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

All Saints Day 1st November, 2026

📖 First Reading — Apocalypse 7:2-4,9-14

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel. After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.' One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

📖 Responsorial Psalm — Psalm 23(24):1-6

Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

📖 Second Reading — 1 John 3:1-3

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

📖 Gospel Acclamation — Mt11:28

Alleluia, alleluia! Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.
Alleluia!

📖 Gospel — Matthew 5:1-12a

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

We remember the holy

In 2018, Pope Francis wrote an Apostolic Exhortation called "Rejoice and be Glad" (Gaudete et Exsultate) in which reminded us that holiness is not for special people or a particular vocation but a universal call to all believers. On the feast of All Saints, we celebrate the lives of all who have demonstrated holiness in their lives. Some of them are canonised saints, but many are ordinary people, our next-door neighbours, parents who raised their children with love, women and men who worked hard to support their families, elderly religious, those who lived by their principles in a variety of workplaces, the sick and the retired. Holiness often grows through small gestures and faithful commitment. Francis offers a substantive reflection on the Beatitudes which are the subject of this week's gospel. We learn that, when Jesus saw the crowds he went up a mountain, his disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. We are familiar with the text but let us take a moment to reflect. Each of the beatitudes begins with the term "Blessed" which is a translation of a Greek word meaning 'those who receive God's favour'. However, each of these blessings is contrary to normal human expectations. Being poor in spirit is not an endorsement of poverty, but an attitude of being dependent on God rather than human resources. 'Mourning' is not a sought-after state, but those of us who mourn lost loved ones can develop a compassionate listening to others who have experienced loss. 'Meekness' is not a contemporary virtue, but rather an attitude of humility in those who are self-assured and have no desire to control others. 'Those who hunger and thirst for justice' are those who take seriously the statement of the 1971 Synod of Bishops who reminded us that "justice is a constitutive dimension of the gospel.." It is not an optional extra but fundamental to the Good News

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

The 'merciful' are those who have in their own lives experienced setbacks and failures but have learned to walk quietly and patiently with other vulnerable people. The 'clean of heart' are those who see the good of others and see their gifts instead of their limitations. The 'peacemakers' are critically important in a broken world where reconciliation and healing are essential for the renewal of our world. The final Blessing is for those who are persecuted and bad-mouthed because of their belief in Jesus. Current statistics tell us that 388 million Christians in our contemporary world are persecuted because of their belief (https://www.opendoors.org/en-US/persecution/countries/). Their commitment should encourage all of us to renew our commitment and our solidarity with those who experience such difficulties. Let us ponder those who have gone before us who have lived their commitment to Christ faithfully in the ordinariness of their lives, as we also remember that we are all called to be members of the communion of saints. Michael A Kelly CSsR

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Announcements



Nambucca Valley Christmas Lunch
6th December at Nambucca Heads RSL
Everyone is warmly invited to join us for a delicious Christmas lunch, including dessert, tea and coffee. Please write your name on the list at the back of the church. The cost is $44, payable in cash by 29th November. Please make payment to May Harris at OLSS and Mary Henry at St Pats. We look forward to sharing a wonderful Christmas celebration with you all!

Please note: There will be no Masses from 9th to 13th November, as Fr Peter will be attending the Clergy Conference in Lismore.

The parish office will be closed on Tuesday 3rd November and open on Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th November for this week only.

Please write the names of your loved ones on the November Mass envelopes. The envelopes will be placed on the altar, and Fr Peter will offer Masses during November for all those who are deceased.

All welcome to join our Advent small group reflection at OLSS commencing on Wednesday 25th November and continuing every Wednesday during Advent from 5pm-6pm.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME

Val Ryan, Reg Darlington, Dorrie Clough, Veronica Black, Jim Hallam, Martin Howle, Adam Shepherd, Kevin Cassin, Judith Grace Howell

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

†Ray Pateman, †Ann Mulhall
†Teresita Maria Kelly

Mass Intention envelopes are located at the back of the Church

Mass Times

Mon 2nd Nov All Souls Day	8am Mass at OLSS 9.30am Mass at Macksville
Tue 3rd Nov	9.30am Mass at Macksville
Wed 4th Nov	9.30am Mass at Bowraville
Thu 5th Nov	9.30am Mass at Macksville
Fri 6th Nov	9am Adoration, 9.30am Mass at Nambucca Heads
Sat 7th Nov	4:30 Confession 5:00 pm Mass at Nambucca Heads
Sun 8th Nov	8am Mass at Macksville 9:30 am Mass at Bowraville

October Renewal Newsletter

Scan the QR code to read the newsletter



*Please note: November Masses 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