

6th Sunday of
Easter

5th & 6th May

Year B



year of youth
OPEN NEW HORIZONS FOR SPREADING JOY

St Mary's Parish Echuca

Focus on the Gospel

The Lectionary offers today an alternate second reading and gospel which are also set for the seventh Sunday of Easter. In Australia and elsewhere, we celebrate the Ascension next Sunday; the Seventh Sunday of Easter is omitted. The Gospel set for this Sunday (John 15:9-17) follows on from last week (John 15:1-8) and offers a further meditation on Jesus the true vine.



Like watching a time-lapse film of a bud flowering in a few seconds rather than several days, Jesus offers us a meditation on the grapevine producing fruit and a person growing to maturity in Christian love. We remain in God's love, our joy is complete, we are called friends, we are commissioned to go out. We are able to achieve all this because God has first loved us and Jesus has given us the means by way of a new commandment: "To love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12). The first reading about the conversion of Cornelius, the Roman Centurion, at first, perplexes St Peter: "How can a pagan receive the Holy Spirit before Baptism?" St Augustine gives us two ways to resolve this enigma, first by his concept "prevenient grace", grace that comes before grace, God's help preceding God's gift. And secondly something he experienced himself at the time of his conversion: "I did not love but yet I loved to love." (Confessions III,1,I) He discovered that we cannot make love into a god but the opposite, in truth, to come to know and believe "God is Love" (1 John 4:8).

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PARISH STAFF

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Parish Office Hours:

Mon-OFFICE CLOSED
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Follow us on twitter
@StMarysEchuca
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Today we respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Yorta Yorta Nation including the 8 clans, Bangerang (Pangerang), Kaitheban, Wollithiga, Moira Ulupa, Kwat Kwat, Yalaba Yalaba and Nguri-illiam-wurrung.

This land is sacred, this land is gift, this land is thousands of years old. We acknowledge the immense beauty of this land and the dreams of the Yorta-Yorta People.

We pay our respects to elders past and present and acknowledge the lessons the Yorta-Yorta people teach us about care, respect and justice for mother earth. We remember their story as we journey together in a spirit of hope, justice and peace.

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: 6.00pm
Sunday: 8.00am & 10.00am

Come & See 5.00pm
3rd Sunday of the month
March to November

Weekday Mass

Tuesday 6pm PC

**Wednesday 12 Noon
Church**

**Thursday 9am
St Mary's School
Auditorium (Preps)**

Friday 9am PC

NOTICES



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – Airs 13 May 2018

All Journey Catholic Radio information is a week in advance.

This week on the Journey Catholic Radio, our Gospel this week is from Mark 16:15-20, proclaiming “Go into all the world and preach the Gospel” The Wisdom from the Abbey comes to us from Sr Hilda, Pete Gilmore talks to us about tuning in the radio in his Living the Gospel God spot and Frances Pirolas reminds us of Gratitude in her Smart Loving segment. With the support of our amazing musicians we create a show about faith, hope, love and life. Tune into LIFE 105.1 FM Sunday 11am or go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

Reconciliation Week

All parishioners are invited to the Echuca 2018 Walk for Reconciliation **10am Monday 28th May**.

The walk is organised by Njernda in partnership with the Shire of Campaspe to celebrate National Reconciliation Week in our community. Last year’s event was very moving and this year’s Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony and Flag Raising is sure to be as poignant.

This is a great opportunity for the parish schools and parishioners to ‘walk’ together for a significant purpose.

The walk will begin at Njernda Medical Centre.

Aged Care Service

Friday 11 May

Wharparilla 9.45am

Glanville 10.45am

BUPA 11.30am



Do you give blood regularly?

Giving blood is a vital contribution to our community, indeed a giving contribution.

St Mary’s has just registered as a “Red25” organisation,

Red25 is a life-saving social responsibility program where workplaces, community groups, schools and universities around Australia unite to save lives through blood donation.

When you next give blood you can nominate to donate as part of St Mary’s Echuca. This is an opportunity for us to be united in an ongoing project knowing a small gesture combines to make a meaningful difference.



Spirituality in the Pub

Terminus Hotel, Shepparton

Monday 21st May 2018

***A just future for our local kids...
A community responsibility***

Speakers: Peter Chalkey & Jen Frisardi

Counter meals available from 6 pm (optional)

Enquiries: Kerry 0408 579904 or Frank 5821 4362

BLUMES FASHIONS

Cunningham Downs Community Centre

Mt Terrick Road

Thursday 24 May

10.30am

Morning Tea

(served prior to display)

Admission \$5

Raffles & