

LITURGY OF THE WORD  
Fifth Sunday of Easter Year C  
First Reading  
*Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27*  
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles  
*They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.*

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. ‘We all have to experience many hardships’ they said ‘before we enter the kingdom of God.’ In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe. They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.  
*The Word of the Lord*  
**R. Thanks be to God**

Responsorial Psalm  
*Ps 144:8-13. R. cf. v.1*  
**(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**  
1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.  
2. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God, to make known to men your mighty deeds and the glorious splendour of your reign.  
3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom; your rule lasts from age to age.  
**(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**

Second Reading  
Revelation 21:1-5  
A reading from the book of the Apocalypse  
*He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.*  
I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, ‘You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people,

and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.’ Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: ‘Now I am making the whole of creation new.’  
*The Word of the Lord*  
**R. Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation  
*John 13:34*  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

Gospel *John 13:31-35*  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*I give you a new commandment: love one another.*  
When Judas had gone Jesus said: ‘Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.’  
*The Gospel of the Lord*  
**R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

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REFLECTION  
by Nick Brodie  
‘Jesus loved us first’, Pope Francis reminded us. This is the key to the newness of Jesus’ commandment. As Francis pointed out, it was already an established principle that you should love your neighbour. What Jesus does is extend this, going beyond formal concern to a really deep love – ‘as I have loved you’. Jesus’ love, Francis elaborates, ‘is God’s universal love, without any conditions or limits.’

Which is why it is important to start by knowing that Jesus already loves us, irrespective of who we are or what we have done. He loves us, Francis explains, ‘despite our frailties, our limitations and our human weaknesses.’ In fact, as Francis adds, it was Jesus himself ‘who ensured we become worthy of his boundless and never-ending love.’ There is nothing we can do to make him love us more or less than he already does. God’s love, by definition, is boundless. So, aided by the Holy Spirit, we are called to experience and express the love of Christ. As the late Pope said, if we are truly open to this, then ‘we can spread everywhere the seed of love that renews relationships between people and opens horizons of hope.’  
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### Healing Prayer with Saint Charbel on 23rd May, Friday at 5 PM

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> May, we will celebrate the monthly Feast of Saint Charbel from Lebanon.

All are invited to come and learn about the life and miracles of Saint Charbel and pray together through His intercession.

There will also be an opportunity to be anointed with the holy oil of Saint Charbel.

The prayer will take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 5pm at Sacred Heart Parish in Moruya.



ST BERNARD'S PARISH  
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**Priest:** Rev. Rex Curry  
**Secretary:** Roslynn Trompp  
**Finance Admin:** Anne Jackson JP  
**PC Co-ord:** Marie Weatherall  
**Asst. PC Co-ord:** Carolyn Evenden

**Principal:** Karen Hadley  
**St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven**  
**R.E.C:** Rebecca Keough  
**Principal:** Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan  
**Carroll College, Broulee**  
**R.E.C:** Anna Smart

### FIFTH SUNDAY of EASTER Year C



#### CHURCH EVENTS

**Choir Practice**  
Resumes Monday May 26 at 1.00pm

**Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am**  
Fridays after Mass

**“Good News” group resumes every Wednesday after Mass to discuss reading for the following Sunday. CMR**

**Parish Sacramental Program 2025 Confirmation Commitment Masses Saturday 24th 5pm and Sunday 25th 9am Enrolment now open at the Parish Office**

**Wrap with Love Wednesday 28th 1-3pm CMR**

**Craft Group 10am Thursdays Church Meeting Room**

**ADORATION TUESDAYS @ 4pm**

**COFFEE CLUB Thursdays after 9am Mass Venue: Corrigan's Cove**

### Waiting for the ‘billy to boil’!

Waiting with purpose is very different to procrastination. Procrastination refers to unduly deferring action, using delaying tactics, putting off what needs to be attended to. It is passive and often inept. **Whereas waiting with purpose implies there is an intention to act. Before the action takes place there is often a period of reflection, observation and planning.**

When we read about Mary MacKillop’s life, we observe she had many times in her life where she had to wait...hers was a purposeful waiting. We know she was a very down to earth person who believed in getting things done despite the obstacles and challenges she had to face. In 1898 she wrote about her experiences with a particular community: “Of all the slow workers I have ever met they beat them. I should have been away from here a fortnight ago but had to remain and urge them on.” When reading this I think of all the graced moments when I have had to learn to wait upon the needs of others: teaching children with disabilities; sitting with a sick or dying person; listening to the story of a refugee. As Sue and Leo Kane in the Little Brown Book 11 point out: “Just as out in the bush we learn to wait for the billy to boil, or the damper to rise or in the long term, for the drought to end—can we sit around our imaginary campfire under the Southern Cross and silently ponder Mary’s wisdom? (pg91) It is the same wisdom of the Psalmist who prays **“My soul awaits the Beloved as one waits the birth of a child.”** (Psalm 130:6)

### Waiting...Now...Soon...in a little while!

In today’s gospel (John 13:31-35) Judas has hardly left the Upper Room and gone out into the night. Jesus knows he is about to betray him. Against this contemptible background Jesus speaks to his disciples in an extraordinary way. He uses words such as “Now...soon...in a little while.” What sort of time is implied here: This is the time after Easter when Jesus “having been reinstated in his glory at the right hand of the Father, awaits with his disciples (the Church) the full manifestation of that glory. (The Glenstal Bible Missal pg1131).

Soon, after a little while, Jesus will no longer be with his disciples. Not that he wants to abandon them or leave them to themselves but **Jesus is preparing them to adjust from being accustomed to his physical presence to faith in his unseen presence in the very experience of his absence. He chooses this moment to command his disciples to love one another in the same way as he has.**

Marie Weatherall



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 19th — Sunday 25th May**

<b>Monday 19th:</b>	NO MASS
<b>Tuesday 20th:</b>	Mass 5pm
<b>Wednesday 21st:</b>	Mass 9am
<b>Thursday 22nd:</b>	Mass 9am
<b>Friday 23rd:</b>	Mass 9am
<b>Saturday 24th:</b>	Mass 5pm
Reconciliation 3.30-4.30	
<b>Sunday 25th:</b>	Mass 9am

**Sunday 25th:** Mass 9am

T Priest/J Whiteford

T &amp; A Jackson

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

**Archbishop Christopher Prowse**  
**Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn**  
**8<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

If you are away in June-Aug please email or text your dates to Marie W  
Asap on: 0405 028 057

**Amen.**

**We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community:** 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

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanised.