

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter Year C**  
**First Reading** Acts 13:14, 43-52  
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*We are now turning to the gentiles.*  
Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats. When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them. The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said: I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.' It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside. But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.  
*The Word of the Lord*  
**R. Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm**  
Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3

**(R.) We are his people, the sheep of his flock.**

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing for joy.
2. Know that he, the Lord, is God. He made us, we belong to him, we are his people, the sheep of his flock.
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love. He is faithful from age to age.

**(R.) We are his people, the sheep of his flock.**

**Second Reading** Rv 7:9, 14-17  
A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

*The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.*  
I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

*The Word of the Lord*  
**R. Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Acclamation** Jn 10:14  
Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

**Gospel** Jn 10:27-30  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*I give my sheep eternal life.*  
Jesus said: 'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one.  
*The Gospel of the Lord*  
**R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**  
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**REFLECTION**  
by Fr Michael Tate  
**Voice Followers**

You and I are Gentiles – part of the non-Jewish world. We are the sort of Christians we are, because of St Paul. He became the strongest advocate of the grace that the early Christian community should be inclusive of all nations and tribes and ethnic groups on the face of the earth. We have not yet realised this potential. What riches of

intellectual traditions, cultural expressions, and organisational structure are we still to receive from the Chinese, the Korean, the Indonesians, the Africans, the Indian Catholics who are part of our 'Church without Borders'? How do we maintain unity and identity amongst such diversity? By listening for the voice of the Good Shepherd, Our Lord Jesus Christ. But it takes a good teacher to help us to hear The Voice in the clamour of life. Some of those teachers may be found amongst the Bishops who carry a shepherd's staff. But at least in my experience the best assistant-shepherds have been my parents, and some others. They have helped me hear The Voice assuring me that I will never perish, that I will receive eternal life. That is a Voice worth following! We could pause for a moment to get on the same wavelength as the Good Shepherd so as to echo His Voice in our lives.

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mtate@bigpond.com

### USED STAMPS

Please continue to bring your used stamps to the church or let Mrs Desne Manns know on 4472 7746 or 0409 030 382 and she will collect them. They will be sent to Sydney at frequent intervals. Remember, they bring in a huge amount of money for Ministries of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

In 2021 we raised \$34,600

**THANK YOU!!**



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Tuesday-Friday

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**R.E.C:** Erica Drewsen



For the celebration of  
the Word and the  
Eucharist

**Upcoming  
events**

**Church  
Cenacle Prayer Tues  
@ 4.45**

**Finance Meeting  
Wednesday 11th  
May @5.30 pm Par-  
ish  
Office**

**Wrap With Love  
Wednesday 10th May  
@ 10am  
Rm G23 B/Bay Library**

**Craft Group - 10am  
Thursdays**

**"Enjoy the Good  
News" Wednesdays  
after 9.00am Mass**

**Adoration Friday @  
5.30pm**

**COFFEE CLUB  
Thursdays after  
Mass  
Venue: Corrigan's  
Cove  
All Welcome  
COFFEE N CHAT**

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C

### NEW MASS TIMES

**There will be a change to Mass Times beginning the week 9th May.**

**TUESDAY: MASS 5.30PM**

**WEDNESDAY: MASS 9AM**

**THURSDAY : MASS 9AM**

**FRIDAY: MASS 9AM (Please note time change) ADORATION 5.30PM**

**SATURDAY: NO SATURDAY MORNING MASS - This will only be on the first Saturday of every month  
**RECONCILIATION 9.30AM  
MASS 5PM****

**SUNDAY: MASS 9AM, MASS 5PM  
(The 5pm Sunday mass will be ended in JULY when we need to be able to cover Moruya masses as well as Batemans Bay)**

**PLEASE NOTE: A funeral Mass will take the place of the Parish Mass when this event arises.**

### HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY 2022

To all the mums, grandmothers, mother-in-laws, foster mums and soon-to-be mums, we wish you a wonderful Mother's Day and hope that you are blessed with an abundance of love and Kindness. May your day be filled joyful memories.



**For those of us who have mothers in heaven:**

*If roses grow in heaven,  
Lord please pick a bunch for me,  
Place them in my Mother's arms  
and tell her they're from me.*

**MAY GOD'S BLESSING BE UPON ALL MOTHERS  
THIS DAY AND ALWAYS**



Pope Francis  
Monthly Prayer  
Intentions  
**MAY**

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service

**WEEKLY MASS TIMES**

**Tues 10th:** 5.30 pm Mass  
**Wed 11th:** 9:00 am Mass  
**Thurs 12th:** 9.00 am Mass  
**Fri 13th:** 9.00 am Mass  
5.30pm Adoration  
**Sat 14th:** 9.30 am Reconciliation, 5.00 pm Mass  
**Sun 15th:** 9:00am Mass  
5:00pm Family & Youth Mass

**One Day Retreat**

with Sr Catherine McCahill sgs at St Bernard's on Monday May 23rd, 9.15 am registration for 9.30 am start - 3.30 pm

**Theme: "The Hospitality of Gratitude and Kindness"** Cost=free  
**BYO** Pot Lunch to share.  
**Morning Tea & Afternoon Tea supplied.**

**Funded by "Mary MacKillop Today" BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL** by Monday May 16th Phone Marie Weatherall on 0405 028 057 or Carolyn Evenden on 0400 021 119 for further information

**SAINTS of the WEEK**

**Monday 10th** - St John De Avila  
**Thursday 12th**- Sts Nereus and Achilleus, St Pancras  
**Saturday 14th**- St Matthias

**SmartLoving Breakthrough**

An Online Course for spouses in troubled marriages

If your marriage is under stress or you feel disconnected from your spouse, but don't know how to ease the pain, join us for this online course.

