

The Ascension of the Lord

Sunday, 17th May 2026

During an ecumenical worship service at the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel in Sydney, Bishop Greg addressed the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference regarding the current state of global instability. He described the world as being in a state of "madness," specifically citing the fallacy that peace can be achieved through total military obliteration. In response to this darkness, the Bishop urged believers to look toward Jesus Christ as a primary source of light and guidance. He emphasized that in such chaotic times, there are only two essential paths for the faithful to follow: God and love.



Read the full story on the News and Stories tab on the Diocese of Lismore website.

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



Feast Day + Pentecost Celebrations

There's only a week to go before we celebrate Pentecost and Mary Help of Christians Feast Day! Note the change of venue - it will all be happening right here at the church.

The 9am Mass will be an extra-special Mass with our choir singing and Children's Liturgy followed by a BBQ, cake, face painting, karaoke, games for the kids and so much more!

Note: due to the change of venue, we will now celebrate all three Masses: 6pm vigil, 7:30 and 9am.

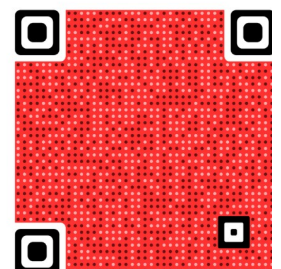


Sacrament of Confirmation

Registrations are open

You are invited to register your child/ren for the 2026 Confirmation Sacramental Program if they meet the following criteria:

- They are in Year 3 or above AND
- They have been baptised in the Catholic Church or they were baptised in another Christian church and have been formally received into the Catholic Church.
- **Register via the QR code.**



First Reading Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

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

Second Reading Ephesians 1:17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 28:16-20

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.'



Do you know a Catholic man, aged between 18-35, whom God may be calling to the priesthood? Perhaps God is asking you to be the voice to prompt that man to consider the quiet whisper he already hears in his heart. Ask someone if they have considered the call

vocations@lismore.catholic.org.au

MHOC FEAST DAY & Pentecost Sunday - 24th May 2026

MASSES	Co-Ord	Welcomer	Ex. Minister	Sacristan	Offertory	Reader	P/point	Snr Alt Sv
Sat 6pm	J Walsh	Andrews family	G Ryan	L Michalik		M Ryan	A Brennan	L Michalik
Sun 7:30am	K McWilliam	B Graham	K McWilliam	J Hendriks		B Moroney		J Hendriks
Sun 9am	L Thompson	M Harrison	1. D Kirkaldy 2. C Tumm	J Baiada	Roff Family	L Kirkaldy	M Baiada	J Baiada



For the final week (next weekend) of the National Count of Attendance, we are asked to not only count the total number of people in attendance, but to sort them into age groups. Next weekend, as you enter the church, you will be asked to let us know which category applies to you: 0-17; 18-29; 30-49; 50-69 or 70+ . Thank you for your assistance.



Recently Deceased:
Ann Gava
Barry Pullinger
Rodger Bridge
Johanna de Groot

The Sick:
Jake Murphy
Helen Duyster
Yvonne Little
Sally Towns
Carolyn Mash
Peter Rose
Sue Garvey



Weekday Mass Changes

Priests across the Lismore Diocese are away this week for their annual retreat—a vital time of rest and spiritual renewal. A Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion will be held at the usual weekday Mass times. We wish Fr Joy a restful and blessed retreat.

Save the Date

Tea and Togetherness morning tea with Fr Joy and the Parish Office staff after Mass at OLOW Chapel on Wednesday, 27th May. See you there!



Cenacle Rosary

Every Tuesday at 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



DIF Diocesan Investment Fund
Interest Rate—3.65% (at 14/2026)
For further information and our current interest rate, please visit our website www.dif.org.au or contact us on 1800 802 516