




PARISH MASS TIMES
Monday: No Mass
Tuesday: 5.00 pm Mass
Wed - Friday: 9.00 am Mass
Sat : 5.00pm
Sunday: 9.00am Mass

Reconciliation
Tues: 4 - 4.45pm
Sat: 3.30 - 4.30pm

Adoration & Benediction
Tue: 4-5pm

Stations of the Cross
Fridays 5pm followed by Soup Supper finishing 27th March

Thursday 19th March NO MASS
Sunday 22nd March School Family Mass 9am
Mass with Anointing of the Sick 28th March 9am

 **PROJECT COMPASSION**  

Project Compassion boxes are available in the foyer. Please take a box home and support this Lenten initiative by contributing what you can throughout the season.

Sacrament Spotlight
 On the second week of preparation, the children explored the theme of choices and responsibility. They reflected on the many choices we make each day—some small and simple, others more significant. Through discussion, Scripture, and activities, they began to see that every choice has an impact, not only on themselves but also on the people around them. The children learned that God has given us the gift of freedom, trusting us to choose what is loving and good, and that our choices can bring joy, kindness, and peace to others.

As part of this learning, the children were introduced to the idea of conscience, the gentle voice within that helps guide us toward what is right. Reflecting on the words of St Paul (Gal. 5) they explored how the Holy Spirit helps us grow good “fruit” such as kindness, patience, and love. They also practiced a simple way to make thoughtful decisions: See – Judge – Act — see what is happening, think about it with a loving heart, and act with courage.

The children were also introduced to the Ten Commandments, which help guide us in loving God and caring for one another. They discovered that these commandments are not simply rules, but a path that helps us live in a way that brings goodness, respect, and harmony to our lives and our community.

Reflecting on the story of Jesus healing the leper, the children learned about the courage it takes to choose love even when it is difficult or unpopular. Just as Jesus reached out with compassion to someone others avoided, the children are encouraged to show kindness and courage in their own daily choices as they continue preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

St Patrick's Day – 17 March
 St Patrick trusted deeply in God's presence in every moment of life. His prayer, known as St Patrick's Breastplate, reminds us that Christ is with us always — before us, behind us, and within us. As we celebrate the feast of Saint Patrick, we give thanks for the faith of our ancestors who handed this gift of faith down to us. May their witness inspire us to live the Gospel with hope and joy.

Happy St Patrick's Day!

PARISH ROSTERS

<p>14/15 MARCH Cleaning 16-20 R & K Ison</p> <p>5.00PM MASS Welcomer : K Conway Commentator: S Ebejer Reader P Nolan Eucharistic Ministers K Lovering Computer Screen J O'Sullivan</p> <p>9.00 AM MASS: Welcomer T van den Broek Commentator . M Lowe Reader: B Basevi Eucharistic Ministers V & C Burns Computer Screen T Priest</p> <p>MORNING TEA: J Barroman/G Berryman</p> <p>COUNTERS: T & A Jackson C Evenden</p>	<p>21/22 MARCH Cleaning 23-27 Favetta, O'Neill, Nugent</p> <p>5.00PM MASS Welcomer B Oerder: Commentator: M O'Neill Reader: M Weatherall Eucharistic Ministers N Buick Computer Screen K Conway</p> <p>9.00 AM MASS: Welcomer School Commentator School Reader School Eucharistic Ministers School Computer Screen . T Jones</p> <p>MORNING TEA: B & N Beatty</p> <p>COUNTERS: M & C Lowe</p>
--	--

◆ Leave a Lasting Gift for Our Church ◆

Our parish warmly invites parishioners to help provide several important liturgical items for our church:

- **Two Brass Candlesticks - \$660**
- **Refillable Altar Candles - \$700**
- **Baptism Oil Set Container - \$750**



These sacred items will be used in our liturgy for many years to come. The candlesticks and refillable candles will help reduce smoke stains above the altar and preserve the beauty of our Sacred space.

The Baptism Oil Set will be used during the Sacrament of Baptism, as we joyfully welcome new members into our Church.

You are welcome to sponsor a full item or contribute towards the cost, as you are able.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

VOLUNTEERS FOR ROSTERS FOR HOLY WEEK
 Rosters are in the foyer to be filled in for Holy Week. Please put your name and phone number in for the time and day you will be available. Your help is much appreciated.

† LENT & EASTER 2026
Journey with Christ through Lent to Easter Joy.

