

Communion Antiphon: If you love Me, keep My commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and He will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible

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

He [Christ] had been their Comforter; He was at their side; He had been One with them and in His Presence they had gained strength and courage; but their trouble was that He was going. He now promised them another Comforter or Advocate. As He would be the Advocate with God in heaven, so the Spirit dwelling within them would plead the cause of God on earth and be their Advocate. The Divine secret that He gave was that their loss would now have the greater blessing of the coming of the Spirit. The Father had given a twofold revelation of Himself; the Son was His image walking among men, reminding them of the Divine original and also the Model to which they were to be restored. In the Spirit, the Father and the Son would send forth a Divine Power, Who would dwell within them and make of their bodies a temple. It was better that He go away, for His return to the Father was the condition of the coming of the Spirit. If He remained among them, He would have been only an example to be copied; if He left and sent the Spirit, He would be a veritable life to be lived.

The return of His human nature in glory to heaven was a necessary preliminary to the mission of the Spirit. His going would not be a loss but a gain. As the fall of the first man was the fall of his descendants, so the Ascension of the Son of Man would be the ascension of all who were grafted unto Him. His atoning death was the condition of receiving the Spirit of God. If He did not go away, that is to say, unless He died, nothing would be done; the Jews would remain as they were, the heathens would remain in their blindness, and all would be under sin and death. The corporal presence had to be removed in order that the spiritual presence might take its place. His continued presence on earth would have meant a localised presence; the descending of the Spirit would mean that He could be in the midst of all men who would be incorporated unto Him.

The indwelling of the Spirit would mean more than His physical presence among them. So long as Our Lord was with them on earth, His influence was from without inward; but when He would send the Spirit, His influence would radiate from without; those who possessed it would have the Spirit of Christ Jesus on earth.

Obedience was described as the necessary condition of receiving the Spirit. The Spirit came to Christ in the Jordan after His thirty years of obedience to His Heavenly Father and to His foster father Joseph and His mother. His second act of obedience was accepting the command of the Father to bear the Cross in response to the Divine ‘must.’ It was

only after obedience that the Spirit would be given to the Apostles. As He sent His Spirit because of His obedience to His Father, so His believers would receive the Spirit through obedience to Him. God dwelt in the temple of Jerusalem because they obeyed His instruction in building it. In the last two chapters of Exodus, eighteen times the expression had been made that all was done as the Lord had commanded. So now as Our Blessed Lord prepared to make human bodies the temples of His Holy Spirit, He too laid down the same condition that they obey His commandments.

As a light shone on the Old Testament through the coming Christ, so a light would shine on the life of Christ through the Spirit. The strengthening office of the Spirit was thus brought into immediate connection with Christ’s illumining office of a Teacher. Those who would get back to the pure form of the Gospel forget that the Master of the Gospel, Christ Himself, spoke of the development, the evolution, the unfolding of His Truth through the Apostles. As the Son had made known the Father, so the Spirit would make known the Son; as the Son had glorified the Father, so the Spirit would glorify Christ. It was indeed only after the Resurrection and the Descent of the Holy Spirit that the Apostles remembered the things that He had said to them, and also came into full comprehension of the meaning of the Cross and Redemption.

There were two trees in the Garden of Paradise: the tree of Divine Life, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. It was God’s plan to have man remain with Him through communion with the tree of life which he should eat and thereby live forever. Satan assured man that the way to peace was through the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. But man forgot that when evil is in him, it begins to take possession of him. By the false path of the knowledge of good and evil, man was led to destruction. Now the tree of life is erected on Calvary and given again to man. The tree of life then became the tree not of the knowledge of good and evil, but the tree of Truth itself through the Spirit.

He said that the Spirit of Truth that comes from the Father and Himself would cause truth to enter the soul in such a way as to make it a reality. Natural truth is on the surface of the soul, but Divine truth is in its depths. To know the Father one must know the Son; to know the Son, one must have the Spirit, for the Spirit will reveal the Son who said: I am the Truth (John 14:6).

(Life of Christ)



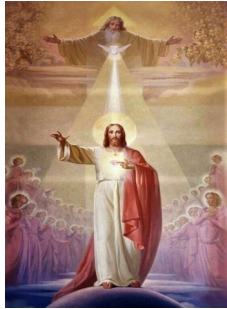
Prayer for the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 31 May

O Lord God Who did lead the Blessed Virgin Mary to visit Elizabeth, to their exceeding joy and comfort: Grant unto Thy people, that as Mary rejoiced to be called the Mother of the Lord, so they may ever rejoice to believe the incarnation of Thine only begotten Son; to Whom with the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C
25 MAY 2025

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 - “PILGRIMS OF HOPE”



“Every divine action begins from the Father, proceeds through the Son, and is completed in the Holy Spirit.”
- St Basil the Great

Entrance Antiphon: Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed His people, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, ‘Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.’ This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

‘The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.’

