



# ST JOSEPH'S PARISH FAMILY

## Weekly News

### *Let Your Light Shine*

(Matthew 5:16)

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C**  
**11 MAY 2025**

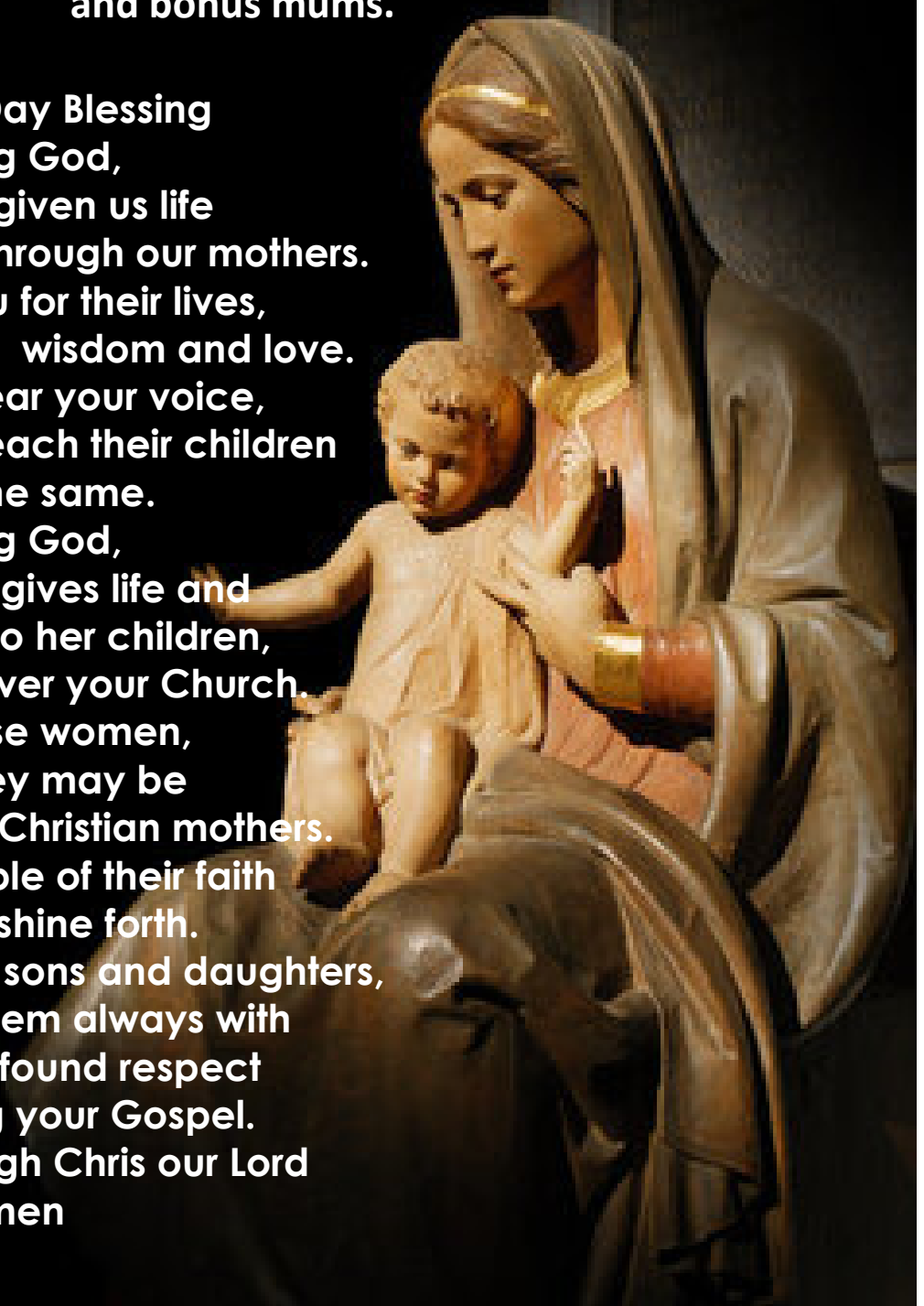


**TODAY'S READINGS** Acts 13:14, 43-52; Rev 7:9, 14-17; John 10:27-30

**NEXT WEEK (5th Sunday of Easter, Year C)** Acts 14:21-27; Ps 144; Rev 21:1-5; John 13:31-35

**A very happy Mother's day to all of our parish mothers, grandmothers and bonus mums.**

**Mother's Day Blessing**  
Loving God,  
you have given us life  
and cared for us through our mothers.  
We thank you for their lives,  
their care and the wisdom and love.  
Help them hear your voice,  
follow you and teach their children  
to do the same.  
Loving God,  
as a mother gives life and  
nourishment to her children,  
so you watch over your Church.  
Bless these women,  
+ that they may be  
strengthened as Christian mothers.  
Let the example of their faith  
and love shine forth.  
Grant that we, their sons and daughters,  
may honour them always with  
a spirit of profound respect  
and by living your Gospel.  
Grant this through Chris our Lord  
**Amen**



## THE GOOD SHEPHERD ALWAYS LISTENS

The image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd tenderly carrying a sheep on his shoulders was one of the earliest images of Jesus in Christian art. It was found in the Roman catacombs, the ancient cemeteries outside the city of Rome where the early Christian martyrs were buried. It has remained a much-loved image of Jesus throughout the centuries.

Jesus teaches "I am the Good Shepherd" in this week's reading from the Gospel of John. Hence, this Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally known as Good Shepherd Sunday.

In the reading Jesus speaks evocatively of the relationship between the good shepherd and the sheep of his flock. "The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me." The good shepherd knows his sheep so well that he knows them by name! They know him. They listen to his voice. He cares for them. They trust him. He leads them. They follow him. Indeed, the good shepherd, unlike a hired hand, lays down his life for his sheep. It is a relationship of trust, faithfulness, steadfast care and unwavering love.

Jesus goes on to speak just as evocatively of the relationship between himself and the Father: "My Father who has given them [the sheep] to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father's hand. The Father and I are one." The Father and I are one: this is an astonishing claim! Indeed, it will heighten the animosity in those religious authorities who oppose Jesus and escalate the already growing tension that will ultimately lead to his death.

In declaring that "the Father and I are one," Jesus is identifying himself with the God of Israel, the Shepherd whose praises resound in today's Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 99): "God, he made us, we belong to him; we are his people, the sheep of his flock."

That "the Father and I are one" means that Jesus, the good shepherd, is the very image of the Father, as Good Shepherd.

This much-loved image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd and our reading from John's Gospel remind us to keep our eyes on him, to listen to him, to follow him, and to hold firm to our faith and our trust in him. He is truly the Good Shepherd. He has laid down his life for us. His resurrection is the promise of ours. He calls us to live lives of faith, hope and charity, caring for our neighbour and for all creation. As we prayed in the Responsorial Psalm, let us rejoice and be glad, for "how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love. He is faithful from age to age." We are his people, the sheep of his flock. Alleluia.

And on this Mothers' Day, let us also give thanks for our mothers, and for all those people in our lives who have cared for us and shepherded us on life's journey.

*Anne Hunt © Majellan Media 2025*

### FURNITURE/FITTINGS/ITEMS FROM BILAMBIL CHURCH

If any parishioner is interested in acquiring any items – pews or other furniture items, statues, pictures - from Bilambil church, please contact Parish Manager Mary-Ann Thackray by email to [mthackray@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:mthackray@lismore.catholic.org.au) by Friday 23 May

**PASTORAL CORNER** We often refer to Jesus as the good shepherd caring for his flock and it is apt that as we celebrate Shepherd Sunday we also celebrate Mother's Day because the roles of shepherd and mother have a lot in common and by reflecting on the parallels we may arrive at a deeper appreciation of the role of motherhood and the ways in which God is looking out for us. Jesus called himself the good shepherd. Shepherding is a job that has a lot of similar traits to good mothering. A shepherd protects, nurtures, guides, tends to wounds and forms a special bond. Just like a mum!  
**Kathy Twohill - Pastoral Associate**

**TAI CHI CLASSES**  
**Thursday at 3.30pm in the**  
**Parish Centre.**

### **PRE-ARRANGING YOUR FUNERAL SERVICE**

Some people like to be organised and ensure they have the type of service they want, if this is you all you need to do is simply contact our parish office to arrange a meeting with Kathy Twohill our Pastoral Associate. This meeting would take approximately 30 minutes. You can then go through your service from start to finish, a record of this will be kept in our office and a copy given to you to keep with your arrangements for your Funeral company or family member.  
There is no fee involved.

