

PARISH DIARY	
TUES 16TH SEP	9:30am, Mass, Macksville
WED 17TH SEP	9:30am, Mass, Macksville
THU 18TH SEP	9:30am, Mass, Macksville
FRI 19TH SEP	9am, Adoration, Nambucca 9:30am, Mass, Nambucca
SAT 20TH SEP	4:30pm, Reconciliation 5pm Mass, Nambucca
SUN 21ST SEP	8am Mass, Macksville 9:30am Mass, Bowraville



### First Holy Communion—

This Saturday we rejoice with the children of our parish who will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. We give thanks for their families, teachers, and all who have supported them on their journey of faith. May this day be a special step in deepening their friendship with Jesus, who comes to us in the Eucharist. Please keep these children in your prayers as they take this important step in their faith life.



Dearest Sheree,  
your life is a precious gift from God, and I know I am grateful to Him for all the blessings you bring into this world and to this Parish community. Thank you so much for the service you do for the Parish. As you are celebrating your birthday on Wednesday 17th September this spring season blooms in your life always, indeed, it is a blessing on this special day so I would like to express my gratitude.

**Birthday wishes from Fr Peter and the Parish community—wishing you many, many happy returns of the day and many more to come.**

**Have a fabulous day and God Bless you.**



## Catholic Parish of the Nambucca Valley

Corpus Christi, Bowraville

St Patrick's, Macksville

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Nambucca Heads

Christ the King, Taylors Arm

**ADMINISTRATOR:** Fr Peter Rebello, OCD

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Sheree Foley **PARISH OFFICE:** 78 Wallace St (PO Box 38) Macksville 2447 **PHONE:** 0265 681107

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tues & Wed 8.30am to 4.00pm Thurs 8:30 am to 5pm **EMAIL:** nvparish@lismore.catholic.org.au

**WEBSITE:** www.nvparish.org.au

**NAMBUCCA PRESBYTERY:** 02 6568 6642 **URGENT MATTERS:** 0481 703122

**St Patrick's Primary School - Macksville**

32 Macksville Heights Drive, Macksville

Phone: 02 6568 1397

**Website:** www.macvpplism.catholic.edu.au

**St Mary's Primary School - Bowraville**

4 Carbin Street, Bowraville

Phone: 02 65647369

**Website:** www.bwvpplism.catholic.edu.au

### Carrying the cross for Jesus

This week's feast is an ancient one, known as The Triumph (or The Exaltation) of the Cross. Legend has it that on this date, September 14 in 330, St Helena, a Christian, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, discovered "the true cross" on which Jesus had died in Jerusalem. Over the centuries, the cross has become the universal symbol of our Christian faith. Some people wear it around their necks. Many have a crucifix at home. A cross hangs in every Catholic Church. We venerate the cross during the liturgy on Good Friday. And every day we, like our forebears who have gone before us in the Faith, begin and end our prayers, including the celebration of the Mass, making the Sign of the Cross while we say, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

In this one simple gesture and prayer, the Sign of the Cross, we express the two great mysteries that lie at the very heart of our faith as Christians: God is Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the One God – and God revealed his great mercy and steadfast love for us in Jesus' death on a cross, for "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son" (Jn 3:16). We can easily forget how shameful and humiliating death by crucifixion was. In the Roman Empire crucifixion was an oft-used form of execution that was calculated to instil fear and dread in the people and to discourage any would-be political agitators or subversives. As St Paul writes, the cross was a scandal, a stumbling block, to the Jews and a folly, sheer foolishness, to the Greeks. No wonder that it was about three centuries before the symbol of the cross was represented in Christian art, life and worship, so shameful a death it was. And yet, as St Paul insists: "We preach Christ crucified." The second reading is one of the most important of St Paul's writings. He writes that Christ, though enjoying a divine status, "emptied himself," freely taking "the form of a slave," humbling himself, even to death on a cross. "Therefore, God highly exalted him" so that all should confess that "Jesus Christ is Lord." His crucifixion was not his defeat or failure but rather his victory and triumph. St Paul exhorts his readers, including us: "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." St John captures succinctly what this "mind of Christ Jesus" involves: "Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another" (1 Jn 4:11). When we make the Sign of the Cross, we also symbolise the cross that is ours to carry in our own lives, mindful at the same time of the resurrection and life of the world to come that Jesus' victory wrought for each one of us. May the cross be our comfort in times of suffering, our refuge in times of trouble, and our safeguard on life's journey.

