

Catholic Parish of the Nambucca Valley

 **Administrator:** Fr. Peter Rebello ocd

 **Parish Secretary:** Gill Dewar

 78 Wallace St (PO.Box 38) Macksville 2447

 02 6568 1107

 Tue, Wed 8:30 am – 4:00pm.

 parish@nvparish.org.au

 www.nvparish.org.au

 **Our Lady Star of the Sea – Nambucca Heads**

 **Corpus Christi – Bowraville, St Patricks – Macksville**

28TH SUNDAY IN

ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A,

11TH OCTOBER, 2026

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-10

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 22(23)

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life

Second Reading

Philippians 4:12-14,19-20

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

cf Ephesians 1:17. 18

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew

Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

It is not a matter of good fortune

There's a bloke at every barbecue who reckons he's got God's number sorted. Do the right thing, say your prayers, front up to Mass, and the Big Fella will give you good crops, healthy kids, and a Bunnings sausage that doesn't fall out of the bread. Suffering in this view is suffering only happens to the "others," the people who didn't do the right thing. Job is the Bible's answer to that bloke, and it isn't gentle. We meet Job this Sunday only at the very end of the book, after forty-one chapters most of us have never sat through; chapters in which Job loses everything, sits in the ashes scraping his boils with a bit of broken pottery, and then spends round after round arguing with three "mates" who've turned up to explain exactly what he's done wrong to deserve it. Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar are the ancient world's answer to the fella who messages you after a cancer diagnosis with a theory about your diet. They are wrong. And the author of Job has God say so explicitly. The book of Job isn't a story that proves the tidy formula: faithful people suffer, then get rewarded for their faith; so be good and God will look after you.

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 safeguarding office: Phone 0266219444 or email safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

In Job, suffering is pointless, and Job never gets an explanation for his suffering. What he gets is God turning up and asking him where he was when the foundations of the earth were laid which, let's be honest, is not really an answer. It's God pulling rank. And Job accepts it anyway, not because the ledger has been balanced, but because he has encountered the mystery of the divine and he's stopped needing the ledger. However, there is a trap in this week's reading. Job gets everything back double, new kids included. It's tempting to read that as the happy ending that proves the formula after all. But no new child ever replaces the ten who died, and the text doesn't pretend otherwise. The restoration isn't a reward for Job's faithfulness. It's pure gift; not a prize. This brings us, gently, to Luke's seventy-two disciples, arriving back from their mission trip thrilled that even the demons obeyed them. Jesus redirects them: don't rejoice because you have been given power over demons; rejoice because you are known to God. And then that extraordinary prayer of Jesus: "Thank you, Father, for hiding this from the clever and the credentialed, and showing it to the little ones" (Luke 10:21). Job's three mates were the clever and credentialed. Job, ash-covered and furious, turned out to be the little one – not because he was faithful or wise, but because he recognised the presence of God even in his suffering. So next time someone at the barbecue tells you their good fortune is God rewarding their virtue, feel free to mention Job. Just maybe leave out the boils till after the snags are done. Ian J Elmer © Majellan Media 2026

Announcements

Thankyou Fr Vinod, for being with our parish over the past 8 weeks. Your presence & support have meant so much to us, and we are so very grateful for everything you have done. May God Bless you
World Mission day is approaching, Please support Catholic mission – envelopes are located at the back of the church . See Yamikani's story below

 Please **SAVE THE DATE: 6th December Nambucca Valley Christmas Lunch . All welcome :)**

ASPIRE
Young Adult Spiritual Formation
with Bishop Greg, OCD

Monday, 12 October
and
Tuesday, 24 November

Darcy Room
(back of the Cathedral)
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

or join us via Zoom
Zoom Login: 260 411 8529
Password: ASPIRE

For more information, contact:
Sr. Di, CM - 0434 772867
dmoralde@lismore.catholic.org.au



ONE IN CHRIST
UNITED IN
Mission
100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

 **catholic mission**

Free call: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/united



For Yamikani*, getting to school means walking long distances in pain, often without enough food or strength to make the journey. For many families in vulnerable and remote areas like rural Malawi, education has become an impossible choice.

But there is hope. Led by Fr Matthew Semba, a new primary school is being built, offering children a safe place to learn, grow, and look ahead with renewed possibility.

This World Mission Month, you are invited to share in this mission, standing with families as they rebuild their lives and create a brighter future for their children.

**Name changed for privacy*

CELEBRATING
140 YEARS
Presentation Sisters
in Lismore




THANKSGIVING MASS
Saturday, November 21
11:00 AM
St Carthage's Cathedral



All are welcome to join us in prayer and reflection

Tickets also available for a Celebration Luncheon to be held at Invercauld House via: <https://www.trybooking.com/DNKOM>
or Phone: 6627 6647

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME

Martin Glover, Val Ryan

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Pauline Baker, Joye Thorne, Elaine Gosson, Nicky Hemsworth, Kathleen Mitchell, Peter Butros, Peter Moroney

WE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED

† Alexander Blair
† Roy Pritchard
† Ray Pateman

Mass Times

Tue 13 th Oct	No Mass
Wed 14 th Oct	No Mass
Thu 15 th Oct	No Mass
Fri 16 th Oct	9am Adoration, 9.30am Mass at Nambucca Heads 4pm Nuptial Mass Nambucca Heads
Sat 17 th Oct	4:30 Confession 5:00 pm Mass at Nambucca Heads
Sun 18 th Oct 29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time World Mission Day	8am Mass at Macksville 9:30 am Mass at Bowraville

Mass Intention envelopes are located at the back of the Church

Our bulletin is sponsored by Diocesan Investment Fund (DIF) paying 4.15% effective 1/08/26. Call 1800802516 or www.dif.org.au