## **PARISH NEWS**

**PLEASE JOIN AS A  
PARISH COMMUNITY  
9AM SUNDAY 25 MAY 2025  
to celebrate with Fr Michael Brady  
on his retirement as Parish Priest.  
Morning tea will follow Mass.**



We have some retirement mementos at the 'Welcome Table' that are available to be signed by our parish community, these will be presented to Fr Michael at this final mass. Tea, Coffee & a celebration cake will be provided.  
***It would be appreciated if you could bring a small share plate.***

### **ST JOSEPH'S PARISH LADIES GROUP**

Our next outing is to Yamba on **Tuesday 20 May**. We will be going by ferry to Iluka, where we will have lunch at Sedgers Reef Hotel.

This trip is fully booked, but we are happy to have a waiting list.

We will leave from the car park at Club Banora - please be there by 7.30am as we depart at 7.45am sharp.

For inquiries please contact:

Jan 0405448719

Jenice 0413060290



### **PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**The recently deceased:** Pope Francis, Br Ted Magee, Paul Levings (Dubbo) Eddie Lovegrove, Diane Macnaughtan, **Anniversaries:** Margaret Dodds **Also:** Dennis Blake, Marcello Pavan and for all those whom Masses and prayers have been requested **AND For those who are sick:** Leon Darmody, Fr Michael Brady, Pat Strotton

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Michael Brady - [pp@stjosephs.org.au](mailto:pp@stjosephs.org.au)  
**ASSISTANT PRIESTS:** Fr Michael Alcock, Fr Nicholas Maurice & Fr MX Rego SM  
**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:** Kathy Twohill - [ktwohill@stjosephs.org.au](mailto:ktwohill@stjosephs.org.au)  
**PARISH ADMINISTRATION**  
**Parish Business Manager:** Mary-Ann Thackray - [pbm@stjosephs.org.au](mailto:pbm@stjosephs.org.au)  
**Parish Secretary:** Donna Neal - [tweedadmin@stjosephs.org.au](mailto:tweedadmin@stjosephs.org.au)  
**Phone:** 07 5536 7522 **Fax:** 07 5536 4992  
**PO Box 25, Tweed Heads 2485**

## WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL

@6.00 pm

SUNDAY

@7AM @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](mailto:tweedadmin@stjosephs.org.au)

## ROSTERS 17/18 MAY 2025 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C

### 6PM FR MICHAEL ALCOCK

Sacristan: Len Searle

Adult Servers: Len Searle

Liturgy Coordinator: Mary Lynch

Commentator: Maree Cargnoni

Readers: Denis Pommer & Volunteer

Communion: Karen Sanderson & Kylie Cane

### 7AM FR NICOLAS MAURICE

Sacristan: Vern Burton

Adult Servers: Sally Engle & Simon Dolosa

Liturgy Coordinator: Maree Laarhoven

Commentator: Paul Bolster

Readers: Chris Burton & Tina Lewis

Communion: Helen Carlile & Patricia Bolster

### 9AM FR MX REGO & FR MICHAEL BRADY

Sacristan: Kurian Vaghese

Adult Server: Beena Kurian

Liturgy Coordinators: Pam & Jim Sullivan

Commentator: George Cranney

Readers: Mary Mason & Sheeja Raj

Communion: Jan Rolph & Pam Sullivan



### **The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office**

If you or a person close to you  
has been abused by someone  
working or ministering within the  
Diocese of Lismore, we ask you  
to contact us. We will listen to  
you respectfully; offer support and discuss options  
you have available to you. To contact the Safe-  
guarding Office, please phone (02) 6621 9444 or  
email

[safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)