Anne Hunt

© Majellan Media 2025

### THANK YOU



**Father's Day Raffle – Thank You!**

A heartfelt thank

you to everyone who supported our Parish Father's Day raffles. Your generosity through purchasing tickets and donating prizes made the raffles a great success. We are deeply grateful for the spirit of community and kindness shown, and we pray God's blessings upon all who contributed.

### Ministry Roster 20th & 21st September

**(NH: Nambucca Heads; M: Macksville; B: Bowraville)**

**Commentator:** NH: S Bolton M: J Miles B: M Dal Santo

**Readers:** NH: G Lewis M: N Allan B: C Doolan

**Ex Minister of Holy Communion:** NH: B Hawkes M: S Allan

**Procession of Gifts:** NH: J Piggott, C Black M: P Wolf, N Miles

**Sacristan:** NH: M Tait M: S Nebauer

**Altar Servers:** NH: T Nguyen, K Soutter

Our bulletin is sponsored by the Diocesan Investment Fund (DIF) paying 3.65% effective 01 August 2025. Call 1800802516 or www.dif.org.au

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

We should glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection, through whom we are saved and delivered.

## FIRST READING

On the way through the wilderness, the Israelites lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.' At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Do not forget the works of the Lord!

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching; turn your ear to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable and reveal hidden lessons of the past. (R.)
2. When he slew them then they would seek him, return and seek him in earnest. They would remember that God was their rock, God the Most High their redeemer. (R.)
3. But the words they spoke were mere flattery; they lied to him with their lips. For their hearts were not truly with him; they were not faithful to his covenant. (R.)
4. Yet he who is full of compassion forgave their sin and spared them. So often he held back his anger when he might have stirred up his rage. (R.)

## SECOND READING

The state of Jesus was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Cf Galatians 6:14

Numbers 21:4-9

Ps 67:4-7. 10-11. R. v. 11

Philippians 2:6-11

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your cross you have redeemed the world. Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.'

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself, says the Lord.

MATTHEW 11:29

JOHN 3:13-17

John 12:32



On behalf of the Church in Zambia we would like to again thank you for your generosity.

**Your gift is helping empower women, provide essential healthcare, and bring hope to vulnerable communities.**

To learn more about the impact your support is making, please visit [catholicmission.org.au/our-work](http://catholicmission.org.au/our-work). Here, you can also sign up to our regular newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at [catholicmission.org.au/mission](http://catholicmission.org.au/mission). Your action will make a positive impact for many around the world.



Freecall: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/mission](http://catholicmission.org.au/mission)



For **Catholic Mission**, our parish raised **\$1176.75**. For the **Retired & Sick Priests Fund**, our parish raised **\$1035**. Your generosity is a true witness of faith and support for the wider Church. May God bless you all abundantly for your kindness.

### WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Sr Fran Kuhn, Baby Ruby Robison, Nate Doolan, The Pigott Family, Neville Miles, Jenny Cowin, Ron Cooke

### WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Frieda Keaton & Jack Keaton, Margaret Smith, Agnes Rosenberg

### WE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED

Monica Dunbar, June Branford, Alan (Joe) Cooke, Trevor Smith

*\*Mass intention envelopes are located at the back of the church\**



The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contacted if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss options you have available to you. Contact the Safeguarding Office: Phone 02 6621 9444 or email [safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)