

Receiving The Holy Eucharist

Frequently go to the fountain of grace and divine mercy - the fountain of goodness and all purity - where you can be cured of your passions and vices. The devil is aware of the great benefit and remedy for sin contained in Holy Communion, and tries by every ruse and occasion he can to withdraw and prevent faithful souls from it.

Therefore, some people experience the worst attacks and deceits of this fiend when they are preparing to receive Holy Communion. As Job tells us: the evil spirit comes among the children of God, to disturb them with his usual malice, or to frighten and confuse them, so that he may, through his crafty suggestions, lessen their devotion or destroy their faith; this is to make them either abandon Holy Communion, or approach with little fervour.

You must completely ignore his wiles - however foul and abominable; turn all his filthy suggestions back upon him. Satan must be treated with utter scorn and contempt. Never refrain from Holy Communion because of his attacks and the disturbances he arouses. Do not give up going to Holy Communion for every little disturbance; but go promptly to confession, and freely forgive others any offence against you. If you are the offender, humbly ask pardon, and God will freely forgive you.

What good does it do you to delay your confession or refusing going to Holy Communion? The sooner you rouse yourself, spit out the poison and take the remedy, the sooner you will feel better than if you had delayed doing so.

When people are prevented legitimately from receiving Holy Communion if they still keep their good and pious intention to do so, they will not be deprived of the blessings it brings them. Every devout person may make a spiritual Communion with our Lord - every day and every hour - without any prohibition, and will profit greatly from this.

Many people are seriously tempted concerning faith in the Blessed Sacrament through no fault of their own; but rather this is to be blamed on the devil. Do not worry about it, nor argue with your thoughts, and do not answer doubts suggested by the devil. Instead, put your faith in the words of God, believe His Saints and Prophets, and the wicked enemy will soon leave you alone.

Go forward, therefore, in simple and unwavering faith, and approach this Sacrament with humble reverence. Whatever you are unable to understand, confidently entrust to Almighty God. God never deceives you; but those who trust too much in self are deceived. God walks with the simple, makes Himself known to the humble, and gives understanding to the poor in spirit. He reveals His meaning to the clean of heart, but He hides His grace from the proud and curious. Human reason is weak and easily deceived; but true faith cannot be deceived. All reason and natural inquiry must follow faith, never precede or question it. For in this most holy and exalted Sacrament, faith and love are uppermost and work in hidden ways.

(The Imitation of Christ by Thomas à Kempis)

A reflection by the Venerable Servant of God, Archbishop Fulton J Sheen

The figure of the vine He [Christ] used was a very familiar one in the Old Testament. Israel was called a vine, the vine that was brought out of Egypt; Isaiah spoke of God as having planted that chosen vine. Jeremiah and Osee bemoaned and complained that it was not bringing forth fruit. As Our Blessed Lord, in contrast to the manna that was given by Moses, called Himself the 'True Bread' as in contrast to the brilliant lights of the Feast of the Tabernacles, He called Himself the 'True Light' as in contrast to the temple built by hands, He called Himself the 'Temple of God,' so now in contrast to the vine of Israel, He said: I am the true vine, and it is My Father Who tends it. (John 15:1)

This unity between Himself and His followers of the new Israel would be like the unity between the vine and the branches; the same sap or grace that flowed through Him will flow through them: I am the vine, you are its branches; If a man lives on in Me, and I in him, then he will yield abundant fruit; Separated from Me, you have no power to do anything. (John 15:5)

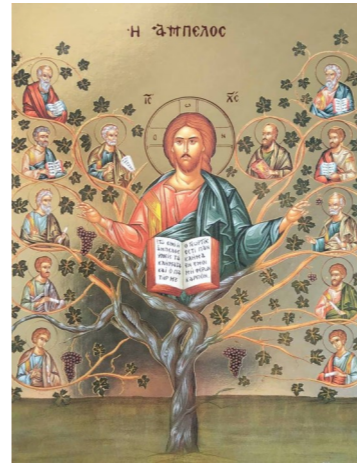
Separated from Him, a man is no better than a branch separated from a vine, dry and dead. The branch may bear clusters, but it does not produce them; He alone produces them. As He went to His death, He said that He lived, and they would live in Him. He saw beyond the Cross and affirmed that their vitality and energy would come from Him, and the relationship between them would be organic, not mechanical. He saw those who professed to be united outwardly to Him, but who nevertheless would be inwardly separated from Him; others He saw who would need a further purification by His Father through a Cross, which He speaks of in terms of a knife pruning and cutting: The branch that yields no fruit in Me, He cuts away; the branch that does yield fruit, He trims clean, so that it may yield more fruit. (John 15:2)

The ideal of the new community is holiness, the One Who holds the knife is His Heavenly Father. The object of the pruning is not the chastisement, but chastening and perfection—except in the case of those who are useless; these are excommunicated from the vine. When Our Lord first called the Apostles, He reminded them of all they must suffer for His sake. As He went to the Cross, He gave them a new understanding of His previous message that they should take up the Cross daily and follow Him. Unity with Him would come not merely from knowing His teaching, but principally from the cultivation of the Divine within them through the pruning of all that was ungodly.

