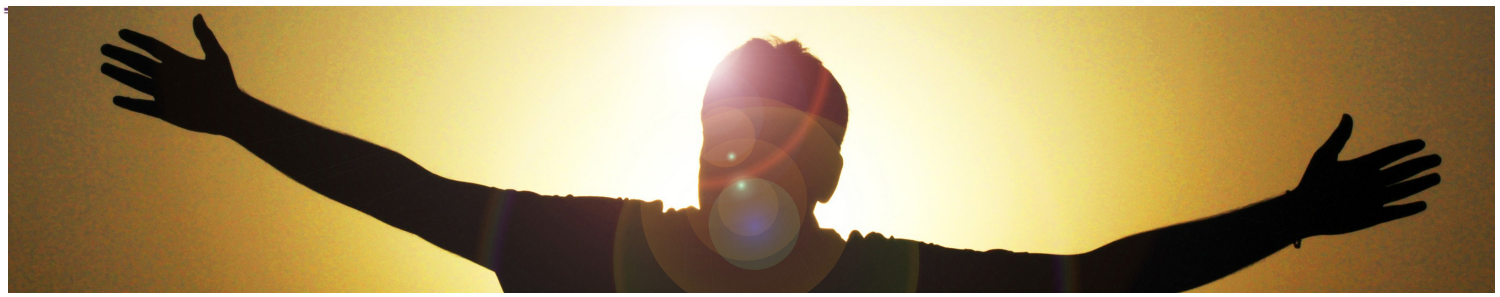
Parish Invocation: Father I love you, Jesus I thank you, Holy Spirit help us

St John's Catholic Parish

Brunswick Valley

"I am here among you as one who serves." Luke 22:27



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

Reflection

The Feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times; a moment when we have left one place but have not yet arrived at a second. While the narratives that describe the Ascension fit well into the unfolding story of redemption, the feast celebrates the exaltation of Jesus. The readings allow us to focus on this theological point while we commemorate a turning point in the life of the church. We do this by considering the enthronement of Christ in the heavens and the new body of Christ on earth.

Many of the Easter accounts have directed our attention to the appearances of Jesus which were intended to strengthen the Christians' belief in his bodily resurrection.

Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at the right hand of God. Today is a day to be overwhelmed by the reality of the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity.

Christ who ascended into heaven in his body carries on what he began on earth through his new body, the community of believers. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists. He ministers through its prophets and pastors. We have not been left alone; we have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have not been left alone; we have each other. Together we make up the new body of Christ.

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The Ascension of the Lord

1 June 2025

1st Reading:

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm:

God mounts His throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

2nd Reading:

Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Lk 24: 46-53

Next weeks readings:

Pentecost Sunday Yr C

1st Reading: Acts 2: 1-11

2nd Reading: Romans: 8:8-17

Sequence

Gospel: John 14:15-16, 23-26

ONLINE MASSES

Join Bishop Greg for Mass on the Diocese of Lismore YouTube Channel

www.lismorediocese.org

Protecting our children and adults at risk

Safeguarding

Diocese of Lismore

ST JOHN'S PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

CONFIRMATION: Thursday 5th June at 5pm St John's Mullumbimby

Please pray for the children preparing to receive their Sacraments; that Jesus may continue to be a loving presence in their lives.

You are most welcome to join us for a cuppa and a chat following 8am Mass Sunday.

PARISH SURVEY

Parishioners are encouraged to please take the time to complete the short survey enclosed with this Bulletin. It has been compiled to assist the Parish Advisory Committee in preparing a Parish Pastoral Plan for St. John's Parish. The implementation of a Pastoral Plan will help us to continue to develop and be a place of spiritual nourishment for the parish community and a sign of Christ's love in the wider community. Completed surveys can be placed in the box provided at the back of the church for the following 2 Sundays. *PAC*

BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE:

Please send in any notices or information for the Bulletin by Wednesday 12:00 noon

ROSTERS 5 June & 8 June 2025

O.L.O.L 5 June

Reader: Nicci N

Minister of Communion: Michael S

St John's 8 June

Readers: Olga F
Pam L

Minister of Communion: Lisa De C

The Confirmation ceremony is Thursday 5 June with Bishop Greg Homeming presiding.

There will be no Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes that evening however, there will be Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion.

Vocations Prayer Champions.

The Diocese of Lismore vocations team is seeking vocations prayer champions. This year our focus in prayer will be the priesthood. We invite you to register as a vocation's prayer champion. Prayer champions agree to pray at 9am or 6pm (both if you want) for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. At the designated time each prayer champion recites one Glory be.., one Hail Mary, one Our Father You can register at vocations@lismore.catholic.org.au or 66811048. Leave your first name, parish and your chosen time. *Deacon Anthony Gooley. Director of Vocations.*

Weekday Masses

O.L.O.L. Brunswick Heads
Thursday 5.30pm

St John's Mullumbimby
Sunday 8am

Weekday Liturgy

O.L.O.L. Brunswick Heads

Christian Meditation

Tuesday 9.30am,
Wednesday Adoration
6pm-7.00pm

St John's Mullumbimby
Friday Adoration
8.30-10am

Reconciliation

O.L.O.L. Brunswick Heads

Thursdays 5pm—5.20pm

Recently Deceased

Father Kevin Ehlefeldt MSC, Beth Gibson, Pope Francis, Alan Gibney, Madeleine Merlot, Narelle McLaughlin, Deb Wilmington, Billy Brown, Leo Alidenes, Peter Lemon, Juan Carlos Leal Pena, Jeanne Sjoberg, Harry Wedd, Mary McCarten, Sr Michelle (Ann) Condon RSJ

Anniversaries

Col O'Donnell, Peter Nicholls, Nell Sawtell, Ann, Mary Nicholson, Vincent Nicholson, Garry Sawtell, Harold Patrick Walker, Vi Walker, Margaret Walker, May Walker, Antonio Pinna, Searl Browning, Athol Sawtell, Shiela & Bruce Pentland

Time of Need Paul Murphy, Martin Taylor, Jan Mangleson, Anne Carolan

Deceased priests of the Diocese June

Frs: Jeremiah Joseph Doyle *(First Bishop of Lismore),* Patrick O'Mahoney, Edward M O'Brien, Charles Casey, Bernard Kenny, Joseph Ahern, Patrick Carey, Eamon Philip Leonard, Patrick William Duggan, Patrick Ahern, Edward Galavan, James Anthony Hoade, Paul Rex Brown.

DIOCESAN INVESTMENT FUND PAYS 3.90%

INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND! Head office: 10 Orion St, Lismore, 1800 802 516. www.dif.org.au

St John's Catholic Parish

Brunswick Valley

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mullumbimby@lismore.catholic.org.au

Parish Pastor

Fr David Gilbey: (02) 66856260

Emergencies: 0419 401 447

Parish Office
Address: PO Box 27

Mullumbimby 2482

15 Murwillumbah Road

Phone: 6684 2106

mullumbimby@lismore.catholic.org.au

Parish School

St John's Primary School

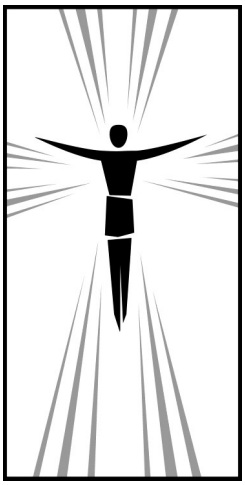
Principal

Dave Birmingham

Phone: (02) 6684 2386

Gospel Focus – A message for all people

One of the defining features of the Gospel of Luke is the fact that the message preached and practised by Jesus made salvation available to all people. At times in the gospel some of the Jewish audience became quite angry at Jesus because he said that pagans and gentiles were also included in the salvation he promised – something they regarded as exclusive to the 'chosen' people. The two accounts of the Ascension make very clear that the message and ministry of Jesus are to be carried to *all* nations – even to the ends of the earth!



