

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Sunday 29 Jun 2025
Saints Peter and Paul,
Apostles
First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Now I know it is indeed true: the Lord has saved me from the power of Herod.

King Herod started persecuting certain members of the Church. He beheaded James the brother of John, and when he saw that this pleased the Jews he decided to arrest Peter as well. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread, and he put Peter in prison, assigning four squads of four soldiers each to guard him in turns. Herod meant to try Peter in public after the end of Passover week. All the time Peter was under guard the Church prayed to God for him unremittingly.

On the night before Herod was to try him, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, fastened with double chains, while guards kept watch at the main entrance to the prison. Then suddenly the angel of the Lord stood there, and the cell was filled with light. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him. ‘Get up!’ he said ‘Hurry!’ – and the chains fell from his hands. The angel then said, ‘Put on your belt and sandals.’ After he had done this, the angel next said, ‘Wrap your cloak round you and follow me.’ Peter followed him, but had no idea that what the angel did was all happening in reality; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed through two guard posts one after the other, and reached the iron gate leading to the city. This opened of its own accord; they went through it and had walked the whole length of one street when suddenly the angel left him. It was only then that Peter came to himself. ‘Now I know it is all true,’ he said. ‘The Lord really did send his angel and has saved me from Herod and from all that the Jewish people were so certain would happen to me.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-9. R. v.5

(R.) The Lord set me free from all my fears.

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. Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name. I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free. (R.)
3. Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued his from all his distress. (R.)
4. The angel of the Lord is encamped around those who revere him, to rescue them. Taste and see that the Lord is good. He is happy who seeks refuge in him. (R.)

Second Reading

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

All that remains now is the crown of righteousness.

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion’s mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia!
You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 16:13-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are Peter, and I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, ‘Who do people say the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ ‘But you,’ he said, ‘who do you say I am?’ Then Simon Peter spoke up, ‘You are the Christ,’ he said, ‘the Son of the living God.’ Jesus replied, ‘Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.’

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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ST BERNARD'S PARISH
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Principal: Karen Hadley
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R.E.C: Rebecca Keough
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Anna Smart

Saints PETER and PAUL
Year C



CHURCH EVENTS

Choir Practice
Second & Fourth Mondays
1pm

Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am
Fridays after Mass

“Good News” Wednesdays
after Mass to discuss reading
for the following Sunday.
CMR

Anointing of the Sick Mass
Saturday July 5th 9am

Croatian Mass Saturday July
5th 11am

Parish Sacramental Program
2025
Confirmation Celebration
Saturday 28th June 5pm
Archbishop Prowse presiding

Cuppa with Mary MacKillop
Tuesday 8th July 10-11am at
the home of Mary O'Neill

Wrap with Love
Tuesday 8th July 10-11am BB
Library

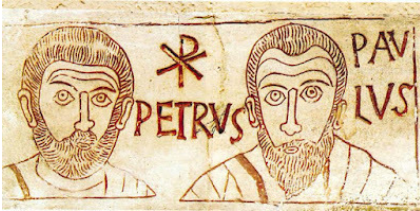
Craft Group 10am Thursdays
Church Meeting Room

ADORATION TUESDAYS @
4pm

COFFEE CLUB Thursdays
after 9am Mass
Venue: Corrigans Cove
am

THE SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL , The Apostles

Sts Peter and Paul have always been stars our faith development but have you ever thought of how different they are – like chalk and cheese!



Peter, as a professional fisherman, was most likely uneducated while Paul was a highly educated Pharisee. Both had very strong feelings about Jesus. Peter recognised him immediately as someone special and came to be the first person to acknowledge him as the Messiah, son of God while Paul considered him to be a heretic and a danger to the Jewish faith.

Simon’s name was changed to ‘Cepha or Peter’ meaning the rock and Jesus made it clear that he would be the rock on which His church would be built because of his faith. Because Saul enthusiastically persecuted all who followed Jesus – even approving the stoning of Stephen - God had to literally knock him to his knees when on his way to Damascus. From this encounter Saul was renamed Paul and given his commission to convert the Gentiles.

They didn’t always agree on how to continue their conversion activities yet, by the grace of God and their Holy Spirit gifts both have had the most enormous influence on our faith and both followed Jesus willingly to martyrdom in Rome.

So why do we celebrate a day for the two of them together? On pondering their differences it occurs to me that the very example of two vastly different personalities with very different gifts is a wonderful lesson to us that we must never compare ourselves to others who travel with us on this journey of faith.

I may not have the depth of spiritual gifts of my fellow Catholics or I may have more, but whether I am rich or poor in the recognition of God, I am called to do my ‘bit’ in spreading his message.

We may be called to bring clarity of faith to a spouse, a family member, a friend or an arena of thousands, but we must recognise that call to proclaim Jesus as Lord within our life daily – in the way we speak, dress, act; read and ponder the Bible and most importantly how we treat others whether speaking of them or to them.

Hopefully people who know you and I, know our commitment to God.

Hopefully for each of us, if we left the area those we left behind would mourn our absence because they have seen Jesus in us.

