



The Living Spirit

The Bulletin of Holy Spirit Catholic Parish, Byron Bay / Bangalow

St. Finbarr's, Byron Bay

St. Kevin's, Bangalow

The bread and wine narrative.

22nd June, 2025

The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ.



Bread and Wine are the staples of the life of faith. They are also, simply, staples of life. As staples of life, they signify good living, the celebration of abundance. As staples of faith life, they signify strangely, by being sacrificed, offered to God in thanksgiving, as the crown of abundance, the celebration of God's faithfulness.

Bread means sustenance; wine means celebration, a movement beyond mere survival into the surplus of festival. Grain and grape are transformed through human activity into life-giving (bread) and life-celebrating (wine) elements. And when these staples of life are brought to God, he catches them up into an all-new level of life. Let's now call it divine life. So human life is completed by surplus, by moving beyond itself, first from survival to celebration, and then, by carrying up that movement onto the plane of the ultimate, into sharing in the divine life God made us for and calls us to.

Of course, I'm talking about what happens at the altar, the table of feasting that joins heaven and earth, unites God and humanity. Incredibly, our understanding of bread and wine goes back to the origins of faith, to the life of Abraham.

(Continued on back page)

Today's Liturgy - Psalm Response.

*"You are a priest forever,
in the line of Melchisedek."*

Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live forever.

Alleluia, alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS - Gen 14:18-20; Ps 109; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Lk 9:11-17

Holy Spirit Parish
Father David Gilbey – Parish Priest

Parish Office

50 Tennyson St, (PO Box 1816)
Byron Bay NSW 2481

Office Hours

9.30am – 2pm
Tuesday and Wednesday

Phone: (02) 6685 6260

Email: stfins@bigpond.com

Churches

St Finbarr's 50 Tennyson St, Byron Bay
St Kevin's Deacon Street, Bangalow

Parish School: St Finbarr's Primary School

Principal: Tim Bleakley

Ph: (02) 6685 6342

Email: sfpbyron@lism.catholic.edu.au

Parish Website: <https://byronbayparish.org.au>

WEEKDAY MASSES

Friday 27th June, 2025
SCHOOL MASS

9.30am St Finbarr's, Byron Bay

*Feast Day: The Most Sacred
Heart of Jesus.*

WEEKEND MASSES

BYRON BAY **BANGALOW**
Saturday 6pm **Sunday 9.30am**

St Finbarr's Church St Kevin's Church
50 Tennyson St Deacon St
Byron Bay Bangalow

PLANNED GIVING CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES / DIRECT DEBIT

- * **Option 1: Collection Boxes at Church entrance.**
- * **Option 2: Church Collection Plate.**
- * **Option 3: Direct Debit, details as follows:**

1st COLLECTION: (Clergy) **2nd COLLECTION:** (Parish)
BSB: 082 489 BSB: 082 489
A/C: 172 178 008 A/C: 172 177 961

*Thank you for your continued
Parish financial support.*

Fr David Gilbey PP

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

2025 - 2026

Envelopes available for
collection at the
entrance to the church.



*Your continued support is greatly appreciated.
Thank you.*

CUPPA AFTER MASS - PLEASE JOIN US



- at St Finbarr's Church for a
"Cuppa" after 6pm Mass on
Saturday 5th July.

Please bring a plate to share.

All Invited!

HELP CHRISTIANS IN THE HOLY LAND

Aid to the Church in Need is providing urgent support to the Church in Israel and Gaza in the ongoing conflict. Without your help, many desperate Christian families will be forced to leave. To make an emergency donation visit www.aidtochurch.org/holyland or scan the QR code.