Stations of the Cross
 Fridays – 5.00 PM, followed by Soup Dinner

Lenten Reflection
 Wednesdays – 9.30–11.00 AM

Second Rite of Reconciliation
 Thursday, 26 March – 5.00 PM

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday - 2 April
 Mass of the Lord's Supper – 6.00 PM

Good Friday - 3 April
 Stations of the Cross – 10.00 AM
 Liturgy (Indian Community) – 11.00 AM
 Passion of the Lord – 3.00 PM

Holy Saturday - 4 April
 Easter Vigil – 7.00 PM
 Indian Mass – 11.00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY - 5 April
 Mass – 9.00AM




PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM 2026

Sessions will be held Wednesdays 9.30—11am after 9am Mass.
 March 18th & 25th.

COST = Free. Program supplied.
 Facilitated by Marie Weatherall, Carolyn Evenden, Helen Nettelbeck, Deidre Herring, John McKay and Mary O'Neill.

All are welcome.



Mass with the Anointing of the Sick
— Saturday 28 March 2026
Mass: 9:00am
Holy Hour: 8:00am
Confession: 8:00am – 8:45am

MASSES IN AGED CARE
The Glen Every Second Wednesday 10.30am
The Manor Every Third Wednesday 2pm
Maranatha Every Fourth Wednesday 2pm

 **II Rite of Reconciliation**
 26th March, 5pm

BAPTISMS IN THE PARISH

Lorenzo Greco - Saturday February 21st
 Antheia Almira—Saturday March 14th

We welcome these children into our faith community through the waters of baptism. May God's love and blessings be upon them on this baptism day and always.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

A/C Name: St Bernard's Operating
 BSB: 062 786
 A/C No: 000 12939
 Ref: Family Name

Prayers for the Sick
Jesus, Divine Healer, we entrust all the sick into your loving hands

Frankie Pepper, Deborah Eddington, Declan Holmes, Joy & John Dillon, Jan Simpson, Nan Reidy, Natalie Matthews, Jordan Ambler, John Hyland, Ken Evenden, Travis Roth, Piper Roth, Maya Roth, Jeanette Clarke, Brendan Blyton, Wendy & Pat Roberts, Mark O'Neill, Karen Nixon, Kevin Totterell, Dawn Robinson, Maria de Rocco, Myrna Glenn, Norma Dean, Ann Marie McLoughlin, Christine Norman, Anne Gatehouse, Tony Vogel, Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill.

Recently Deceased

We have loved them in life; let us not forget them in death. May they live forever in God's love.

Nick Hum, Fiona Wearne, Bettye Ison, Fr Frank Fuchs, Chris Bowditch, Shirley Carroll, Pavla Pinkawa, William Gallagher, Teresa Lewis, Bob & Suzanne Hughes, Bishop Pat Power, Diana Ebbelaar, Sr Maria Goretti, Maria Mendes, Gregy Elchico, Bob & Judy Spruce, Rod & Letitia Baz, Wido Melis, Zora Domitrovic, Margaret Priest, Linda Vogel, Ivan Backo, Jean McSmith, David Wick, Margaret Silversides, Joseph Quigley, Patricia Totterdell, Joanne Rogers, Josephine Beckhaus.

Anniversaries: are listed in the Memorial Book at the Church and names can be added to it if dates are provided.

Pope's Monthly Prayer Intentions March

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

 **BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS**

Caring for Eurobodalla shire families for over 50 years
 Batemans Bay 4472886
 Moruya 4474 3555 Narooma 4476 3888

INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS
 1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay

Buy fuel any time

ESTPOS VISA AMEX MASTERCARD

OCEAN BREEZE TAKEAWAY
 Fish & Chips, Burgers, Sandwiches & Coffee
100% BEEF BURGER
 248 Beach Road
 Batemans Bay NSW 2536

MAYDAY Plumbing And Gas
Fully licensed Plumber and Gas Fitter
 Gutter Cleaning
 General Maintenance
 RHYS MAY
 0427 373 826

02 4472 1802

COVE
 LANDSCAPE DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

Residential Landscape Construction Projects
 www.coveldc.com.au
 Niall Mahon
 0450960904
 coveldc@gmail.com
 LIC #368320C

excell *Ideaspeople*
 —with a passion for print
 P 4472 1599
 E batemansbay@excellprint.com.au
 www.excellprint.com.au
 Shop 1/25, Old Princes Hwy
 Batemans Bay NSW 2536

Ray and Annie Brown

COASTAL CONCRETE & QUARRY

Kate & Tara your vets
 at Surf Beach

EUROCOAST Veterinary Centre
 4471 3400

02 4474 0320

Liturgy of the Word Fourth Sunday of Lent First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22 R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness, no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me

In the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

John 8:12

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

John 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go

and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

The gospel of the Lord
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal

© 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.



