



ST JOSEPH'S PARISH FAMILY

Weekly News

Let Your Light Shine (Matthew 5:16)

Consecrated to Mary Help of Christians

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B

28 April 2024

TODAY'S READINGS Acts 9: 26-31; 1 John 3: 18-24; John 15: 1-8

NEXT WEEK (6th Sunday of Easter) Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Psalm 97; 1 John 4: 7-10-; John 15: 9-17

The 'True' vine

The image of the vine has its origins in Psalm 80 where the nation of Israel is likened to a vine: 'You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.' (Ps 80:8-9) However, the people of Israel have forgotten who they are and who it was that planted them in their country – it is like the rootstock of a grafted plant has taken over and gone wild. Jesus' presence as the 'true vine' reminds them of what they are called to be.

It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.

John 15:8

THE TRUE VINE THAT FEEDS US



In these weeks after Easter and before the feasts of Ascension and Pentecost, our gospel readings come from Jesus' farewell discourses in the Gospel of John. These are the teachings which Jesus shared with his disciples in that precious time just before his arrest and crucifixion.

His teachings offered solace to his disciples who were soon to endure his passion and death. We now read and ponder them in the light of his resurrection and Ascension. They also offer comfort to us in our time and place, as we face life's challenges and sorrows.

Last week, the gospel recounted Jesus telling the disciples that he is the Good Shepherd, who knows his sheep by name, who cares for them and protects them, and whose love and care are so great that he lays down his life for his sheep. This image of the Good Shepherd and his sheep describes a relationship of steadfast love and care.

This week, Jesus describes his relationship to his followers differently, this time in terms of a vine and its branches. This image highlights the intimacy, interconnection, mutuality and reciprocity of the relationship of Jesus to us, of Jesus to the Father, and of Jesus and the Father to us, individually and as a community.

Jesus explains that he is the true vine, the Father is the vine grower, and we are the branches. The image reminds us that we, just like the vine and its branches, rely on each other in order to bear fruit.

But, most important of all, Jesus urges us: "Abide in me as I abide in you." To abide means to remain, to stay, to dwell, to make a home in, to endure, and to hold fast. This notion of 'abiding' is of utmost importance in John's Gospel. (Even in today's short reading this word, abide, occurs 8 times.)

Jesus is very clear: this abiding is essential and core to our relationship with him. It is this abiding in him and he in us that will result in great fruitfulness. The fruits will be life-giving fruits, internal as well as external, for us personally and for the community. They will be peace, freedom, justice, joy, and the flourishing of creation.

What then is the call and the challenge for us? It is to nurture our relationship with Jesus. This is the discipleship to which he calls us: it is abiding in him, keeping company with him, living in daily conversation with him. We are called to a life-long process of entering ever more deeply into this relationship with him, learning to abide in his love, and learning to love one another as God has loved us. It is learning to live like that every day!

And, in the process, we will gradually come to better see the world, ourselves, other people, and whatever situations we face with our hearts and minds attuned to his.

Anne Hunt © Majellan Media 2024

PARISH NEWS

PASTORAL CORNER: If we believe that Jesus is the Risen Lord and has secured salvation for us, then we must proclaim to everyone by our words and actions that we are followers of Jesus. The closer we are to Jesus, the more powerful will be our testimony. In our busy lives we need to identify ways that we can grow even closer to Jesus.

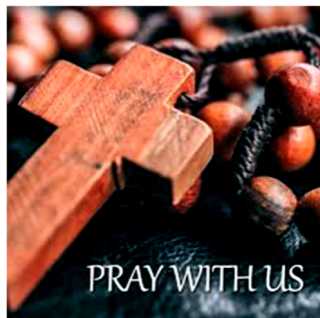
The scriptures tell us that those who live in Jesus do good work and bear much fruit. The vine is the lifeline for the branches. If branches are cut off from the vine, they die. Jesus is our lifeline and he often works through the people in our life.

