



he will live,
and whoever lives and believes in me
will never die.
Do you believe this?

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.
I knew indeed that you always hear me,
but I speak
for the sake of all these who stand round me,
so that they may believe it was you who sent
me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

This Gospel tells us that Our Lord was moved with compassion in an almost violent way, raging against the seeming finality of death. The raising of Lazarus was a demonstration of his power to rob death of its supposed supremacy.

But, Our Lord did not set Lazarus completely free! You may think that to be raised from the dead was not a bad start, but Lazarus was still shuffling: bound, constrained, constricted by the past. To those gathered around the tomb Jesus issued the command: 'Set him free, unbind him.' It was the collective effort of others which enabled Lazarus to walk as a liberated son of God.

You may find yourself commanded by the Lord to help unbind a person who has had a deadening experience which has drained them of life. We get the courage to respond because it is the command of the One who definitively conquered death.

We could pause for a moment to resolve to help liberate others already helped by the grace of Him whom we believe to be *the Resurrection and the Life*.

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St Patrick's Parish Cooma
St Columbkille's Parish Jindabyne



Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A

22 MARCH 2026

First Reading Ez 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 129. R. v.7

*(R.) With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption*

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading. (R.)
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you. (R.)
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.) (R.)
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:8-11

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in
you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.*

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your

interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 11:25. 26

*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Gospel Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45 or shorter form Jn 11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

*'I am the resurrection and the life.
If anyone believes in me, even though he dies*



St Patrick's Parish Cooma
St Columbkille's Parish Jindabyne



Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A

22 March 2026

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST

Father Mark Croker
0428 190 759
02 6452 2062

Assistant Priest: Fr Daniel
will be permanent our
Parish prior to Easter 2026

Sacramental Program

Father Mark Croker
0428 190 759

PARISH WEBSITE

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Parish Secretary

Mrs Sharon Nesbitt
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ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

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School Principal

Dr Mangan
School Website:

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Darren 0429 904 291

**WEEKEND MASS
& LW&HC TIMES**

Adaminaby

No Mass until further notice

Berridale

2nd & 4th Sunday
Vigil Mass Saturday 3.30pm
All other Sundays
LW&HC 10am Sunday

Cooma

Mass Sunday 10am
Mass Tue, Thu & Fri 10am
Except 3rd Friday of month
Mass Yallabee Lodge 9.30am
Mass Hudson House Respect 11am

Jindabyne

Vigil Mass Saturday 5pm
Except 5th Sunday
LW&HC 5pm Saturday

Nimmitabel

1st Sunday
Vigil Mass Saturday 3pm
All other Sundays
LW&HC at 5pm Saturday

Numeralla

2nd Sunday LW&HC 5pm
4th Sunday Mass 5pm



PRAYER INTENTIONS

POPES INTENTION MARCH

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.



Thank you to everyone for attending our St Patrick's Day Parish & School Morning Tea with Fr Mark entertaining with his Irish songs. A most enjoyable sausage sandwich thank you to Daniel & Boston our cooks and everyone who contributed. To the kind and thoughtful mower person: thank you for your generosity, your thoughtfulness is a shining example of goodness.

FLOWERS: Good Friday PASSION-

you are invited to bring along a flower to lay at the foot of the cross during the Passion of the Lord Mass at 3pm.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Palm Sunday - Year A

Gospel: Matthew 21: 1-11

First Reading: Is 50: 4-7

Second Reading: Phil 2: 6-11

Gospel: Matthew 27: 11-54



LENT



PARISH CALENDAR

Week- 23 March 2026

| | |
|-----|---|
| MON | - |
| TUE | 10am Mass |
| WED | Bombala Parish 12.30pm The ANNUNCIATION of the LORD |
| THU | 10am Mass St Joseph spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary |
| FRI | 10am Mass 6pm Stations of the Cross |
| | 5 th SUNDAY of month |
| SAT | Palm Sunday /Year A 5pm Jindabyne LWHC 5pm Nimmitabel LWHC |
| SUN | 10am Cooma Mass 10am Berridale LWHC |
| | FRIDAY Stations of the Cross 6pm Fridays during Lent |

REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

We pray for For those who have recently departed this life.

