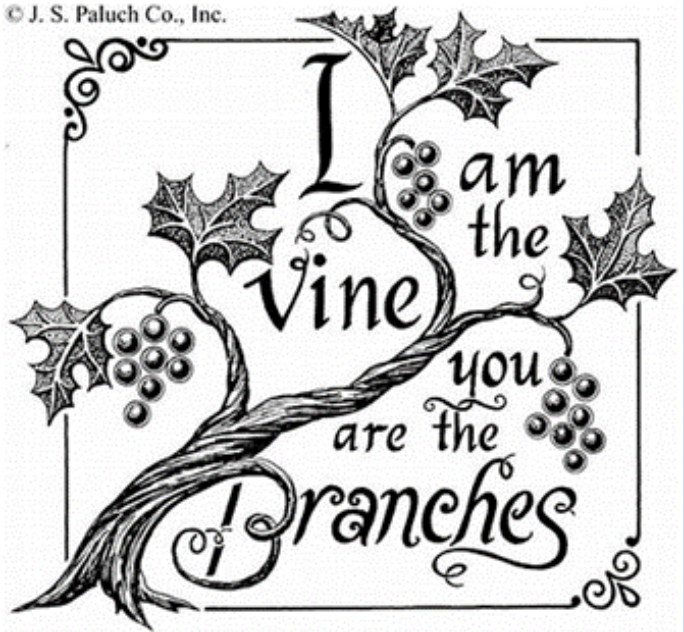
Marian Procession - Sunday 2nd May 2pm
Cobargo
Singalong- Mon 1pm
"A Cuppa with Mary MacKillop" will be on Tuesday 4th May at Carolyn & Ken Evenden's home.
Cenacle Prayer - Tues at 4.45pm Church

Enjoy The Good News - Wed after Mass
Opal Mass - Every 1st Wed 10.30am (5/5)
Glen Mass - Every 2nd Wed 10.30am
Goodwin Manor Mass - Every 3rd Wed 2pm
Maranatha Mass - Every 4th Wed 2pm

Craft Group-Thurs 10am -12pm
Adoration- Fri 5.00pm.
Reflection & Soup Dinner - Fri 7th May 6pm
Reconciliation Sat 9.30
Wrap With Love- 11th May 10am, 26th May 11am
Retreat Day at Convent 25th May 9.15am-4pm

Fifth Sunday of Easter -YEAR B

If we knew that one of our loved ones was going to die today wouldn't we take notice of their last words to us? The Apostles in today's Gospel did not know that the discourse that Jesus was giving them would be the last time they would hear His words before His death! Looking back they must have tried to remember exactly what He was talking about. That is what is written in St John's Gospel for us to peruse. The signs and symbols used by Jesus are very easy to understand. We know, gardeners do anyway, that the vine or main branch of a plant is the deliverer of nutrients! Cut away the leaves die! But if we see this cutting as pruning, 'it helps us to sever the false self from the true self, because the true self dwells, lives, remains, persists -abides in God. It is the false self that continues to tell us that we are not worth God's love.' Cf Richard Rohr That is what Jesus is assuring us today. Stick with Him and continue to receive the graces we need to live our daily lives.



St John's epistles continue the message of this Love.. the Divine Love of God! Read today's verses knowing that this Love is for me – really – not some pious words that we can tend to gloss over! Just live the kind of life that God wants and we are living in the kingdom! When John says that God abides in us, or that we abide in love, he is describing a promise that God has made to make a home within us, and an invitation that we have to make a home within God.

