

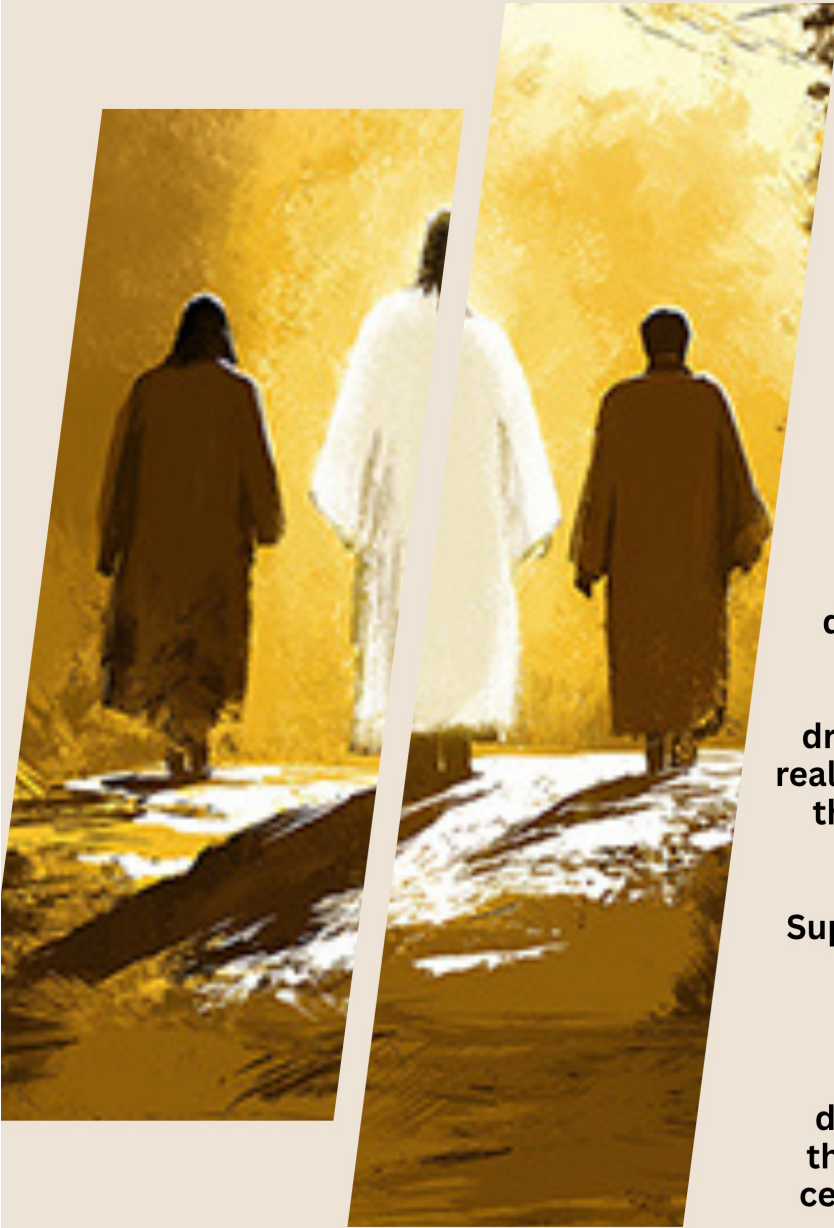
# Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## The Bulletin

REFLECTION  
by Greg Sunter

One of the remarkable things about the Risen Jesus is that his friends and followers almost always fail to recognise him at first. In the instance on the road to Emmaus, two of the disciples are walking the road feeling sorry for themselves when Jesus joins them. It is, perhaps, an experience that is not unfamiliar in our own lives: so absorbed by what is happening to us that we fail to recognise the presence of Christ walking the journey with us – in spirit or in the guise of someone around us. Jesus allows the disciples to share their woes and their grief and then he slowly but surely relates all of what had happened to the scriptures and demonstrates to the disciples that the events of the previous few days were all part of God's plan. The disciples felt that their hopes and beliefs had been misplaced in Jesus; he hadn't delivered all that they had dreamed. But the Risen Jesus makes them realise that their hopes were not misplaced; they were right to trust and hope in Jesus and that belief will still bear fruit. It is not until Jesus re-enacts the Last Supper breaking of bread that the disciples suddenly recognise him, but at that moment of recognition, Jesus vanishes from their midst. It must have been tantalising and frustrating for the two disciples – when they finally realised who they had been talking with and they could celebrate his presence Jesus disappeared. But the truth of what they had realised didn't abandon them. They reminded one another of the passion they had felt: 'Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road?' They are saying to each other, how stupid must we have been not to recognise Jesus? Only he could make us feel like that!



*Our Mission:*  
*Building a Loving Christ-Centred Community*



**Parish Administrator:**

Fr Joy D'Souza OCD

**Chief Executive Officer:**

Michael Darragh

**Administration Officer:**

Jennifer Oliver

**Pastoral Associate:**

Margaret Ryan

**Church**

Corner of East Street & Fourth Avenue, Sawtell

**Parish Office - 02/6658 3544**

1/44 Boronia Street, Sawtell  
NSW 2452. Office Hours are  
Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm.

**Regular Church Mass Times**

Tuesday 9:30am

Thursday 9:30am

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 7:30am & 9am

Reconciliation every Saturday

5:30pm, no appointment necessary

**Regular Chapel Mass Times**

Our Lady of the Way at SCC

Marian Grove, Toormina

Wednesday 9:30am

Friday 9:30am



**PARISH GIVING**

First & Second  
Collection + Donations

*Women. Food. God*

**Fellowship Evening - 15th May, 2026**

We warmly invite the women of the Sawtell Parish to join us for a special evening. In the spirit of Christian fellowship, this gathering is a wonderful opportunity to set aside our daily busyness, share a delicious meal, and enjoy heartfelt conversation with friends old and new. Whether you are a long-time parishioner or new to our community, your presence would be a blessing as we grow together in faith and friendship. Numbers are limited, so book early.