**ST BERNARD'S PARISH
BATEMANS BAY
2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536**

Welcome to
our church

P .O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536.
Tel: 4472 4153
E: batemansbay@cg.org.au
Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
Office Hours: 10am to 2pm
Wednesday-Friday

Priest: Fr. Joshy Kurien
E: joshy.kurien@cg.org.au, 0412 358 222
Secretary: Roslynne Trompp
Finance Admin: Anne Jackson JP
PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall
Asst. PC Co-ord: Carolyn Evenden

St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven
Principal: Karen Hadley
R.E.C: Rebecca Keough
Carroll College, Broulee
Principal: Andrew Kenneally
R.E.C: Anna Smart

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A



Choir Practice
Every Monday
1.00pm - 2.30 pm
Easter Preparation

Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am
Fridays after Mass

"Enjoy the Good News"
Wednesdays after mass
CMR

Stations of the Cross
Fridays 5pm finishing 27th
March Followed by Soup
Supper at 6pm

No Mass Thursday 19th March

School Family Mass
Sunday 22nd March, 9am

Parish Sacramental Program
Weekly Sessions
March 18,25
5-6pm CMR
II Rite Celebration March 26
5PM

Reconciliation Commitment
Masses Week-Ends 14 & 15th
March

Mass with the Anointing of the Sick
Saturday 28 March 2026
Mass: 9:00am
Holy Hour: 8:00am
Confession: 8:00am - 8:45am

Wrap With Love
Wednesday 25 March
1pm-3pm CMR

RCIA Thursdays 5.30pm

COFFEE CLUB
Thursdays after 9am Mass
Venue: Corrigans Cove

Craft Group—Thursdays 10-12

The readings for this Sunday bring us stories and hopefully, some suggestions for seeing people and events in new ways. Helen Keller's statement "It is a terrible thing to see and have no vision" is thought provoking and it in some ways highlights features of the readings. Vision, sight, light, dark and blindness are all mentioned and used in pairs of opposites e.g. light/dark, faith/unbelief which could demonstrate or be seen as having theological meaning.

Samuel tells us that "God does not see as we do but looks at the heart."

The reading from Ephesians suggests that now we are children of light we should allow the light to transform us to help us live as true disciples.

It is in the gospel that we find a deep, enriching, thought provoking story emerge, encapsulating all that Helen Keller's quote suggests. We become aware that there are two groups in this story - a man who is blind and another group referred to as people and the Pharisees. Whilst there is no explanation about the circumstances of the man's blindness, the reaction towards him was typical of the view at the time. Suffering was a punishment for something that was regarded as a sin. Jesus then complicates the issue further with His healing and by restoring the man's sight on the Sabbath no less, and irritating the authorities yet again.

Two parties on a journey; both believing they will find the 'light'; the man hoping his 'sight' will be restored and the Pharisees sure that their laws and regulations will ensure their light.

As the man is cured of blindness, he moves beyond the physical into a spiritual light. While he showed great courage by speaking up and acknowledging Jesus, the other group (Pharisees/people) stayed rigid in their attitudes, thus moving away from the light and into darkness.

Sister Veronica Lawson (RSM) draws our attention when she writes "Ironically the blind man came to see, both physically and spiritually, whilst those who are gifted with physical sight can often remain in spiritual darkness".

Who or what will we see as we continue on this Lenten journey?

Will we be able to address our own spiritual blindness?

Openness to God requires us to see beyond ourselves, move out of our comfort zone and be more aware that God looks at the heart, not seeing things as we see them.

Will we be open to checking our assumptions/ideas about people and events and if necessary revise our thinking? Unlike the Pharisees, who could not see actions/beliefs from a different perspective.

It is comforting to know that God is walking this journey with us.

May we seek His light as our guide this week.

"All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle."
St. Francis of Assisi.

Carolyn Evenden

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Walbunja people of the Yuin Nation.
We pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging.