

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Sixth Sunday of Easter Year A
First Reading Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20. R. see v.1

(R.) 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!
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.
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.
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.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Second Reading 1 Pt 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

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.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23
 Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel Jn 14:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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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.
 © Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

A Mother's Day Prayer

Lord we pray for all **MOTHERS**
 Beautiful and wonderful they fill the earth
 Gracious in Your call they carry life
 In a bond of love they bring forth a child.

We ask You to bless all **MOTHERS** today
 May they feel the joys of motherhood everyday
 In all their struggles giving us a livelihood
 May Your **LOVE** and **COMPASSION** be with them for good.

May every **MOTHER** feel today
 The pride and beauty of a family they bear
 Through all pain and sorrow Lord deliver them
 In Your **STRENGTH** and **GRACE** may they always stay.
AMEN!

Read full Prayer at christianst.com



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



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

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Secretary: Roslynn Trompp
Finance Admin: Anne Jackson
PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall
Asst. PC Co-ord: Carolyn Evenden

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

Upcoming Events

Choir Practice
 1PM Mondays

SATURDAY MASS IS NOW @ 5PM

Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am Fridays after Mass, and 1st Saturday of the month @ 9.30am

ENJOY THE GOOD NEWS
Wednesdays after 9am Mass

Wrap With Love
Wednesday 31st May
Meeting Room
All are welcome

Craft Group Thursdays
10am

ADORATION
TUESDAY @ 8AM

COFFEE CLUB
Thursdays after Mass
Venue: Corrigans Cove
All are welcome

Proclaim the Good News!

Proclaim the Good News! This is a phrase heard often, spoken quite easily and yet so challenging to put into practice. Everyone has an opinion of what being the Good News of Jesus should be – what it should look like!

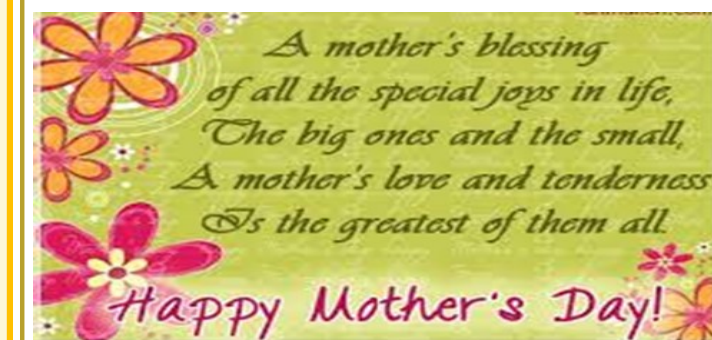
Who are the witnesses to the Good News in our lives? In society? In the world?



What is a **Witness of the Good News**? The First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles speaks to this when it recounts that '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.' The witness is people seeing followers of Jesus living their beliefs, not just talking – not through huge miracles but often through the small miracles of helping everyday people who are suffering to have hope à the response of the Parish Pastoral Care volunteers, Vinnies and lots of community groups.

What are the **qualities of the Witnesses to the Good News of Jesus**? Perhaps the life of the late Fr Bob Maguire answers this question – life of unconditional love for the 'unloved and unlovely'. A life that required selfless commitment and courage in all contexts. So these qualities are absolute conviction in God's love and the mission of Jesus as the Second Reading, letter of St Peter states 'if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right'. We all know witnesses in our lives, in our Parish – the everyday saints in our midst. They are people of joy bringing hope to others – living witnesses filled with the Holy Spirit! The Spirit, stirring in their hearts, sends them out to proclaim the good news through their daily lives – this is our opportunity too! The Gospel reassures us that God is with us.

This weekend's Readings when speaking of God's love and the call to be bearers of Good News also speak to the celebration of our annual **Mothers' Day celebration**. This is a day of special thanksgiving to God for the love and care of mothers. Mother's Day is always special, because Mother's Day not only affords us the opportunity to give thanks for our mothers, but it is also a time to reflect on the loving attributes of God. Mothers embody the Good News and the unconditional love to which we are all called – whether we are biological mothers, foster mothers,



loving friends – it is a day to celebrate unconditional love to those in need regardless of age.