In early Acts the disciples were very suspicious of Saul .. he was known as a murderer of followers of Jesus .. Do we trust him? Often we are in the position of doubting someone who appears to be a traveler with us but may be a little suspect! Interestingly Saul was sent away to Tarsus to preach and that left the others in peace to continue their way of spreading the Good News! Sometimes we may be guilty of ignoring the message from someone we do not like or is not of our persuasion. Let us today consider if we are cutting off streams of God's grace freely given by others! God bless

Sr. Marie

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

MAY

The world of finance

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Tues 4th: 5.30pm Mass

Wed 5th: 9am Mass

Thurs 6th: 9am

Fri 7th: 9.15 am Mass

Saturday 8th: 9am Mass /

Rosary

9.30am Reconn 6pm Mass

Sunday 9th: 9am Mass 5pm

Family & Youth Mass

ROSTERS

1/2 MAY 2021

Church Cleaning

b Coffey/M Paine (3-7)

Welcomers

6pm D Robinson

9am L Page

5pm L Miller

Commentator

6pm M Bridges

9am A Brown

5pm A Horsfall

Readers:

6pm J Quigley

9am D Herring

5pm J O'Sullivan

Eucharistic Ministers

6pm Y Oerder

9am L Stevens

5pm M Devine

Computer Screen

6pm K Conway

9am T Jackson

5pm M O'Neill

REGISTRARS

6pm M Vidovic/Zdenka

9am M & S Beashel

5pm N Beatty

MORNING TEA

R & D Aquilina

8/9 MAY 2021

Church Cleaning

R & K Ison (10-14)

Welcomers

6pm C Brownlie

9am C Schor

5pm D Ebejer

Commentator

6pm M Weatherall

9am M Lowe

5pm S Ebejer

Readers

6pm J Mackay

9am C Lowe

5pm J O'Sullivan

Eucharistic Ministers

6pm B Maynard

9am N Page

5pm A Horsfall

Computer Screen

6pm T Jackson

9am D May

5pm M O'Neill

REGISTRARS

6pm J McCarthy/P O'Kelly

9am G Norris/ B Basevi

5pm N Beatty

MORNING TEA

Tonnie van den Broek & helper

LIVING FAITH IN THE EVERYDAY

I am the Vine... you are the branches....



John's Gospel throughout these weeks of Eastertide, reminds us of the ongoing relationship of love with God.

God is in our hearts and we are each held in the Heart of God. Let us be open to encountering the profound mystery of God's transforming love in the everydayness of life.

In the face of God's abundant grace, how else can we respond except by offering these same gifts of God's love to others?

Those who may be broken-hearted are healed by a kind word or smile, those who are entrapped can see hope, where those who mourn are comforted and those who feel oppressed rejoice in the good news that they are loved.

Our baptism calls us to live out this mission in our beautiful but often fragile and troubled world. As we do so we remember that we are not alone and that we cannot bear fruit without being rooted in Jesus and in our community of faith.

The branch needs the vine and the vine the branch, so that the life of the vine can flow through, resulting in abundant fruit.

Each one of us is a branch of the True Vine that is Jesus. God's constant invitation to us is to keep moving forward in faith with God, trusting God's graces, freeing our own hearts so that we can free the hearts of others.

We give thanks to God for the gift of God's transforming love.

Let us pray for each other that we will have the faith,

to believe that nothing can come between us and

that faithful and everlasting love as we

endeavour to live our faith in the everyday.

Inspired by RSCJ Reflection (2020)

PLENARY COUNCIL DEANERY ZOOM SESSION

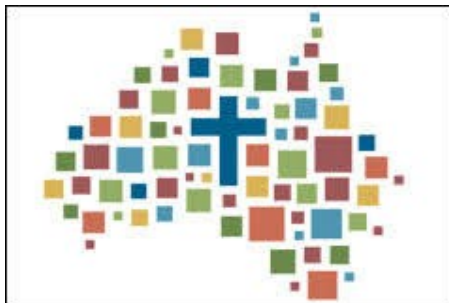
Date: TUESDAY 4TH MAY

Time: 2021 10AM-12NOON

Via: Online

Please register to attend:

<https://cgcatholic.org.au/plenary/>



PASTORAL CARE NEEDS YOUR HELP

We need people who want to make a difference to the lives of others by visiting and taking HC to the sick in their homes, or Aged Care Facility or Hospital.
1:1 Guidance and resources provided. *Phone Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057*

RETREAT DAY

'I have come that you may have life & have it to the full/abundantly' John 10:10. **Tuesday May 25,**

2021 at St Joseph's House, 12 David Ave, Batehaven; 9am for 9-15am start – 4pm. Morning Tea provided. BYO Pot Luck Lunch to share. Booking necessary to Facilitators: Sr. Marie McAlister rsj 0429 383 333 or Marie Weatherall: 0405 028 057 by Monday May 17. Cost: Free. All Welcome. Funded by: 'Mary MacKillop Today'

Help for marriages under stress:

The BreakThrough Online Course created by SmartLoving will enable you to identify your conflict triggers, learn strategies to de-escalate an argument and find constructive ways to re-establish connection. Restore hope for your relationship's future.