RECONCILIATION

Vigil Mass: St Finbarr's, Byron Bay 5.30 - 5.50pm
Sunday: St Kevin's, Bangalow 9.00 - 9.20am

ROSARY

Friday 8.50am
St Finbarr's Church, Byron Bay



**29th June
2025**
Sts Peter &
Paul, Apostles.

**St Finbarr's
Byron Bay**
6pm
Saturday 28/06/25

**St Kevin's
Bangalow**
9.30am
Sunday 29/06/25

LECTOR/S

Ann
McCabe

George
Cox

MINISTER OF
COMMUNION

Tony
McCabe

NEXT WEEK

(Sts Peter & Paul, Apostles, Year C)

Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11; 2 Timothy 4:6-8,
17- 18; Matthew 16:13-19

Please pray for the Recently Deceased:

Gloria Kennedy, Kathleen Lourey, Fr. Peter Karam, Fr. Kevin Ehlefeldt MSC, Carole Drury, *Valma Burke, Pope Francis*, Peter Lemon, Eddie Phillips, Jeanne Sjoborg, Joan Baker, Bill Mitchell, Ann Cash-Huish, Barbara & Mark Smith, Trevor Kendrick, Margaret Lynn, Malcolm Larkin, Fr. John Kelly, *Cugino Joe Inzitari*, Colin Meanwell.

Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Ron Phelps, Colin Meanwell, James Collins, Harvey & Dawn Passfield, Margaret O'Meara, Genny Weir, Bill Noonan, Fred Higgins, Tristan Ware, John Dynan, Lloyd Gilbey, Margaret Gill, Cheryl Meanwell, Tresina Calabrese, Kevin McGettigan, Barry Gilbey, Monica Brooke, Rita Payne, Stephanie Lemon, Domenico & Olympia Rose Stambe, Fr Charles Kakumanu & Fr Stephen O'Donnell Tooti Dunn, John Zentveld, Carmello Farrugia, Adrian Hodson, Eric McGettigan, Deirdre Cox, John White, Helen Holland, Agnes Finlay

**As a faith community,
we pray with our brothers and sisters
in their time of need:**

Patricia Higgins, Gordon Elder, Louise Banno, Carmel Mitchell, Mary Phelps, Kath Lourey, Matthew O'Sullivan, Carmel Kenway, Mathew O'Meara

(Due to Privacy Laws, names are only placed on this list when requested by the sick person or family member and will remain on the list for at least 6 weeks. As we are not aware if illness improves or continues, you are welcome to make a further request for inclusion.)



Invest with peace of mind

www.dif.org.au 1800 802 516

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DIOCESAN INVESTMENT FUND

The Diocesan Investment Fund (DIF) is not subject to the provisions of the Corporations Act 2001 nor has it been examined or approved by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission. Deposits with the DIF are guaranteed by CDPF Limited, a company established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference for this purpose. We welcome your investment with the DIF rather than with a profit oriented commercial organisation as a conscious commitment by you to support the Charitable, Religious and Educational works of the Catholic Church. Neither the DIF nor the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Lismore are prudentially supervised by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority; contributions to the DIF do not obtain the benefit of the depositor protection provisions of the Banking Act 1959; the DIF is designed for investors who wish to promote the charitable purposes of the DIF.



ST FINBARR'S
Catholic Primary School

This Week at St Finbarr's

Loving like Jesus. Growing together as friends. Learning for life.

What a fantastic day on Monday for our annual Athletics Carnival. There was a combination of competitive running races as well as high jump, long jump and shot put with students selected to progress to the Zone carnival in a few weeks. Other games were played including relays, javelin, ball games, frisbee and tug-a-war which kept all students engaged and active all day. A huge thank you to Mr Joe Keane who left no stone unturned with his meticulous organisation and communication. It was a beautiful sunny winter day on the school grounds with a great turn out of parents and family members enjoying the carnival.



Last week Year Five enjoyed their two night stay at Camp Goodenough. The chilly conditions didn't detract from the fun range of activities including Archery, Billy Carts, Crate Stack, Team Obstacle Course & Team Pursuits. A big thank you to the Year Five staff team who made the experience such a rewarding and beneficial part of the school year.

Tim Bleakley

Principal

Loving, Growing, Learning for Life.