♦ **The word of the Lord.**

Responsorial Psalm Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8

R: O God, let all the nations praise You!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us and let Your face shed its light upon us. So will Your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn Your saving help. **R.**
2. Let the nations be glad and exult for You rule the world with justice. With fairness You rule the peoples, You guide the nations on earth. **R.**

3. Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. May God still give us His blessing till the ends of the earth revere Him. **R.**

Second Reading Apocalypse 21:10-14, 22-23

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

♦ **The word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love Me will keep My words, and My Father will love them and We will come to them. **Alleluia!**

Gospel John 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to His disciples: ‘If anyone loves Me he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We shall come to him and make Our home with him. Those who do not love Me do not keep My words. And My word is not My Own: it is the word of the One Who sent Me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

‘Peace I bequeath to you, My own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard Me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved Me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.’

♦ **The Gospel of the Lord.**



Sacred Heart Parish

(Canonically Erected 1868)

Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale

Sixth Sunday of Easter - Year C

May 25, 2025



81 Vivian St. Inverell, NSW 2360

(P. O. Box 107)

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frpchandler@armidale.catholic.org.au

Website: www.sacredheartinverell.org.au

Facebook: Sacred Heart Catholic Church Inverell

Holy Trinity School Ph: 02 6722 4066

Parish Office Hours:

Monday 26 May & Friday 30 May - 8am to 1pm

Tuesday 27 May - 8am to 12pm

Administrator: Fr Paul Chandler

PPC Chair: Mr Matthew Rennie

Holy Trinity Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger

Parish Secretary: Peter Turner

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

We pray for: Repose of all those whose death anniversary occurs at this time, especially Stella Spalding and Elizabeth "Betty" McMahon; Repose of all souls in Purgatory.

the Recently Deceased:

Denise Hills, Stephenus Wainamo, Stephen Tubb.

the sick:

Sue O'Brien, Julie Daley, Pat Gurr, Peter Moroney, Christopher Pay, Neville Barwick, Fr Barry Leech, Lara Bentley, Elizabeth Albany, Fr David Crabb, Rebecca Lane, Brian Barker, and all the sick members of our parish.

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

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.

Planned Giving Program: If you wish to join the planned giving program, please contact the parish office.

MAY - THE MONTH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

MONDAY 26th

Feast Day of St Philip Neri, priest

No Mass - Church open from 8am to 1pm

TUESDAY 27th

Feast Day of St Augustine of Canterbury, bishop

Rosary - 8.30am

Holy Mass - 9.00am

Holy Hour - 4.30pm to 5.30pm

WEDNESDAY 28th

Wednesday of the 6th week of Easter

No Mass. Catholic Schools Week Mass - 11am in Armidale

THURSDAY 29th

Feast Day of St Paul VI, pope

Rosary - 11.30am

Holy Mass - 12 Noon

Adoration - 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Home Rosary - 4.30pm, 11 Diamond St, Tingha

Alpha Program - 6.00pm

FRIDAY 30th

Friday of the 6th week of Easter

Rosary - 8.30am

Yr 4WL Mass - 9.30am

Funeral for Denise Hills at Ashford - 11.30am

Holy Hour - 4.30pm to 5.30pm

SATURDAY 31st

Feast Day of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Mass of Sunday - 3.00pm at Yetman

No Confessions at 4.45pm

Rosary - 5.00pm

Holy Mass of Sunday - 5.30pm

JUNE - THE MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART

SUNDAY 1st

The Ascension of the Lord

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 (except First Fridays)

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

OTHER MASSES:

McLean Village Each 4th Thursday - 10.00am

2nd Saturday - *Tingha*, St. Francis' Church - 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 - 3.00pm

Baptism - Saturdays & Sundays at 10.30am

Marriages and Funerals by Appointment

ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER FOR MAY

Pat Bailey & Kay Gardner

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Finance Committee - Wed 28 May 2025, 5.00pm

Sunday Morning Tea - Sun 8 June 2025, after Mass

Liturgy Committee - Sat 21 June 2025, 9.00am

Pastoral Council - Wed TBA 2025, 5.00pm

Six-Weekend Ministry Roster

This is displayed on the table at the main entrance to the Church and now can also be found on the parish website under Resources->Ministry Roster.

