



The Living Spirit



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

St. Finbarr's, Byron Bay

St. Kevin's, Bangalow

Aligning our vision with Christ.

17th May, 2026

The Ascension of the Lord, Year A



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 28:16-20

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, '*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.*'

TODAY'S READINGS - Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20

Today's Liturgy - Psalm Response.

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

Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia, alleluia!

Aligning our vision with Christ.

I once watched Andrew Manchini, an Australian who appeared on the TEDx Talk at Hobart High School when he discussed the significance of aligning one's corporate vision with one's personal vision.

He explains that effective vision statements will guide our decision-making, strategy, and alignment in business. He connects this concept to storytelling and encourages people to create their own vision statements to live impactful and meaningful lives.

As I reflect on this week's gospel, I was taken to that particular TEDx Talk. Jesus invited his disciples to see if they had a vision in their lives. He invited them not just to participate in Jesus' vision but to create their own vision, and to align it with his vision to make disciples of all nations.

Having a personal vision is important. A personal vision is crucial because it provides clarity, direction, and motivation to align actions with the long-term goals, meanings, and values. If we align our vision statement with Christ's vision, and together act on our vision statement effectively, everything in our communities and institutions becomes aligned, leading to a more cohesive and purpose-driven environment that reflects our shared values and goals.

Our vision helps inform the decisions we are making every day. We all know that it is not enough for us to take Christ to heart. We are called to action. We have to be another Christ for others.

(Continued on back page)

**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

24th May, 2026	St Finbarr's Byron Bay	St Kevin's Bangalow
PENTECOST SUNDAY Year A	6.00pm Saturday 23/05//2026	9.30am Sunday 24/05/2026
LECTOR/S	Students	Julie McIntyre
MINISTER OF COMMUNION	Students	

NEXT WEEK:

(Pentecost Sunday, Year A)

Acts 2:1-11; Ps 103; 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased.

Pedro Guterres, Simon Ulyatt, Ella Varcoe, Peter Iverson, Robert McCabe, Louise Banno, George Cox, Narelle King, Sr Berenice Kerr, Sr Frances Kuhn, Ann Steengard (Gilbey), Yvonne Myskew, Anne Maginnity (Woolcott), Joanne Palmer (Baker), Margaret Mazzer, Dale O'Leary, Adam Roever

Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Lloyd Gilbey, John Dynan, Cheryl Meanwell, Margaret Gill, Pope Francis, Bishop John Satterthwaite, Fr Kevin Ehlefeldt, Monica Brooke, Kevin McGettigan, Barry Gilbey, Stephanie Lemon, Harvey & Dawn Passfield, Max & Clare Moylan, Dianne Holley, Rita Payne, Fr Charles Kakumanu, Fr Stephen O'Donnell

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

Carmel Kenway, David Biddulph, The Conroy family, Angeles and Karla Zapala, Rhonda Noonan, 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.)



RECONCILIATION

Saturday Vigil Mass:

St Finbarr's, Byron Bay 5.15pm - 5.45pm

Sunday:

St Kevin's, Bangalow 10.20am - 10.45am

ROSARY



Friday 8.30am

St Finbarr's Church, Byron Bay



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

St Finbarr's, Byron Bay

St Kevin's, Bangalow

9.30am Friday - *Anointing Mass* 9.30am Sunday
6.00pm Saturday



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

**LOLO
Brunswick Heads**

**St John's
Mullumbimby**

5.30pm Thursday

8.00am Sunday

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>



2026 HOLY SPIRIT PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

CONFIRMATION: Term 2 – Year 3.

Parent Meeting: St Finbarr's Church - 6.00pm

Sacrament: St Finbarr's Church - 6.00pm

Wednesday 10th June

Tuesday 30th June



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



MASS OF ANOINTING

Friday 9.30am - 22nd May, 2026

St Finbarr's Church, Byron Bay

Saint of the Week



St. **Bernardine** was the son of the governor of Siena. He was orphaned at the age of six and was brought up by an aunt. He became a Franciscan friar at the age of 22 and travelled all over Italy, preaching several sermons a day to large crowds. He is remembered for his devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus. At the end of his sermons he would hold up for veneration a plaque on which he wrote IHS – the Greek translation of 'Jesus'. Through his preaching, Bernardine was responsible for a vast number of conversions to Christianity. In 1437 he became vicar general of the Observant branch of the friars, during which time their numbers rose tenfold due to his popularity. After establishing theology schools for the friars, he returned to his favourite task of preaching at the age of 63, but died a year later on the 20th of May.