(Life of Christ)



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B 28 APRIL 2024



“The secret of spiritual fruitfulness is union with God, union that is realised above all in the Eucharist.”

- Pope Benedict XVI

Entrance Antiphon: 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 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee, and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

◆ **The word of the Lord.**

Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:26-28, 30-32

R: I will praise You, Lord, in the assembly of Your people.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear Him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek Him. May their hearts live for ever and ever!
R.

2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before Him. They shall worship Him, all the mighty of the earth; before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **R.**

3. And my soul shall live for Him, my children serve Him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare His faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.' **R.**

Second Reading 1 John 3:18-24

A reading from the first Letter of St John

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in His presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and He knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask Him, we shall receive, because we keep His commandments and live the kind of life that He wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as He told us to. Whoever keeps His commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that He lives in us by the Spirit that He has given us.

◆ **The word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation John 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia! Live in Me and let Me live in you, says the Lord; My branches bear much fruit. **Alleluia!**

Gospel John 15:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to His disciples: 'I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that bears no fruit He cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in Me, as I make Mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in Me, with Me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from Me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in Me is like a branch that has been thrown away - he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is the glory of My Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be My disciples.'

◆ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Communion Antiphon: 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.

Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible



Sacred Heart Parish Church

Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale

Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year B

April 28th, 2024

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Facebook: Sacred Heart Catholic Church Inverell

Holy Trinity School Ph: 02 6722 4066

Parish Office Hours:

Monday 29 April & Friday 3 May - 8am to 1pm

Tuesday 30 April - 8am to 12pm

Administrator: Fr Paul Chandler

PPC Chair: Mr David McMahon

Holy Trinity Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger

Parish Secretary: Peter Turner



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

We pray for: Repose of the souls of those in Purgatory. the Recently Deceased:

Patrick McCormack, Richard Noonan, Betty Crawford, John McLean, Elizabeth Constable, Patricia Traves, Roma Fenwick, Fr Javier Sánchez, Brian Kneipp, June Saint, Carmel Hooper, Bill Blyth.

the sick:

Princess Catherine, Danielle Irwin, Sue Barwick, King Charles III, Bob McGuire, Robert Sanders, Peter Moroney, Christopher Pay, Jeanette Keightley, Phillip Matthews, Neville Barwick, Fr Barry Leech, Lara Bentley, Paula Lennon, Danny Dickins, Elizabeth Albany, Fr David Crabb, Rebecca Lane, Brian Barker, Clare Lockwood, Margaret Kahler, and all the sick members of our parish.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CLERGY AND THE PARISH

1st Collection: Presbytery (for support of priest)

BSB 082105 Account No. 001023550

Account Name: Sacred Heart Presbytery Inverell Savings Ac.

2nd Collection: Church upkeep, maintenance, expenses

BSB 082105 Account No. 001013072

Account Name: Sacred Heart Parish Inverell

For those on the Planned Giving Program could you please quote your surname and envelope number for the reference.

Please contact the priest on 67221103 for home visits to the homebound and the sick

APRIL - THE HOLY MONTH OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

MONDAY 29th

Feast Day of St Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor

No Mass - Church open from 8am to 1pm

TUESDAY 30th

Feast Day of St Pius V, pope

Rosary - 8.30am

Holy Mass - 9.00am

Holy Hour - 4.30pm to 5.30pm

MAY - THE HOLY MONTH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

WEDNESDAY 1st

Feast Day of St Joseph the Worker

Rosary - 8.30am

Holy Mass - 9.00am

THURSDAY 2nd

Feast Day of St Athanasius, bishop, doctor

Rosary - 11.30am

Holy Mass - 12 Noon

Adoration - 12.30pm to 1.30pm

FRIDAY 3rd

First Friday & Feast Day of Sts Philip & James, apostles

Rosary - 11.30am

Holy Mass & Adoration - 12 Noon & Benediction - 1.00pm

Holy Hour - 4.30pm to 5.30pm

SATURDAY 4th

First Saturday

Confession - 8.00am

Rosary - 8.30am

Holy Mass - 9.00am

Rosary - 5.00pm

Holy Mass of Sunday - 5.30pm (May to August time)

SUNDAY 5th

6th Sunday of Easter

Rosary - 8.30am

Holy Mass - 9.00am

Sacrament of Confession

Sunday: 8.00am to 8.30am

Tuesday: 5.00pm to 5.30pm

Thursday: 1.00pm to 1.30pm

Friday: 5.00pm to 5.30pm

Saturday: 4.45pm to 5.15pm (and at any time upon request)