Change to Holy Communion procedure

A reminder that the new procedure for Holy Communion will commence this weekend. All are to come up the centre aisle (see diagram below for reference) and either use the kneeler or stand between them. Two people may stand side-by-side in between the kneelers.

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 31 May

The meeting of Mary and Elizabeth was also a meeting of the children they were carrying, the Saviour and His precursor. John the Baptist leapt for joy in his mother's womb. In Luke's account we see hints of Mary as the new Ark of the Covenant, the one who bears God. Joy pervades this scene as Mary brings the hidden presence of Jesus to the home of her relatives. Today she still presents Jesus to the world through her role as our spiritual mother.

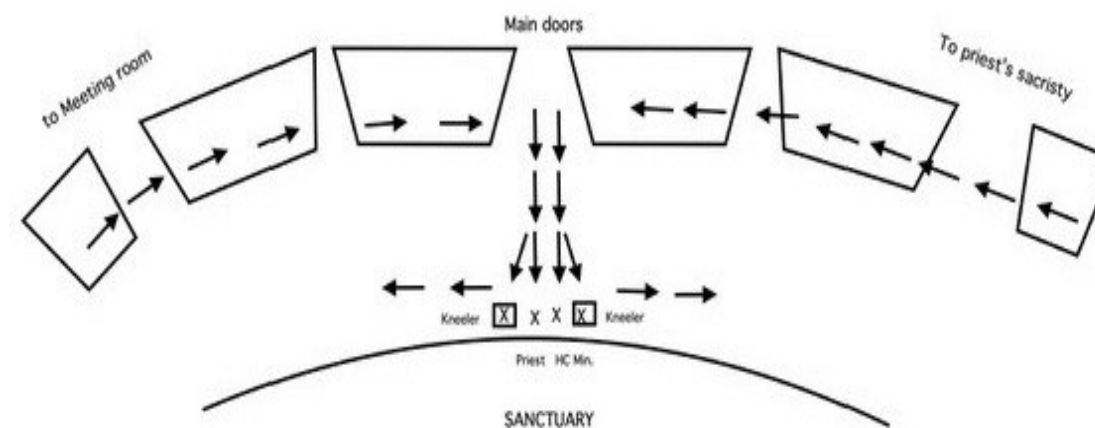
(St Paul's Weekday Missal)

A Liturgical Overview - from Fr Paul

The Season of Easter (Eastertide) encompasses seven weeks through which we deepen our appreciation and understanding of the Paschal Mystery, those actions of Christ by which He accomplished our redemption. These are His passion, death and resurrection.

These are not past events or events of history. Because they are divine actions they transcend time and space. Their effects upon us are available in the here and now as if they were happening NOW. This is what is meant by MYSTERY.

Also because these are divine mysteries affecting us in the here and now in mystery, we can spend our whole lives coming to appreciate them and yet never plumb their



depths. This is why the Church throughout the ages has given us this season of Eastertide. As we visit these mysteries year after year we give them a chance not only to work upon us but to come to know them more intimately.

Eastertide ends with the great feast of Pentecost, which is completion of the Paschal Mystery by the Holy Spirit who is sent by the Father and the Son to fill those who belong to Christ and to guide the Church throughout history towards the completion of Christ's Kingdom at the end of time.

The next two Sundays give us occasion to contemplate two of the key dogmas (or beliefs) of the Catholic faith, namely, the Holy Trinity and the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi).

There will be some reminders of these dogmas over the next Sundays.

Armidale Diocesan Investment Group

George Nulley from ADIG will be visiting our parish this weekend and will be speaking before each Mass. George will be available after Mass also to speak to you about making an investment with ADIG. All investments with ADIG assist the investor but also provide banking services at competitive rates to parishes, schools and other diocesan entities.



Bonus Saver Account

Invest in your future with our Bonus Saver Account. Earn a bonus rate of interest on the base rate of interest when you meet certain criteria:*

- Make an investment of at least \$10 or more within the month; AND
- Not make any withdrawals during that same month



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SCAN HERE TO VIEW OUR DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

*Please view our full Terms and Conditions at www.adig.com.au

If you are using a Sunday Missal:

- * Proper of Mass, Page 840
- * Preface II of Easter, Page 36
- * Eucharistic Prayer No. 1, Page 61
- * Daily Missal uses Year One (weekday Mass)

- ♦ Come in double lines down the main aisle.
- ♦ Wait NOT AT FRONT PEW but leaving room for the person to rise from the kneeler and turn to right or left.
- ♦ BOW in reverence to the Blessed Sacrament before approaching the priest or lay minister.
- ♦ A bow is not needed if you kneel since that is an act of reverence in itself.