Deidre Herring

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

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 30th—Sunday 6th July

Monday 30th: No Mass
Tuesday 1st: Mass 5pm
Wednesday 2nd: Mass 9am
Thursday 3rd: Whole School Mass 9.15am
Friday 4th: Mass 9am
Saturday 5th: Anointing of the Sick
Mass 9am, Croatian Mass 11am, Mass 5pm
Reconciliation 3.30-4.30
Sunday 6th: Mass 9am

<u>28/29 JUNE</u> <u>Cleaning</u> 30-4 July M deSmet & J Maher	<u>5/6 JULY</u> <u>Cleaning</u> 7-11 B Coffey/M Paine
<u>5.00PM MASS</u> Welcomer Confirmation Commentator Confirmation Reader: Confirmation Eucharistic Ministers Confirmation Computer Screen T Jackson	<u>5.00PM MASS</u> Welcomer J Anderson Commentator: P O’Kelly Reader P Nolan Eucharistic Ministers N Buick Computer Screen K Conway
<u>9.00 AM MASS:</u> Welcomer M Britt Commentator J Whiteford Reader: D Herring Eucharistic Ministers A Skinner Computer Screen T Jones.	<u>9.00 AM MASS:</u> Welcomer M de Smet Commentator A Skinner. Reader: P Fleming Eucharistic Ministers L Stevens, N Page Computer Screen T Priest

<u>MORNING TEA:</u> M & S Beashel	<u>MORNING TEA:</u> Filipino community
<u>COUNTERS</u> T Priest/J Whiteford	<u>COUNTERS</u> Jackson/ Evenden

Masses in Aged Care Facilities

- ◇ First Wed of month Mass 10.30am
Denhams Beach Community Care (Opal)
- ◇ Second Wed of month Mass 10.30am
The Glen
- ◇ Third Wed of month Mass 2pm
The Manor
- ◇ Fourth Wed of month Mass 2pm
Maranatha

Can You Assist?
Visitation and Holy Communion to a lady housebound, Batemans Bay.
Enquiries: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

St Vincent de Paul “WINTER WARMTH”
We are still collecting adult and children’s winter scarves, gloves, beanies, socks and doonas/blankets during June.

Please leave in the container that has been placed in the church foyer for collection.

SONGFEST
TO SUPPORT BBECET
SATURDAY 26TH July 2pm
Anglican Church
\$15 person includes afternoon tea.
Featuring Choir– Solo—Instrumental
Tickets available at door

Cuppa with Mary MacKillop
Will be at the home of Mary O’Neill
Tuesday July 8th
10-11am
Enquiries: Mary 0403 147 242

Parish Sacramental Program 2025
Confirmation

Congratulations to our children who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation this week- end. Thank you also to the teachers and parents who have supported them on this important part of their journey. May you continue to grow in your love for one another and for our ever loving God.



PARISH FINANCIAL
SUPPORT

A/C Name: St Bernard’s
Operating
BSB: 062-786
A/C No: 00012939
Ref: Family Name

REFLECTION
by Fr Michael Tate

Did you notice in the first reading that, whilst Peter was in prison, ‘the whole Church kept on praying incessantly for him’? This constant prayer played its part in Peter’s being freed from the chains which bound him, the shackles which fettered him. Prayer of the community was essential to his being freed from prison.
What are the shackles or chains which fetter the successor of St Peter? What prison walls need to be shattered so that he can preach the marvels of God in ways which affect the hearts of humanity? We know prayer of the community, i.e., of us, will be essential to his being freed – from what? A Pope could be imprisoned by a distorted or impoverished idea of ‘the Church’.
In the Gospel, our Lord says to Simon son of Jonah: ‘You are Peter and on this rock I will build my church’. ‘My church’ – the church desired by our Lord, not a church designed by all too earthly ambitions, a church whose structure owes much to the Roman empire, and later to Euro-centric models spanning the last millennia or so.
May the Church, the Church of the third millennium, be unshackled from the chains of various historical eras so that the Pope, in giving an account of his ministry to the Lord will be able to say with St Paul, ‘I have fought the good fight to the end,’ by doing my best to heed your call ‘rebuild *my* Church’.
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The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our
brother, and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your
Kingdom.
May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the
Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos, in the sure
expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with
the powers of Evil
vanquished, your glory will shine
eternally.
May the grace of the
Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of
heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our
Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen.

Remembering the Sick:

Sr Maria Goretti, Travis Roth, Piper Roth, Maya Roth, Kristy Crosby, Jeanette Clarke, Chris Bowditch, Sheree Jackson, Brendan Blyton, Wendy & Pat Roberts, Mark O’Neill, Karen Nixon, Kevin Totterell, Dawn Robinson, Maria de Rocco, Myrna Glenn, Norma Dean, Ann Marie McLoughlin, Antionette Doyle, Christine Norman, Anne Gatehouse, Tony Vogel, Suzanne Hughes, Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O’Neill, Fr John Walter, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Vince Burns, Patrick Burns, Carolyn Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Allan Odlum, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, 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: Judy Spruce, Zora Domitrovic, Rod Sanders, Colin Platt, Indy Roth, Pope Francis, Kelvin Jones, Margaret Priest, Linda Vogel, Geoffrey Bopping, Ivan Backo, Jean McSmith, David Wick, Joe Quigley, Margaret Silversides, Patricia Totterdell, David Cowley, Joanne Rogers, Gerald Lewis, Josephine Beckhaus, Cyril Noyeaux, Frank Simic, Sr Paulinus Croker, Marion O’Grady, Patricia Suhl, Neil Leonard, Letitia Baz, Trent Fisk, Kevin Carew, Margaret Kelly, Arthur Hurrell, Vicki Lukasik, Paul Skinner, Suzanne Melton, James Quirk, Giovanni Menon, Tony Puconja, Hazel Nolan, Else McGahey, Richard Smart, Patrick Dunn, Laurence Foran, Lynton Ryan, Jacki Harding, Keith Cooke, Sarah Good, Robert Mitchell, Joyce Hurrell, Archbishop Francis Carroll, Ruth O’Malley, Julie Morgan, Suzanne Houssard, Nancy Sykes, Lillian Burkinshaw, Lynette Arundel

**Pope Leo Monthly
Prayer Intentions**

July

**For formation in
Discernment**

Let us pray that we might
again learn how to discern,
to know how to choose
paths of life, and reject
everything that leads us
away from Christ and the
Gospel.



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Ray and Anne Brown



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