



The Living Spirit



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

St. Finbarr's, Byron Bay

St. Kevin's, Bangalow

A life of sacrificial love.

28th June, 2026
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 10:37-42

Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: *'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.'*

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.'

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.'

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

TODAY'S READINGS - 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16; Romans 6:3-4, 8-11; Matthew 10:37-42

Today's Liturgy - Psalm Response.

***Forever I shall sing
the goodness of the Lord.***

Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people.
Praise God who called you out of darkness
and into his marvellous light.

Alleluia, alleluia!

A life of sacrificial love.

More than being just a moral teacher or guide, Jesus came to establish a complete transformation of what it means to be human and to live a fully human life.

When St Paul proclaims that we are now *"dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus,"* he highlights how Jesus' submission to and defeat of death has changed the whole human situation. Jesus was the perfect and obedient representative of all humanity. Through our faith that he is who he says he is, the eternal communion with the Father that belongs by nature to Jesus as the incarnate Son belongs to us through participation in him.

As St Paul explains, *"When we were baptised, we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life."* This new life in Christ is one in which sin and death no longer have dominion in the human experience. Paul exhorts us: *"You too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin and alive for God in Christ Jesus."* **(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

5th July, 2026

14th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year A

**St Finbarr's
Byron Bay
6.00pm**

Saturday
04/07/2026

**St Kevin's
Bangalow
9.30am**

Sunday
05/07/2026

LECTOR/S

Michael
Hawton

Trisha
Bleakley

MINISTER OF
COMMUNION

Mary
Dynam

NEXT WEEK:

(14th Sunday Year A)

Zech 9:9-10; Ps 144; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased.

Frank Hannigan, Ben Callahan, John Weir, Pedro Guterres, Simon Ulyatt, Ella Varcoe, Peter Iverson, Robert McCabe, Louise Banno, George Cox, Narelle King, Sr Berenice Kerr, Sr Frances Kuhn, Ann Steengaard (Gilbey), Yvonne Myskew, Anne Maginness (Woolcott), Joanne Palmer (Baker), Margaret Mazzer.

Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Ron Maher, James Collins, Ron Phelps, Harvey & Dawn Passfield, Bill Noonan, Fred Higgins, Margaret O'Meara, Lloyd Gilbey, John Dynam, Cheryl Meanwell, Margaret Gill, Pope Francis, Bishop John Satterthwaite, Fr Kevin Ehlefeldt, Monica Brooke, Kevin McGettigan, Barry Gilbey, Stephanie Lemon

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

Ruby Kimpton, Carmel Kenway, David Biddulph, The Conroy family, Angeles and Karla Zapala, Rhonda Noonan, Mary Phelps, Matthew O'Sullivan, 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

9.30am Sunday

6.00pm Saturday



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

OLOL

Brunswick Heads

5.30pm Thursday

St John's

Mullumbimby

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

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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.

Masses:

**** Blessing & Practice for Confirmation at St Finbarr's Church**

Saturday 27th June

Sacrament: St Finbarr's Church, Byron Bay - 6.00pm

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.



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY 5 JULY



WALKING TOGETHER IN OUR PARISHES

On 5 July 2026, Catholic communities across Australia are invited to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday – a sacred moment to give thanks for the enduring faith, culture and spiritual wisdom of our First Nations sisters and brothers. This year carries special meaning. We mark 40 years since Saint Pope John Paul II stood on Country in Alice Springs, and spoke words that still resonate today.

“The Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others.” These words are a living call to each of us, and these resources are a practical response to them.

May next Sunday be a true moment of grace, and may it strengthen our shared commitment to walk forward – together – in faith.



Bishop Tim Norton,
Bishops Commission for Relations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS RELIC TOUR COMING TO LISMORE

The Chancery is excited to announce that the major pilgrimage relic of *Blessed Carlo Acutis* is officially visiting the Diocese of Lismore next month, from Tuesday, 7 July to Friday, 10 July 2026.

This historic tour offers our staff and students a rare opportunity to encounter the legacy of the world's first millennial saint, a tech-savvy teenager who beautifully blended modern digital skills with deep faith.

Mark your calendars for the key local stops; the tour launches at St Carthage's Cathedral in Lismore on Tuesday, 7 July, before heading to Casino on Wednesday, 8 July, and Port Macquarie on Thursday, 9 July.

Please check your local parish bulletin for times and schedules.

BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS
A SAINT FOR THE DIGITAL AGE
RELIC VISIT
Lismore Diocese • 7–10 July 2026
LISMORE • CASINO • PORT MACQUARIE



Continued from front page.

In his instructions to the Twelve in today’s gospel, Jesus teaches, “*Anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.*” Part of ‘losing our lives’ for Jesus means extending the self-giving, compassionate and merciful love we have received from him to others, especially the poor.

And ‘losing our lives’ can mean suffering. As Christians, we must be prepared to accept suffering, not out of a masochistic sense that suffering is good or that we deserve it, but as a response made in love to give up anything and everything that impedes or undermines the life and love to which Christ calls us.

As Jesus teaches in today’s gospel, this can sometimes mean prioritising him and the demands of discipleship over the demands of family. Consider St Francis of Assisi as an example. St Francis, in defiance of his enraged father, left his affluent home and the life his family had planned for him to live a life of radical poverty, humility, and dedication to serving the poor, in imitation of the life, poverty, and love of Jesus. St Francis is renowned as *Il Poverello* (Italian for “*the little poor man*” or “*the little poor one*”), and as a “*little Christ.*”

‘Losing our lives’ for Jesus does not necessarily mean we will be called to Jesus’ level of self-sacrifice or that of the Christian martyrs. Still, our hearts need to be oriented towards this calling and open to its demands, painful and costly though that may sometimes be. But Jesus is very clear in calling us – indeed challenging us - to live the life of freedom and self-giving love for which we were created.

Challenging and demanding though it is, each and every one of us is called to be a “*little Christ.*”

Josephine Doyle @ Majellan Media 2026

**LISMORE DIOCESE
PUBLICATIONS**

It's now possible to sign up directly to receive communications such as -

- The Renewal Newsletter
- The Light (Youth Ministry) and
- Catholic Life

using the attached QR code and link.

Madeline Beveridge
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- The Light, Youth Newsletter
- Renewal Journey Newsletter



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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—3.90% (eff 1/6/2026)

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