Saint of the Week



The Immaculate Heart of Mary is a symbol of Mary's love for God and her son Jesus. It is also symbolic of her joys and sorrows, her virtues and of her compassion and love for humanity. Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary is used to become closer to Jesus by following the virtues of Mary. The scriptural basis for this devotion comes from two passages in Luke's gospel, which refer to Mary keeping the acts and teachings of Jesus in her heart, where she might ponder them. (*Feast Day – 28 June*)

NET MINISTRIES.

Hello, my name is **Kali Yopp** and I am currently a missionary serving with **NET Ministries** in the Diocese of Rockhampton. NET is an acronym and it stands for '**National Evangelisation Teams**'. NET is a Catholic, peer to peer youth ministry that stands to encourage young people to love Jesus Christ and embrace the Church. My ministry this year is to travel around the Diocese of Rockhampton with 4 other missionaries, visiting schools and parish communities to run retreats and youth groups in order to make faith possible for young people.

As NET Missionaries do not get paid during their year long mission, I am appealing to the community at St Kevin's Church, Bangalow to be co-missionaries with me this year by their prayerful and financial support.

Thank you in advance for your support. God bless, Kali.



VOLUNTEER SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

As we align with the Lismore Diocese Safeguarding Policies, volunteers will have recently received application forms. Thank you to everyone who has already completed and returned them. For anyone needing assistance, please feel free to contact Jane in the parish office.

****Please keep an eye on the bulletin for future updates and training opportunities.***

We truly appreciate the ongoing support of our parish volunteers, as safeguarding remains a core value in our Diocese. Together, we help ensure a safe and welcoming environment for all.

DIOCESAN INVESTMENT FUND

PAYS 3.90% INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND! Head office: 10 Orion St, Lismore, 1800 802 516.



(Continued from front page)

This week's first reading is the first place, in fact, that bread and wine appear in Scripture. Melchizedek, whom Abraham gives a tenth of his surplus and who brings out bread and wine, is a priest-king of Salem (the future Jerusalem, the capital city of David's kingdom about a thousand years later), who serves "*God Most High*." Abraham recognises the God of this priest-king as the very God who called him out of Babylon ("*Ur of the Chaldeans*") and who made a singular promise that his family line would carry forward God's own purpose to bless all nations. It's a strange story. Who is this priest-king? Why does Abraham give him a tithe? What's up with the bread and wine? The place of this story within the wider narrative of the Abraham story underlines its strangeness. It just breaks through into a narrative about Abraham's miraculous war victory against five kings and his refusal to share any of the spoils with another king.

Melchizedek sticks out like a sore thumb. But he is never heard of again in the story. He is, however, pinned to David in a very important Messianic Psalm (110, fittingly used as the responsorial). And the letter to the Hebrews in the New Testament has an entire chapter (7) pinning Melchizedek to Christ.

Given the prominent place of bread and wine in the agrarian and liturgical life of ancient Israel, it seems like this episode with Abraham (like so much in his story) is meant to be a pregnant heading for all that is to unfold in his descendants' story. The bread and wine of Melchizedek are only fully understood, in all their strangeness, at the altar of Jesus Christ, where that promise to Abraham, carried forward through the old sacrificial system, is realised.

W Chris Hackett @ Majellan Media 2025



Office of the
Children's Guardian

Standard 3: Families and communities are informed and involved.

Staff in child safe organisations understand that parents, carers and other important people in a child's life have the primary responsibility for raising their children. A child safe organisation talks to, consults with and invites the participation of families, caregivers and the broader community to promote the rights of children.



Why is this Standard important?

Parents or carers have primary responsibility for raising their children. Child safe organisations involve families and community members in decisions that affect the children in their care. Children feel more valued when this happens, and when organisations are more accountable for their child safe practices.

What should we be doing?

- Families have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of their child and participate in decisions affecting the child.
- The organisation engages in open, two-way communication with families and communities about its child safety approach, and relevant information is accessible.
- Families and communities have a say in the organisation's policies and practices.
- Families and communities are informed about the organisation's operations and governance.



Safeguarding Office.

The Safeguarding Office is available:

to listen to your concerns respectfully, offer support, and provide guidance in embedding Safeguarding Standards.

Phone (02) 6621 9444

email:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