Phil Billington



Mass Schedule
MASSES THIS WEEK
Monday 15th May
Sunday 21st May

Monday 15th: No Mass
Tuesday 16th: No Mass
Wednesday 17th: No Mass
Thursday 18th: No Mass
Friday 19th: Mass 9am
Saturday 20th: Mass 5pm
Reconciliation 3.30-4.30pm
Sunday 21st: Mass 9am

Masses in Aged Care Facilities

- Mass First Wed of Month @10.30am Denhams Beach Community Care (Opal)
- Mass 2nd Wed of the month @10.30am The Glen
- Mass 3rd Wed of month @2pm The Manor
- Mass 4th Wed of month @2pm Maranatha Lodge

ROSTERS

13/14 MAY
Cleaning
 15-19 R & K Ison

5.00PM MASS
 Welcomer: M Devine
 Commentator: S Ebejer
 Reader: J Quigley
 Eucharistic Ministers
 J Wain M Weatherall
 Computer Screen M O'Neill

9.00 AM MASS:
 Welcomer J McClelland
 Commentator . N Beatty
 Reader: B Basevi
 Eucharistic Ministers
 V & C Burns
 Computer Screen D May

MORNING TEA:
 M & S Beashel L Foran

20/21 MAY
Cleaning
 23-26 Favetta/O'Neill/
 Nugent

5.00PM MASS
 Welcomer B Oerder
 Commentator D Robinson
 Reader: J Mackay
 Eucharistic Ministers
 M Devine, Y Oerder
 Computer Screen
 J O'Sullivan

9.00 AM MASS:
 Welcomer L Foran
 Commentator D Robinson
 Reader: A Skinner
 Eucharistic Ministers
 L Stevens, N Page
 Computer Screen T Priest.

MORNING TEA:
 J Barroman G Berryman

Marriage & Family Life Cocktail Dinner
Tuesday 23rd May @ 6:45 pm

Enjoy a fun night out with parishioners from across the Archdiocese while Catholic author, comedian and theologian - Christopher Padgett - helps us laugh our way to a more hopeful vision of the Church's proclamation of marriage and family life.
All welcome – Tickets are \$45 and include wine, soft drinks, hot finger food and dessert.

Venue: Veritas Building, ACU Watson
Enquiries: Lara Kirk lara.kirk@cg.org.au 0429 192 869

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. For further information:
Email: national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au or **Ph:** 02 8912 4818

THERE WILL BE NO MASSES THIS COMING WEEK UNTIL FRIDAY 19TH @ 9AM AS FR RENOIR WILL BE ATTENDING THE ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT

Please pray for a successful and fruitful retreat for all our Priests.



The craft group is hosting a **Morning Tea** on Thursday 18th May at 10.30 am in the Church Meeting Room.

Gold coin donation.

All proceeds from the Morning Tea will go to our local branch of Can Assist



Come along and help raise some much needed funds

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 : 00012939
Ref: Family Name

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND THE WALBUNJA PEOPLE OF THE YUIN NATION. WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THEIR ELDERS, PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING

May Retreat:
' Search and you will find ...called to be everyday mystics'

at St Joseph's Convent Chapel on Tuesday May 16th, 9-45am to begin at 10am - 2pm.

Facilitators:

Carolyn Evenden & Marie Weatherall.
 Morning tea Provided.

BYO shared Pot Luck Lunch. Gold coin donation to cover venue cost.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL:
 Marie W 0405 028 057



The Year of Walking Together

The Risen Lord walked together with the disciples on the road to Emmaus, drawing them from anxiety to hope, from confusion to joy.

Jesus, centre of our common Emmaus walk, with You alone to guide us, make Your home in our hearts; as we pour "new wine into fresh wineskins" (Mk 2:22)

Like Mary, imbued by the Holy Spirit, may we give birth to a renewed faith and united pastoral action in this Archdiocese in the years ahead.

St Mary of the Cross, our Great Australian Intercessor, pray for us.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

All Saints of God, who name and sanctify our parishes, pray for us. **Amen**

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

MAY

For church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

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Ray and Anne Brown

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Remembering the Sick:
 Suzanne Hughes, Trent Fisk, Carolyn Burns, Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill, Barry O'Neill Beverley Biglia, Fr John Walter, Lola, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Pam Wilson, Antony and Andrew, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Allan Odlum, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, those in hospital and nursing homes.

Death Anniversaries: are listed in the Memorial Book at the front of the Church and names can be added to it if dates are provided.
We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community: Dan Quigley, Maree O'Brien, Rees De Winter, John Dunne, Maria Ivelja, Stjepan Matasin, Peter McGann, Dante Pasqualin, Loretta Jones, Filomena Dela Torre, David Coates, Christopher Horsfall, Dawn Millman, Mara Pranjic, Michael Thornton, Barbara Mills, Travis Basevi, Judith Dewick, Nita Gorzalka, Michael Dove, Wayne Sing, Linda Russell, Ruby Swinton, Anna Backo, Lois White