Kathy Twohill Pastoral Associate

TAI CHI CLASSES

Thursday 3.30pm In the Parish Centre. Donation appreciated.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: The



recently deceased:

Tony Leaney, Fr Adrian Gil, Ian Harris, Sr Antonieta Florian, Carmel McLaughlin, Peter Keppie, Debbie Dobra, Marc Alexander Juanito Asuncion, Darcy McDonald, Kyle Barmudo, Roma Modini, Paul White, Jose Gaynilo, Terry Payn, David Aim, **Anniversaries:** those occurring at this time, **Also:** for all those whom Masses and prayers have been requested. **For those who are sick** Pat Trappell, Candice Weir, Carmel Williams, Lolita Abrenica, Michael Rudd

PARISH PANTRY: our parish pantry has been going along wonderfully.



At the moment, we are starting to stock up on items more suited to the winter months, with the tins of soups, meals in a can or sachets that you can add water. We have very minimal long life milk and pasta sauce on



hand at the moment, as well as small boxes of cereal and the up and go breakfast poppers. We do however have and abundance of baked beans.

MARIAN VALLEY: Please join us at the Marian Valley Church for the Lady of Fatima Feast on the 13 May and on the 25 May for Our Lady Help of Christian, Patroness of Australia and Shrine of Marian Valley. The bus will be picking up at 8.15 am sharp at the Sacred Heart Church Clear Island Waters. Bus cost is \$25.00 return. To book contact Xavier 0404 843 260 or Madeleine on 0405 252 367 All are welcome.



MEN'S GROUP

Our lunch at the Sands Hotel Coolangatta on Monday 15th April was an enjoyable couple of hours. We had a great rollup and the menu was extensive with reasonably priced choices. Most attendees had to take a "doggy bag" home. Good call, Sam.

Our next bus trip is on Monday 6th May to Mt Tamborine. Keith Richards has arranged a very interesting morning with lunch at the Hotel Saltwater Helensvale. The hotel provides an excellent menu including a \$16 menu.

I will advise full details including pick up times next Sunday.

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Michael Brady - pp@stjosephs.org.au
ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Wilber Tobe & Fr MX Rego SM
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Kathy Twohill - ktwohill@stjosephs.org.au

PARISH ADMINISTRATION
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WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL
@6.00 pm

SUNDAY
@7AM @9AM

ST CAMILLUS BILAMBIL
9AM

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES
Monday to Friday
9.10AM
Saturday 9AM

ROSARY
Before Mass Monday to Friday
Commencing at 8.40am
Saturday 8.30am

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 4.30 - 5.30PM
and 1st Friday 9.40 – 10am

BAPTISM
Please contact the parish office
with any Baptism enquiries.

SACRAMENTS AND VISITS TO THE SICK
Please contact the parish office

NEWSLETTERS
If you would like to receive the
weekly news or any upcoming
events and information via email
please contact the parish office
on 0755367522
Or email
tweedadmin@stjosephs.org.au

ROSTERS 4/5 MAY 2024

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B

6PM FR WILBER TOBE

Sacristan: Karen Watson
Adult Server: Karen Watson
Liturgy Coordinators: Maree Cargnoni
Commentator: Maree Cargnoni
Readers: Kylie Crane & Mandy Barone
Communion: Karen Sanderson & Mary Lynch

7AM FR MICHAEL BRADY

Sacristan: A & M Laarhoven
Adult Server: Sally Engle
Liturgy Coordinators: Maree Laarhoven
Commentator: Brian Turner
Readers: Patricia & Paul Bolster
Communion: Margaret Harvey & Iris Nathan

9AM FR MICHAEL BRADY

Sacristan: Pat Twohill
Adult Server: Mary Mason
Liturgy Coordinators: Frances Garland
Commentator: Colleen Blake
Readers: Fely Hamer & Mary Mason
Communion: Frances Garland & Jan Rolph

9AM ST CAMILLUS, BILAMBIL FR WILBER TOBE

SAFEGUARDING IN THE DIOCESE

The Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contacted if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support, and discuss all options available. Contact the Safeguarding Office
- Phone: (02) 6621 9444 or
Email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

