The Living Spirit

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

St. Finbarr's, Byron Bay — *St. Kevin's, Bangalow*

Live life to the full.

15th November, 2026

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



A reading from the holy Gospel according to *Matthew 25:14-30*

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "*Sir"*, he said *"you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."* His master said to him, "*Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness.*" Next the man with the two talents came forward. "*Sir,*" he said "*you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made*." His master said to him, "*Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness.*" Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "*Sir,*" said he *"I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back*." But his master answered him, "*You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'"*

TODAY'S READINGS – Wisdom 6:12-16; Ps 62;1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25: 1-13

Today's Liturgy - Psalm Response.

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

Live life to the full.

In these last three Sundays of this liturgical year, our gospel readings prompt us to think about how we live in these in-between times, this time in between Christ's return to the Father after his resurrection and his second coming when he will return in glory. As His followers, how are we to live as we wait for his return? Last Sunday we had the parable of the wise and foolish virgins and an impending marriage feast. The bridegroom was late and they had fallen asleep while waiting.

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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)
BSB: 082 489
A/C: 172 178 008

2nd COLLECTION: (Parish)
BSB: 082 489
A/C: 172 177 961



Thank you for your continued Parish financial support.

Fr David Gilbey PP

22nd November 2026 Christ the King Year A	St Finbarr's Byron Bay 6.00pm Saturday 21/11//2026	St Kevin's Bangalow 9.30am Sunday 22/11/2026
LECTOR/S	Lorraine Atwell	Trisha Bleakley
MINISTER OF COMMUNION	Tony McCabe	

NEXT WEEK: Christ the King, Year A
Ezek 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 22; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased.

Patricia Higgins, Brian McGettigan, Shirley Boyle, Carmel Kenway, Frank Hannigan, Ben Callahan, John Weir, Pedro Guterres, Simon Ulyatt, Ella Varcoe, Robert McCabe, Louise Banno, George Cox, Narelle King, Sr Berenice Kerr, Sr Frances Kuhn, Ann Steengaard (Gilbey), Yvonne Myskew,

Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Keith Kimpton, Warren Meanwell, Faith Denholm, Carmel Apps, Joan Hurley, Bill Woolcott, Hazel Hollands, Vlad Sezemsky, Carmelo Farrugia, Hazel O'Meara, Vince Boyle, Stephen Buckley, Carmel McLean, Teresa Pezzutti, May Higgins, Ron Maher, James Collins, Ron Phelps, Harvey & Dawn Passfield,

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

Barbara Byrne, Richard Gray, 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

ST FINBARR'S CHURCH BYRON BAY



LEGION OF MARY
Monday - 10.00am



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH BANGALOW/BYRON BAY

WEEKLY MASSES

St Finbarr's, Byron Bay	St Kevin's, Bangalow
9.30am Friday 6.00pm Saturday	9.30am Sunday



ST. JOHN'S PARISH BRUNSWICK VALLEY

WEEKLY MASSES

OLOL Brunswick Heads	St John's Mullumbimby
5.30pm Thursday	8am 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

A WARM WELCOME BACK AND THANK YOU



A warm welcome back to Fr David, our Parish Priest, following his travels.
We are delighted to have you back with us, *Fr David – you have been missed!*



We also extend our heartfelt thanks to Fr Peter for his kindness and support in celebrating Mass with our parish community during Fr David's absence.

**** LEGION OF MARY ****

Legion of Mary

SAVE THE DATE
LEGION OF MARY ANNUAL GENERAL REUNION
12 DECEMBER 2026
9.30AM - SACRED HEART CHURCH MURWILLUMBAH.
LIGHT LUNCH TO FOLLOW.
ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND.
COME ALONG AND ENJOY THE COMPANY!
CONTACT: PHILOMENA ZAMBELLI 0414201940
CARMEL BUCKLEY 0409270994



Red November: Pray for persecuted Christians

Aid to the Church in Need invites all Catholics to pray, support and act for persecuted Christians throughout Red November. Register today and receive a **free prayer card** and **complimentary pair of Rosary beads**, handmade by Christians in Syria.

To join us in prayer, scan the QR code, or visit rebrand.ly/RedNovemberRosary

ASPIRE
YOUNG ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Join Bishop Greg, OCD, for young adult spiritual formation.

Date: Tuesday 24 November
Time: 5:30pm – 6:30pm
Venue: Darcy Room
(at the back of St Carthages Cathedral)

Unable to attend in person? Join via Zoom.

Zoom ID: 260 411 8529 **Password**: ASPIRE

For more information, contact Sr Di, CM, on 0434 772 867 or email [dmoralde@lismore.catholic.org.au] (mailto:dmoralde@lismore.catholic.org.au).



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INDEPENDENT LIVING UNIT – CENTRAL BANGALOW.



Over 55yrs Retirement Village. Small, friendly complex in the centre of Bangalow. Newly renovated spacious 2 bedroom unit with lock-up garage. Licence to occupy arrangement – includes entry fee and refundable portion on departure. ***Enquiries to:- Geoff Gill – 0428 536 902 or Will Danaher – 0410 515 474***

DIF Diocesan Investment Fund

Interest Rate—4.40% (eff 1/11/2026) For further information and our current interest rate, please visit our website www.dif.org.au or contact us on 1800 802 516

Continued from front page.

When he did arrive, the foolish bridesmaids were unprepared and, needing to take time to ready themselves, they missed the wedding celebration.
The message of that parable for Jesus' followers, then and now: Be prepared for a delay in his return; and be prepared, because you do not know when it will be.
In this week's gospel, we have the parable of the talents. The wealthy master is going away for an extended period and it is not known when he will return. Before leaving he entrusts talents to each of three servants, one is given ten talents, another five, and the third just one talent.
Now a talent was a considerable sum; think in terms of 15 to 20 times an average worker's annual income at that time. So even one talent was a considerable sum to entrust to a servant.
The master is then away for a long time and returns unexpectedly. He praises the two servants who have doubled the wealth which was entrusted to them. Moreover, he generously rewards them: "*you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things."*
The other servant he chastises as wicked and lazy for, out of fear of the master, he had hidden his talent and achieved nothing. Indeed, that servant hadn't even invested the talent so that it might earn interest. Having done nothing, the talent is taken from him; he loses the lot!
In fact, the master is not the hard and demanding man that the third servant thought he was. On the contrary the master is exceedingly generous: the two servants who did something were given still more!
The master's final words drive home the message: "*For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away."*
So again, Jesus is teaching us about how we should live in this in-between time, not knowing when he will return.
His message: Life goes on in this in-between time; live it to the full. Don't be paralysed by anxiety and fear of risk. Use the time that is given to us, and the talents and resources that are entrusted to us responsibly, creatively and productively. Don't act out of fear!

Ann Hunt @ Majellan Media 2026

Acknowledging and Supporting Volunteers in our Church Ministries

The work of our Catholic parishes and ministries is borne as much by unpaid supporters as by paid staff. It takes many hands and minds to do God's work.
When Sunday Mass is over and the crowds are gone, the *'hidden'* work of a parish continues. Home visits to the sick and home-bound happen, maintenance and grounds-keeping is done, the poor are fed, refugees are sheltered, music is practiced, funerals arranged, parish committees meet, and small group fellowship thrives in many different ways. All this, and much more besides, is largely achieved by volunteers.

Scan to read the full story.

Sourced: ACSL News - September 2026 Vol.9, Ed.9

THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving Program. Thank you also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese (1st collection). **Sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy.**

Fr David Gilbey PP

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 The Kids Helpline is a free 24 hour telephone counselling service for children and young people aged between 5 and 25.



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**