



# The Living Spirit



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

St. Finbarr's, Byron Bay

St. Kevin's, Bangalow

## Our Lord, Our King.

23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2025

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Year C



A reading from the holy Gospel according Luke 23:35-43

*Lord remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said, 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

### Today's Liturgy - Psalm Response.

***"Let us go rejoicing  
to the house of the Lord."***

### Gospel Acclamation.

***Alleluia, alleluia!***  
Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our father;  
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
***Alleluia, alleluia!***

TODAY'S READINGS – 2 Sam 5:1-3, PS 121:1-5, Col 1:12-20, Luke 23:35-43

## Our Lord, Our King.

We come to the last Sunday of this liturgical year, and our year-long celebration of all the wonders that God has done for us culminates in the feast of Christ the King. Crowning the liturgical year, we profess and rejoice that Christ is King of the Universe, Lord of all creation, and that he is Lord of our lives, individually and communally.

On this feast, we also rejoice that, unlike the monarchies, dictatorships and governments that come and go in the world, Christ the King reigns forever. But today's feast challenges us to think about what it means to say that Christ is King. We remember that, after his arrest, on the night of his trial, Jesus is taken to be examined by the governor, Pontius Pilate. In the course of their conversation, Pilate asks Jesus if he is indeed a king. In John's Gospel, Jesus replies that his kingdom is not of this world (Jn 18:36)). Jesus' response clearly implies that he is a king, but he stresses that his kingship is not the kind that the world has come to know in the course of human history.

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## Holy Spirit Parish

### 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:**

**1<sup>st</sup> COLLECTION:** (Clergy)      **2<sup>nd</sup> 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*

**30 November  
2025**  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of  
Advent, Year A

**St Finbarr's  
Byron Bay**  
**6pm**  
Saturday 29/11/25

**St Kevin's  
Bangalow**  
**9.30am**  
Sunday 30/11/25

LECTOR/S

Ian  
Leggo

Margaret  
Reid

MINISTER OF  
COMMUNION

Michael  
Harris

**NEXT WEEK:** (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent)  
Isaiah 2:1-5, Ps 121: Romans 13:11-14;  
Matthew 24:37-44

### HOLY SPIRIT PARISH - FATHER DAVID GILBEY – PARISH PRIEST

**Parish Office** 50 Tennyson St, (PO Box 1816) Byron Bay NSW 2481 **Churches** St Finbarr's 50 Tennyson St, Byron Bay  
St Kevin's Deacon Street, Bangalow

**Office Hours** Tuesday and Wednesday 9.30am – 2pm

**Phone:** (02) 6685 6260

**Email:** stfins@bigpond.com

**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>



### HOLY SPIRIT PARISH BANGALOW/BYRON BAY WEEKLY MASSES

**St Finbarr's, Byron Bay**

9.30am Friday  
6.00pm Saturday

**St Kevin's, Bangalow**

9.30am Sunday



### ST. JOHN'S PARISH BRUNSWICK VALLEY WEEKLY MASSES

**OLOL  
Brunswick Heads**

5.30pm Thursday


**St John's  
Mullumbimby**

8am Sunday

### ADORATION AT ST FINBARR'S CHURCH, BYRON BAY

You are warmly invited to join us each Friday at St Finbarr's Church, Byron Bay,  
during Advent, beginning Friday, 28 November.

Come and spend quiet time with the Lord in prayer and reflection.

 8:30am – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament       9:00am – Rosary       9:30am – Mass

*All Welcome!*

### Please Pray for the Recently Deceased.

Dale O'Leary, Warwick Smith, Rhys Thomas, Lawrence Farrugia, Fr Frank Mulcahy, Peter Grant, Patricia Tiernan, Terry Bible, Margaret Hargraves (nee McGettigan), Eris Hackett, Paul Campton, Richard De Leede, Fr Michael Brady, Gordon Elder, Gloria Kennedy, Kathleen Lourey, Fr. Peter Karam, Fr. Kevin Ehlefeldt MSC, Carole Drury, *Valma Burke*, **Pope Francis**, Peter Lemon, Eddie Phillips, Jeanne Sjoberg, Joan Baker,

### Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Warren Meanwell, Carmel Apps, Faith Denholm, Joan Hurley, Terry Potts, Vlad Sezemsky, Hazel Holland, Josephine Farrugia, Fr Vince Doyle, Hazel O'Meara, Vince Boyle, Stephen Buckley, Carmel McLean, Teresa Pezzutti, May Higgins, Ron Maher, Roy Putt, Ron Phelps, Colin Meanwell, James Collins, Harvey & Dawn Passfield, Margaret O'Meara, Genny Weir, Bill Noonan, Fred Higgins, Tristan Ware, John Dynan,

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

Lee Rogers, The Conroy family, Angeles and Karla Zapala, Rhonda Noonan, Louise Banno, Mary Phelps, 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.)*



### The Beginning Of Advent Prayer

**Priest:** We gather around our wreath to begin the celebration of Advent.  
We ask our Heavenly Father to fill our hearts with hope filled grace.

**All:** Heavenly Father, we look forward to the celebration of Christmas and to the coming of the Lord in glory. *Bless this Advent wreath, fill us with your love as we invite you into our lives.*



We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

### *HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PARISH BYRON BAY/ BANGALOW*

#### Christmas Eve – 24 December

St Kevin's 5.30pm  
Bangalow

St Finbarr's 8pm  
Byron Bay



#### Christmas Day – 25 December

St Finbarr's 7.30am  
Byron Bay

St Kevin's 9.30am  
Bangalow

### *ST. JOHN'S PARISH, BRUNSWICK VALLEY*

#### Christmas Eve – 24 December

Our Lady of Lourdes 5.30pm  
Brunswick Heads

St John's 7pm  
Mullumbimby

#### Christmas Day - - 25 December

St John's 8am  
Mullumbimby



*Develop community self-reliance and create lasting change!  
Discover How you can get involved in Palms International Volunteering*

Discover Palms International Volunteering [online](#) in these two special sessions where you'll hear how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities in our Southeast Asian region.

1. Explore our **GAP YEAR opportunities** for (18-25yo) Year 12 graduates and university students, that could shape your future.

**Date:** Thursday **4 December** 2025

**Time:** 6pm or 9pm AEDT (NSW/VIC/ACT/TAS)

2. Join our **TIMOR-LESTE ENCOUNTER** Information session for those who would like a short taste and tour of Palms placements to Timor-Leste from 14-27 May 2026.

**Date:** Monday **8 December** 2025

**Time:** 7.30pm-8.30pm AEDT (NSW/VIC/ACT/TAS)

**Venue:** ONLINE-Scan the QR code or register at [palms.org.au/events\\_](https://palms.org.au/events_)

SCAN ME



02 9560 5333

[palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)



*(Continued from front page)*

Indeed, Jesus’ whole life attests to the fact that his kingdom is definitely not of this world. His kingship brooks none of the trappings of power, majesty or wealth which worldly kingship readily claims and jealousy guards for itself. His kingship also firmly rejects the methods of coercion, violence and abuse of power that worldly power so often wields.

The events of Jesus’ passion and death following his arrest demonstrate that his crown is made not of jewels but of thorns; he wears no rich finery; indeed he is stripped of his clothes; he is mocked and tortured; his hands and feet pierced with nails; he is crucified; he dies battered and bloodied; his throne is a cross. Even when he rises from the dead, his resurrected body bears the wounds of his suffering, born for love of us.

Rather than power as the world exercises it, rather than power over people, the power of Christ’s kingship is the power of love. It is a love that is all-embracing and steadfast. It is a love that refuses to be anything but love, even in the face of violence and rejection. It expresses itself concretely and consistently in the virtues of hospitality, compassion, patience, gentleness, and kindness (as described by the apostle Paul in 1 Cor 13), and in an unswerving concern for justice and for the welfare of others, especially the most vulnerable. This is “*the mind of Christ*” (Phil 2: 5-8) that we, his disciples, are called to make our own.

The feast of Christ the King surely challenges us to be especially attentive to the ways in which we exercise power in our dealings with others – be it in our family or our community or our workplace – that it be true to the example of Christ our King.

*Anne Hunt @ Majellan Media 2025*

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**OPAN** Older Persons Advocacy Network

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Ageing Australia National Conference 2025 wrap up.

**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**

**DIF** Diocesan Investment Fund

Interest Rate – 3.40%  
For further information and our current interest rate, please visit our website [www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au) or contact us on 1800 802 516