**6pm -9pm at The Link Lakeside - Cost: \$20 including a meal and drinks.**

**Retreat Day - 8th August, 2026**

We are excited to announce that Srs. Rosie Drum and Kathryn Kingsley MGL, will be returning this year to facilitate our retreat. On the Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, we gather to celebrate women and reflect on our role in the Parish and wider community.

**9am-4pm at the SJPC Theatre - Cost: \$40 including morning tea and lunch plus a contribution towards the presenter's costs.**

Friday 15th May and Saturday 8th August - \$60

Friday 15th May only - \$20 & Saturday 8th August only - \$40

Pay by direct debit:

BSB: 032 592 ACCOUNT: 811 224

Label the payment WFG and include your surname.

Or - Register and pay with cash at the parish office.

Your booking will be secure once payment is received.



We want everyone to be able to join us. If the cost is a concern, please reach out to the Parish Office.

*Ministry of the Week*

**Bringing Holy Communion to the Sick or Housebound**

Our parish community is wider than just those who can gather in person. Thanks to a dedicated group of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, those who are sick, housebound, or living in hospitals and nursing homes, stay deeply connected to the heart of our parish. By bringing the Eucharist directly to them, they provide consistent comfort and spiritual nourishment to these parishioners, ensuring they remain a vital part of our parish sacramental life.

By sharing in this work, our ministers also support Fr. Joy, allowing him to focus on the essential sacramental care of the sick through reconciliation, anointing, and pastoral visits.

Help us stay connected: We are currently updating our records of both our ministers and those receiving Holy Communion at home. If you are involved in this ministry—even just occasionally—please contact the Parish Office so we can ensure our records are accurate.

### **First Reading Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33**

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him: I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.

So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy: my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence. 'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

### **Responsorial Psalm Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. v.11**

(R.) Lord, you will show us the path of life.

### **Second Reading 1 Peter 1:17-21**

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

### **Gospel Acclamation See Luke 24:32**

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!

### **Gospel Luke 24:13-35**

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast. Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

*Vocations Ministry Lismore*

#### **Vocations view**

During April in the Mass, we celebrate the expansion of the Church and the spread of the Gospel. The good news of Jesus risen transforms lives. Is God calling you to be a minister of his Gospel as a deacon or priest to transform lives? Contact Vocations Lismore to consider your call. [vocations@lismore.catholic.org](mailto:vocations@lismore.catholic.org)



Fourth Sunday of Easter (ANZAC weekend) - 26th April 2026

MASSES	Co-Ordinator	Welcomer	Ex. Minister	Sacristan	Offertory	Reader	Powerpoint Op	Senior Altar Server
Saturday 6pm	Cheryl Hughes	Andrews family	Chris Sercombe	L Michalik	*NEED VOLUNTEER*	Frank Brennan	Ann Brennan	L Michalik
Sunday 7:30am	Kathy McWilliam	Brenda Graham	Gwen Nyhan	J Hendriks	*NEED VOLUNTEER*	Norma Campbell	Paul Daly	J Hendriks
Sunday 9am	Wal Samut	Michell Harrison	Sarah de Byl	Don Kirk lady	Gai & Bob Roff	Yvonne Burton	Brendan Biddle	

**PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR AVAILABILITY FOR NEXT ROSTER - JUNE, JULY & AUGUST  
CALL/EMAIL THE OFFICE OR WRITE IT ON THE MASTER ROSTER AT THE FRONT DOORS**

*Please pray for...*

Recently Deceased

*Frances Ahern*

The Sick

*Jake Murphy*

*Helen Duyster*

*Yvonne Little*

*Sally Towns*

*Carolyn Mash*

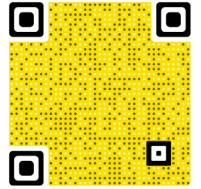
*Peter Rose*

*Parish Pastoral Council*

**PPC Nominations open**

Nominations are now open to fill the vacancies.

Scan the QR code to enter your nomination or complete the form available at the front doors.



**PPC APRIL UPDATE**

*Building a loving Christ-Centred Community*

*Here is the latest update to the Parish of matters discussed at the preceding PPC Meeting.*

*Work is underway to strengthen our \*safeguarding practices, including plans to offer face-to-face training twice a year ofr those involved in parish ministries.*

*\*The Council also reviewed the Christmas Market, recognising its value to our community. There is a strong support for this event to continue.*

*\*The Liturgical Planning Team shared upcoming key dates, with preparations now underway for Pentecost and our Parish Feast Day on 24<sup>th</sup> May, to be held at The Link. We will be seeking volunteers to assist with these celebrations, with more information to be provided soon.*

*\* PPC members serve a four-year term, and we are now seeking nominations to replace the four outgoing members. We thank Trevor, Graeme, Louise and Michelle for their generous service to our Parish.*

*Please speak to any Pastoral Councillors to find out more or to share your ideas.*

*Agenda items and suggestions can be placed in the wooden box located at the church entrance. To help the PPC follow up if needed, we kindly ask that all suggestions include a name.*

MHOC  
Feast Day &  
Pentecost Sunday  
24<sup>th</sup> May at The Link  
9am Mass

Please note: 7:30am Mass  
cancelled that day

**EVERY TUESDAY**  
**CENACLE ROSARY**  
**3PM**  
**IN THE CHURCH**  
**ALL WELCOME**



**The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office**

the Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contactable 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)



**Interest Rate—3.65% (p/r 1/4/2026)**  
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