UNIT AVAILABLE – OVER 55's MACKILLOP PLACE, BANGALOW

A unit will shortly become available in our self-care residential facility in Bangalow.

2 bedroom unit in a block of 8. Combined lounge/dining area, modern kitchen and bathroom with a single lock up garage.

Enquiries to:- Geoff Gill – 0428 536 902 or Will Danaher – 0410 515 474



**CELEBRATE
PENTECOST
EVE**

CELEBRATE PENTECOST EVE

Time: 10.00am – 3.00pm

Date: Saturday 23rd May, 2026

Place: St Francis Xavier Parish
Upper room, Parish Admin, Cherry St, Ballina.

Morning / afternoon tea provided. Please bring a lunch plate to share.

Presented by Catholic Charismatic Renewal

Marist House of Light - Spiritual Accompaniment.

Are you interested in exploring your spiritual world?

One way of doing this is by considering regular spiritual direction.

If you would like to chat about what this could look like for you please contact us at maristhouseoflight@gmail.com or phone us on 0438 689 137.

We are located at 8 Keen Street, Lismore.



RECONCILIATION

Saturday Vigil Mass: St Finbarr's, Byron Bay 5.15pm - 5.45pm

Sunday: St Kevin's, Bangalow 10.20am – 10.45am



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This is why we are called to be clear in our vision of life, align it with Christ, and share it with others. In moments when we say the creed or express our prayers to Christ, we actually accept Christ in our lives, his love, values, hopes, dreams, and expectations.

When Jesus said to the disciples to go and baptise people in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Jesus actually asked his disciples to share with people worldwide. And he wants his disciples to share with the world that he never comes alone, but as one of the Trinity. This perfect communal relationship of the Son with the Father and the Spirit is visionary and empowering for him and for his disciples to spread the good news of the kingdom of God.

As we celebrate the ascension of Jesus, we remember that he remains with us in the Spirit. It is in this spirit of Jesus that we are called to make the world a flourishing community centred in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We pray that we may always find ways to align our vision and mission in life with the vision and mission of Christ, a vision that is Trinitarian and community-oriented. In whatever we do, may we remember Jesus, and he will show us the right way. Amen.

Sam Kono CsSR @ Majellan Media 2026



**2028 INTERNATIONAL
EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS**



Jesus Christ is present to us in many ways and most especially in the Eucharist.

The Risen Jesus is present in his word (the Bible), in his Church’s prayer “*where two or three are gathered in my name, I am with you*”; in the poor, the sick and imprisoned; in the sacraments of which he is the author; in the sacrifice of the Mass; in the person of the minister.

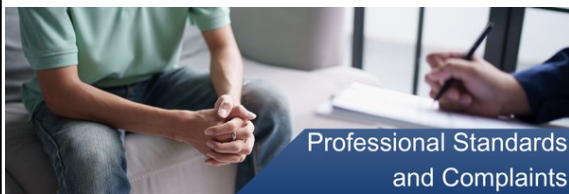
Most especially, Jesus is wholly and entirely present in the Eucharist when bread and wine become his body and blood for us to share in his risen life: we are joined to Jesus’ thanksgiving and love of our Father in Heaven and to his work of sharing the Good News of salvation and life everlasting.

**The
Catholic Weekly**

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REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL RESPONSE PROTOCOL.



Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to provide feedback on the first draft of the revised National Response Protocol (NRP). The level of engagement and thoughtful input from across the sector has been both encouraging and valuable.

We are now collating and working through all feedback in a structured way to support the development of the final draft. This next phase will focus on carefully considering what we’ve heard to ensure the revised NRP is clear, consistent and practical in its application.

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



Interest Rate—3.65% (eff 1/4/2026)

For further information and our current interest rate, please visit our website www.dif.org.au or contact us on 1800 802 516