

## Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter Year A

### Entrance Antiphon | Cf Psalm 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders;  
in the sight of the nations  
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

### First Reading | Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

### Responsorial Psalm | Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19. R. v.22

- (R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,  
as we place our trust in you.
1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.  
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,  
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. (R.)
  2. For the word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love. (R.)
  3. The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

### Second Reading | 1 Peter 2:4-9

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious;

but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

### Gospel Acclamation | John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life,  
says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except  
through me. Alleluia!

### Gospel | John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples:  
'Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many  
rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should  
have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for  
you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place,  
I shall return to take you with me;  
so that where I am you may be too.  
You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are  
going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me.  
If you know me, you know my Father too.  
From this moment you know him and have seen  
him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we  
shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time,  
Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,  
so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?'  
Do you not believe  
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?  
The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:  
it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.  
You must believe me when I say  
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;  
believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no  
other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me  
will perform the same works as I do myself,  
he will perform even greater works,  
because I am going to the Father.'

### Communion Antiphon | Cf John 15:1,5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the  
Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit  
in plenty, alleluia.

Source: Liturgy Help © 2026



St Patrick's Parish Cooma

St Columbkille's Parish Jindabyne



2-3 May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter Year A

### PARISH CALENDAR



**Monday**  
No Mass

**Tuesday**  
10:00am Mass

**Wednesday**  
Bombala Parish Mass

**Thursday**  
10:00am Mass

**Friday**  
10:00am Mass

**Saturday**  
4th Sunday of the Month  
3:30pm Berridale Mass  
10:00am Jindabyne Vigil  
Mass

**Sunday**  
10:00am Cooma Mass  
5:00pm Numeralla

### A Gospel Reflection

It is a very uncertain world we are living in. We do not know what is right and what is wrong. We stand at the crossroads of life not knowing which way to take. This uncertainty is very unnerving for the modern man whose one concern is to make life more secure. In the midst of this uncertainty Jesus declares "I am the Way." "Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me." (John. 14:1-6).

As Jesus sits with his disciples at the Last Supper Jesus prepares His disciples for the time of trial to come. Jesus reveals that the purpose of His going is that we could be with Him for ever. We know the meaning of being left on our own on differing levels of life. The death of a parent, the departure of a loved principal, the retirement of the captain on a battlefield, or sports field. The list goes on. When a strong leader in our life departs we are quickly called to stand on our own two feet. In this gospel the disciples suffer the wobbles. They are left with troubled hearts. But Jesus promises his followers that he is the Way and where he is going they will one day follow.

"How do we get there?" asks an eager Thomas. "I am the way, I am the truth, I am the life." (John 14:16) By this self-offering, Jesus calls us to make our life here on this earth a pilgrimage so that we may reach where He is. In this declaration is also a precious revelation meant to mould our style of living. In this self-revelation, Jesus declares His identity and His relevance in our life. We need to make an honest soul searching.

**What does Jesus mean to me? Does He have a role in my daily living?**

An excerpt from Fr. Augustine Vallooran V.C.

### May is the Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The month of May is a special time that we honour the Blessed Virgin Mary. Here are some ideas on what you can do at home:

- \* Set aside some time to pray the Rosary daily
- \* Make a Marian Shrine in your home, place an image or a small statue, candle and make that your place of prayer.
- \* Plant a Marian Garden – dedicate a little corner of your garden and plant each flower with an intention in your heart.



# May Marian Days

- ❖ **1 May** - Our Lady, Queen of May (not an official feast day, however a day that honours the month of Mary)
- ❖ **13 May** - Our Lady of Fatima
- ❖ **24 May** - Our Lady Help of Christians - Patron of Australia (in 2026 this feast day will be celebrated on 25 May)
- ❖ **31 May** - The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

## Something Light...

Hello, Senor Gene? This is Ernesto the caretaker at your country house.  
 "Ah yes, Ernesto. What can I do for you? Is there a problem?"  
 "Um, I am just calling to advise you, sir, that your parrot died"  
 "My parrot? Dead? The one that won the International competition or the other one?"  
 "The champion sir."  
 "Damn! That's a pity! I spent a small fortune on that bird. What did he die from?"  
 "From eating rotten meat."  
 "Rotten meat? Who the hell fed him rotten meat?"  
 "Nobody senor. He ate the meat of one of the dead horses."  
 "Dead horse? What dead horse?"  
 "The thoroughbred, Mr. Lucky. He died from all that work pulling the water cart."  
 "Are you insane? What water cart?"  
 "The one we used to put out the fire."  
 "Good Lord! What fire are you talking about, man?"  
 "The one at your house! A candle fell and the curtains caught on fire."  
 "What the.....!!! But there's electricity at the house!!!! What was the candle for?"  
 "For the funeral."  
 "WHAT DAMN FUNERAL?!"  
 "Your mother in law's. She showed up one night out of the blue and I thought she was a thief, so I hit her with one of your new golf clubs."  
 THERE WAS A LONG SILENCE.....  
 "Ernesto if you broke that golf club you're fired!"



- ❖ **Information Session on proposed Gymnasium** - Sunday 3 May after the 10am Mass. All are invited to attend an information session facilitated by the Parish Council and School on the proposed gymnasium facility.