Anniversaries & Intentions for those anniversaries remembered at this time, may they be welcomed into the glory of the Risen Lord and rest in eternal peace. We pray to the Lord. David Barron, Peter Ward, Eva Barron, Carol Jones, Mary Tozer.

"We have loved them in Life: Let us not forget them in death."

For the sick within our families, friends and parish community and all who have asked for our prayers, may they be granted strength, comfort and healing. We pray to the Lord.



Prayer of the Faithful

Response: (R)
"Hear our prayer"

PRIEST: The new covenant, promised by God to his people, is Jesus Christ. Through loving obedience, even in suffering and death, Jesus was glorified and gained for us all union with God. Into that union we bring our prayers for the Church, for all those in need and for the entire world.

COMMENTATOR:

- We pray that the world will heed the call of pope Leo to turn away from the culture of death in order to live by the Gospel of life. Lord, in your mercy
- We pray that these final weeks of Lent will lead us to continue our self sacrifice and willingness to take up the cross with Jesus. Lord, in your mercy.
- we pray that Project Compassion may extend beyond the Lenten time frame of our sacrifices so that our good will may continue to meet the needs of others. Lord, in your mercy
- we pray for all who are confronted with the death dealing forces of our society; that they may bring the light of Christ to those struggling with the darkness of abortion, abuse, addictions, crime and disease. Lord, in your mercy
- We pray for all who have gone to their rest. May the support of our prayers lead them to the new life of Jesus' resurrection. Lord, in your mercy.
- We pray with Mary for peace in all areas of warfare and conflict: Hail Mary....

PRIEST: Loving God, Creator of eternal life, renew our hearts in the spirit you have promised and bring us to the eternal joy which is the pledge of Easter Life. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A young pastor was sitting in a restaurant eating lunch. He opened a letter he'd just received that morning from his mum. As he opened it a twenty-dollar bill fell out. He thought to himself, Thanks, Mom, I sure needed that right now. As he finished his meal, he noticed a beggar outside on the sidewalk leaning against the light post. Thinking that the poor man could probably use the twenty dollars more than he, he crossed out the names on the envelope and wrote across the top in large letters, PERSEVERE! So as not to make a scene, he put the envelope under his arm and dropped it as he walked past the man. The man picked it up and read the message and smiled. The next day, as the pastor enjoyed his meal, the same man tapped him on the shoulder and handed him a big wad of bills. Surprised, the young pastor asked him what that was for. The man replied, "This is your half of the winnings. Persevere came in first in the fourth race at the track yesterday and paid thirty to one."



2nd Rite of Reconciliation

Cooma – Tue 31 March 2026 at 7pm
No confession before Mass on Easter Sunday
Jindabyne offered after Vigil Mass - 28 Mar
Bombala offered after Mass

Holy Thursday

Cooma 6pm
Delegate 5pm Bombala 6.30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY

Cooma Stations of the Cross 10am
Berridale Stations of the Cross 10am (leader)
Bombala Stations of the Cross 9.30am (Leader)
Nimmitabel 12 noon Stations of the Cross (Leader)

Cooma 3pm The Passion of the Lord
Jindabyne 3pm The Passion of the Lord
Delegate 5pm Easter Service (Leader)

HOLY SATURDAY

Cooma 6pm
Bombala 5pm
Delegate 5pm (LWHC with Leader)

EASTER SUNDAY

Adaminaby 8am Nimmitabel 8am
Cooma 10am Berridale 10am (Liturgy)
Jindabyne 10am



Fifth Sunday of Lent
21-22 March 2026

Since October 2023, Caritas Jerusalem staff in Gaza have endured displacement, personal loss, and danger alongside the communities they serve. Despite unimaginable challenges, they remain committed to providing lifesaving support, standing in solidarity with families enduring this conflict.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at:

www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*