Lismore Diocese's Port Macquarie parish was delivering food and clothing to evacuation centres on Friday as the region faced its worst floods since 2021. *Source: The Catholic Leader*.

Parish priest Fr Paul Gooley said the community had "always been resilient" like many communities along the north coast. On Friday, he said while the rains had eased, the big challenge would come when people could assess the damage.

Port Macquarie parish is a significant employer in the area, operating aged care and education centres, as well as six schools within the parish. Fr Gooley said there had been some damage to their properties, but it had been light compared to what some other communities had experienced. He said the parish would always be a community of hope, especially in the Year of Jubilee.

"We will always have that hope that the goodness of people and the goodness of the Church and the wider community will always prevail over any tragedy that we might come up against," he said. He also acknowledged the sad news of lives lost in the flood.

Living the Gospel – You will be my witnesses

Organisers of the twenty-third World Youth Day hosted by Sydney in 2008 at which St John's Parish was represented, took as its theme verse 8 of the passage from Acts 1 that is today's first reading: 'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses.' The choice of this theme for a worldwide gathering of young people of faith is a significant reminder of the call of Jesus to go out to the ends of the earth and to bear witness to his message. These are the final words on earth attributed to Jesus and they echo to us through time.

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Severe flooding has once again devastated parts of our Diocese; this time across the Mid North Coast. In response, Bishop Greg has launched an appeal to support those affected by the flooding. Like the 2022 flood appeal, every cent raised will be distributed to those in need. The Diocese will be promoting the appeal externally through social media (Facebook). ***Individuals can make donations online through the Diocesan website by selecting North Coast lismorediocese.org/ donations. Flood Appeal' under 'Fund to support'*** or you may wish to place your donation on the collection plate ensuring we have your name and address and the amount shown on the envelope. All donations over $2 are tax-

From Pope Francis' Homily for the X World Meeting of Families (2022): "You are fathers, mothers and children, grandparents, uncles and aunts. You are adults and children, young and old. Each of you brings a different experience of family, but all of you have one hope and prayer: that God will bless and keep your families and all the families of the world. "All of you married couples, in building your family, made, with the help of Christ's grace, a courageous decision: not to use freedom for yourselves, but to love the persons that God has put at your side. Instead of living like little islands, you became "slaves of one another". That is how freedom is exercised in the family. There are no "planets" or "satellites", each travelling on its own orbit. The family is the place of encounter, of sharing, of going forth from ourselves in order to welcome others and stand beside them. The family is the first place where we learn to love. We must never forget that the family is the first place where we learn to love."

JUBILEE OF FAMILIES, CHILDREN, GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY 30 MAY TO 1 JUNE

This Jubilee celebrates the importance of the family unit, recognising the unique roles played by children and grandparents; and also honours the elderly members of our communities, some of whom are without family members of their own.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, We come before You to praise You and to thank You for the great gift of the family. We pray to You for all families consecrated by the Sacrament of Matrimony. May they rediscover each day the grace they have received, and as small domestic Churches, may they know how to witness to Your presence and to the love with which Christ loves the Church. We pray to You for all families faced with difficulty and suffering caused by illness or circumstances of which only You know. Sustain them and make them aware of the path to holiness upon which You call them, so that they might experience Your infinite mercy and find new ways to grow in love. We pray to You for children and young people: may they encounter You and respond joyfully to the vocation You have in mind for them; We pray for parents and grandparents: may they be aware that they are signs of the fatherhood and motherhood of God in caring for the children who, in body and spirit, You entrust to them; and for the experience of fraternity that the family can give to the world. 1 Lord, grant that each family might live their specific vocation to holiness in the Church as a call to become missionary disciples, in the service of life and peace, in communion with our priests, religious, and all vocations in the Church. Amen.