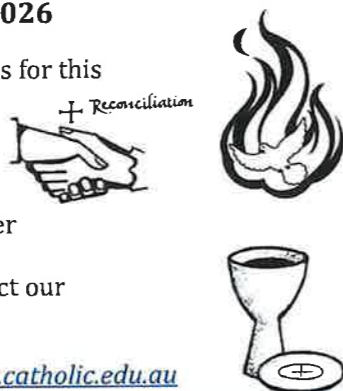
## Sacramental Program - Key Dates for 2026

Families are invited to note the following dates for this year's Sacramental Program:

- ❖ **Confirmation:** 14 June
- ❖ **First Reconciliation:** 2 July
- ❖ **First Holy Communion:** 13 September

For a detailed information letter, please contact our Parish Sacramental Coordinator,

Belinda Wilkins via email: [belinda.wilkins@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:belinda.wilkins@cg.catholic.edu.au)



## Remembering their faith and love

**We pray for those who have recently departed this life.**  
 "We have loved them in Life: Let us not forget them in death."  
 Lawrence 'Dick' Pendergast  
 Joan Fogarty  
 Marie Harvey

**Anniversaries & Intentions** for those whom we pray and remember, may they be welcomed into the glory of the Risen Lord and rest in eternal peace.

Geoff Miners  
 Ron Flanagan

**For the sick and all who have asked for our prayers,** may they be granted strength, comfort and healing.

Patrick Umback



## The Pope's Prayer Intention for May

That everyone might have food:

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

## Readings for 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17  
 Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18 or 1 Peter 4:13-16  
 Gospel: John 14:15-21 or John 17:1-11

## What We Carry Within...

There are times when we find ourselves thinking about what has happened in the past or worrying about what may lie ahead, but there is something that can help ease the weight of it all. What we carry inside - our courage, our kindness and our ability to keep going - often matters more than anything else in difficult moments. Even on days when we feel unsure or a bit overwhelmed, there is still strength within us that only becomes clear in hindsight.

Our mental health is part of this, part of how we understand ourselves and care for our wellbeing. It is shaped not only by what is going on around us, but also by how we respond, how we look after ourselves and how we reach out when we need support.

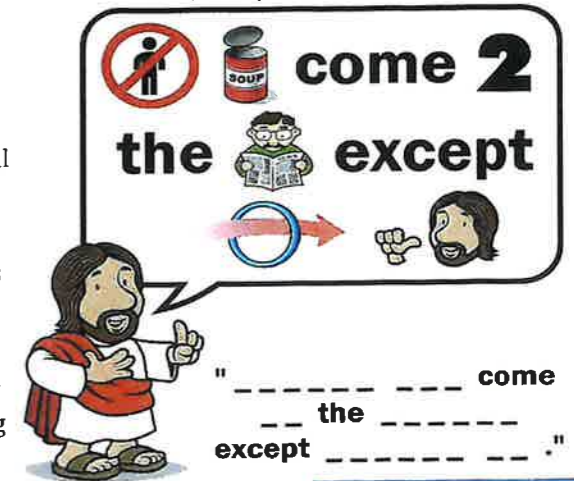
It's also worth remembering that many people we meet are carrying a burden of their own, even if it isn't always visible. Some are dealing with worries, pressure, loss or quiet struggles in their lives. So it is important to be kind, because a bit of patience and understanding can go a long way. We never really know what someone else is going through.

It's okay not to have everything worked out. Sometimes it's enough to take things one step at a time and trust that we are stronger than we think. And, on the days when it feels difficult, we can gently remind ourselves that we are still growing, still changing and still finding our way through life, as best we can.

Dear God, help us to be gentle with ourselves and patient with others. On the hard days, remind us we are not alone and help us to keep going with hope. Amen. - <https://majellan.media/>

## Young at Heart

Can you decipher what Jesus is saying?



Draw an arrow next to the words below which describe the Way, the Truth and the Life that Jesus wants us to follow.

- LOVE
- PEACE
- GREED
- FORGIVENESS
- CONFLICT
- JUSTICE
- SELFISHNESS
- COMPASSION
- HONESTY
- HATRED

## PARISH CONTACTS

**Parish Priest**  
 Father Mark Croker  
 0428 190 759  
**02 6452 2062**

**Assistant Priest**  
 Fr Daniel

**Sacramental Program**  
 Father Mark Croker  
 Mrs Belinda Wilkins

**Parish Website**  
[www.cg.org.au/cooma](http://www.cg.org.au/cooma)

**Parish Secretary**  
 Mrs Sharon Nesbitt  
 02 6452 2062  
 Mon, Wed & Thu  
 9am - 1pm & 2pm - 4.30pm  
 Email: [cooma@cg.org.au](mailto:cooma@cg.org.au)

**St Patrick's School**  
 02 6452 1721

**School Principal**  
 Dr Mangan  
 School Website:  
[www.stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au)

**Parish Pastoral Council**  
 Darren 0429 904 291

## MASS TIMES

**Weekend Mass and 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

## WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT



## Parish Collections

There are two collections during every Mass.

**First Collection** is banked to the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn and contributes to priests' stipends.

**Second Collection** is our parish church collection for our church upkeep and running costs such as electricity, rates, water, maintenance etc.

We value your contribution and appreciate any support you can give the parish. Please talk to Fr Mark if you have any questions.