Visit: smartloving.org/breakthrough
Divine Mercy Discount - 50% | until May 10, 2021.



PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

From 1st October 2020 there is only be one collection which will be deposited in the Parish Operating Account this will include existing Credit Card transactions, Direct Debits, collection box and Tap machine. The collection will then be apportioned with a percentage forwarded to the Archdiocese for the Central Presbytery Fund each month.

If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving, the details are as follows:

Acc. Name: St Bernard's Operating Account BSB: 062-786

Bank Acc:000012939 Ref: Family Name

Please note: For banking at any bank but not the Commonwealth Bank

Please contact Anne Jackson in the Parish Office on a Friday from 10am-2pm if you need any further information.

Remembering the Sick:

Teresa Humphrey, Catherine Mylott, Rita Condon, Michael Corbin, Antony and Andrew, Ben Copland, Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, Trish Hamilton, Daniel Coffey, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, James Lee, Mary Henderson, George Fitzgerald, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Margaret Harris, Bill Giust, Allan Odium, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital

Death Anniversaries:

Val McGee, John Roch, Claire Wakeling, Numeriano Sencio Sr, Anacrita Sencio, Pauline Casar, Doreen Flynn, Eileen GoonreyJohn Melton, Francis Mills, Janice Marion, Terence Thomson, Franciscus Timmer, Leon Palamoutagne, Anica Hratic, Elsie Waltham, Gregory Parsons, Robyn Albert

We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish

Community: Greg McAleer, Marie London, David Bushnell, Chris Walsh, Pauline Effeney, Francis Mines, June Eddie, Kathleen Buckley, Martin Ward, Marie Hann, Billy Borg, Pauline Chalkley, Anna Dang, Anna Ordeman, Joan Logue, Sue-Anne Clarke, Rosemary Cooley, Pam O'Keefe, Malgorzata Colebrook, Maurice Connolly, Susan McNamara, Dario Panes, Elizabeth Gallagher, Ken Bow, Maureen Kinross, Jan Schor, Pio Liberale, Glenda Gallagher, Ivy Rootsey

MAY
*The month of
The Rosary
Mary
and Mothers*



YEAR OF ST JOSEPH



Monthly Reflection and
Soup Dinner 7th May
6.00pm
All Welcome

Invest In Your Marriage! Starting Tues 11th May

St Bernard's Parish couples of every age and stage are warmly invited to join a 7 -week course designed to strengthen your most important relationship. The Marriage Course, run via zoom by the Archdiocese, 7:15-9:30pm Tuesdays, starts May 11th. Participate together over a glass of wine from the privacy of your own home. Watch presentations with other couples but discuss content privately with your spouse.

The cost is \$70 including two workbooks.
Register and pay
for course at
<https://bit.ly/TMCRRegister>

General info at <https://themarriagecourse.org/>
Enquiries steph.ransom@cg.org.au

COFFEE CLUB

Thursdays after Mass. All are welcome.

VENUE: Corrigans Cove



COFFEE N CHAT



**Marian Procession
will be held at
Cobargo Catholic
Church on Sunday 2nd
May at 2.00pm
All are welcome**

Batemans Bay, Moruya & Narooma

District Funerals

Mark Hewson JP

Funeral Director

Phone 02 4472 8886

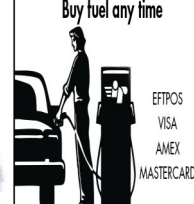
Moruya 02 4474 3555

Narooma 02 4476 3888

INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS

1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay

Buy fuel any time



OCEAN BREEZE TAKEAWAY

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Sandwiches & Coffee

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COASTAL

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