Identify your conflict triggers. Learn strategies to de-escalate an argument. Restore hope with practical relationship strategies.

**smartloving.org/breakthrough**  
Divine Mercy Sale 50% Off (ends May 31)  
Use coupon code: **DivineMercy**

**PASTORAL CARE NEEDED**

for elderly lady in Sunshine Bay who loves a visit and HC. Please ring: Marie Weatherall on 0405 028 057. We thank those who generously gave of their time for Opal and for the Couple in Sunshine Bay. Much appreciated.

**BAPTISMS**

*Please note:*  
*Baptisms will be held on the Second Sunday of the month during Mass, beginning in June*

The ladies of the Craft Group would like to invite you to attend

**THE BIGGEST MORNING TEA** to be held on Thursday 19th May @ 10 am in the Church Meeting Room.  
**GOLD COIN DONATION**  
Proceeds to our local Can Assist. **ALL welcome**



**BAPTISMS**

**Lilly Gordon  
Kai Gordon**

**Death Anniversaries:** Robert Pacion, Mila Bandur, Rowland Heycox, Mary Carter, Joseph Johnson, Noni Boyce, Rose Lambert, Terry Parsons, Jade Hammond

**We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community:**  
Michael McNamara, Steven Smith, Anton Miloloza and Petronila Aballe

**LIVING FAITH IN THE EVERYDAY**

*Discipleship - Being Good Enough for God*

In his homily last week Fr Tom suggested that we embrace who we are, focus on serving others and God with all our imperfections - a tough call for most of us!

The following insight may help us on this journey.

*We need to cease highlighting our flaws and understand that God's love makes us perfect.*

*There is an insight into the human psyche offered in a quote that seems ageless - 'I am my own worst critic'. I wonder why we are so critical of ourselves. What is it about our mind, or society, that makes us focus on the imperfections and mistakes over our totality? It does not seem to matter what age, culture, gender or race a person is, we all devalue our worth and fail to offer ourselves the kindness and charity we go out of our way to offer others. How can we be whole when we pull ourselves apart?*

*We spend much of our lives worried about what others think of us, and wondering how we can create an image of 'perfection' that we believe may be more acceptable to others. As a concept this approach is flawed as we are not perfect and can never be in this life. But we have been created through God's perfect love and therefore whole and complete just as we are. We are imperfectly perfect in this life, but we find that contradictory truth too paradoxical to understand. When we critique ourselves we observe ourselves from the view point of the 'bad spirit'. Being unkind or devaluing our worth is not of God. Yet in knowing that we make mistakes and cannot measure up to the physical standards society projects on us we focus on the ways in which we are not perfect rather than how perfectly we have been made.*

*When we live with a desire to seek the affirmation of others, we highlight aspects that are endorsed, construct elements that we lack and spurn the traits considered inferior. The irony is that we are drawn to the uniqueness of others, even though they also judge themselves and present a less than accurate image of who they truly are. When we affirm others for their gifts, they, like us, often deflect the compliment and draw focus to their imperfections. These observations do not negate the need to be humble and to seek to become more whole throughout our lives, but we do need to learn how to be charitable to the person in most need of it - ourselves.*

*To be able to transform our thought process we need to consider ourselves from God's point of view. When God views us, he sees and accepts us as we are. He is merciful and compassionate. Knowing that we are not perfect and loving us actually perfects us.*

Part 1 article first appeared in the autumn 2022 edition of **Madonna magazine**.

**2022 GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY APPEAL - MAY 8TH**

Held on the fourth Sunday of Easter each year, the appeal is to raise funds for the education of our seminarians to the priesthood. We are grateful for the wonderful Priests and Religious we have in this Archdiocese and we pray God would always bless and provide for them.

Currently the Archdiocese has two young men in the Lord in training to be our future priests. The money raised will be used to help defray the very considerable costs associated with the many years of academic training and seminary formation served in preparation for priesthood.

**Please give generously as all contributions really do make a difference.**

Donations to: [cgatholic.org.au/goodshp](http://cgatholic.org.au/goodshp) or 62399801  
**Envelopes are available in the church for donations**

**PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving for both the Priest and the Church, the details are as follows:  
**Acc. Name:** St Bernard's Operating Account  
**BSB:** 062-786  
**Bank Acc:** 000012939  
**Ref:** Family Name

**A message from Aid to the Church in Need**

**Australia:** This month can you provide transport to help priests and religious reach and nourish the faithful in Tanzania? Your offering will bridge the divide between priests and their people in Tanzania due to the harsh terrain and dangerous travel. By providing a means of transport, the faithful will be able to participate in more frequent Masses and partake of the Sacraments, as well as providing a means of help to the people, including pregnant mothers, to reach medical facilities. To make an offering to ACN's Project of the Month visit [www.aidtochurch.org/](http://www.aidtochurch.org/)

**BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS**

Caring for Eurobodalla shire families for over 50 years  
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**INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS**  
1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay  
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