OTHER MASSES: (May to August times)

McLean Village Each 4th Thursday - 10.00am

2nd Saturday - Bundarra, St Mary of the Angels - 3.00pm

3rd Saturday - Ashford, St Patrick's Church - 3.00pm

4th Saturday - Tingha, St. Francis' Church - 3.00pm

5th Saturday - Yetman, St Joseph the Worker - 2.30pm

Baptism - Saturdays & Sundays at 10.30am

Marriages and Funerals by Appointment

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

A friendly reminder

Please maintain a respectful atmosphere of reverence before and after each Mass so those praying may do so without distraction. Any conversation should be conducted quietly. Also, please remember to turn off your mobile devices.

"By devoutly assisting at Holy Mass you render the greatest homage possible to the Sacred Humanity of Our Lord."

- St Leonard

ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER FOR MAY

Pat Bailey & Kay Gardner

HOME ROSARY

"How beautiful is the family that recites the Rosary every evening." - Pope St John Paul II

Bernie & Colleen Graham

11 Diamond Street, Tingha

Wednesday 1 May at 4.30pm

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Finance Committee - Wed 1 May 2024, 5.00pm

Men's Breakfast - Sat 11 May 2024, 8.30am, Out the Back Café

Sunday Morning Tea - 12 May 2024, after Mass

Pastoral Council - Wed 15 May 2024, 5.00pm

Liturgy Committee - Sat 18 May 2024, 8.30am



St Joseph the Worker - Wednesday 1 May

We join with the parishioners of Yetman in celebrating the feast day of their parish patron, Saint Joseph the Worker.

Prayer: Saint Joseph, by the work of your hands and the sweat of your brow, you supported Jesus and Mary, and had the Son of God as your fellow worker. Teach me to work as you did, with patience and perseverance, for God and for those whom God has given me to support. Teach me to see in my fellow workers the Christ who desires to be in them, that I may always be charitable and forbearing towards all. Amen.

Finance Report: After Holy Communion at both Masses this weekend, a member of the Finance Committee will present a brief report on the financial status of the Parish.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on Sunday, June 23rd. The Year 6 students from Holy Trinity and public schools will shortly begin their preparation programme. Candidates for Confirmation will be enrolled in the preparation programme at the Masses of May 11th, 12th, 18th and 19th. Please pray for them and their families.

Prayer in Honour of the Holy Eucharist

Sweetest Jesus, Body and Blood most Holy, be the delight and pleasure of my soul, my strength and salvation in all temptations, my joy and peace in every trial, my light and guide in every word and deed, and my final protection in death. Amen.



Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary

O Heart of Jesus pierced for our sins and giving us Your Mother on Calvary!

O Heart of Mary pierced by sorrow and sharing in the sufferings of your Divine Son for our redemption! O sacred union of these Two Hearts! Praised be

the God of Love Who united them together! May we unite our hearts and every heart so that all hearts may live in unity in imitation of that sacred unity which exists in these Two Hearts. Triumph, O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary! Reign, O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus! - in our hearts, in our homes and families, in the hearts of those who as yet do not know you, and in all nations of the world. Amen.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Some months ago the delivery details of The Catholic Weekly changed. Previously, there was no charge for shipping but now the Parish has to pay shipping, which increases the cost of each newspaper. We have not passed on this extra cost to those who purchase The Catholic Weekly. However, in light of the small number of copies that we order (only 8, of which not every copy is sold) Fr Paul is interested to know if those who regularly read The Catholic Weekly could take out a personal subscription. This means that the paper would be delivered to your home address or you could choose to have a digital subscription and receive it online and be able to read it on your computer and/or tablet/iPad. Would you kindly let the Parish Office know if you are able to take out a personal subscription? You could do this via email or phone call. Then it would be possible for the Parish to cancel the weekly delivery of The Catholic Weekly. While noting all this, it is a good opportunity to encourage more parishioners to subscribe to The Catholic Weekly online and receive quality Catholic news, content and analysis each week.

Rosary: In May the Rosary will be prayed half an hour before each Mass (5pm) in honour of Our Lady.

MASS ROSTER	27April-Sat 6pm	28April-Sun 9am	4May-Sat 5.30pm	5May-Sun 9am
Projector	N Turner	P Girle	J Kelly	R McGregor
Readers	S Szumowski & R Moffitt	MJ Guest & B McGrath	C Roberts & J Monie	D McMahan & S Hollis
Commentator	P Mather	M Robinson	P Armstrong	J Harris
Offertory	Volunteers	S Kenny & C Bruse	Volunteers	Guest Family
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Volunteer	J Monie	R Moffitt	M Robinson
Counters		B Baldwin & J Frater		G Chie & G Fleming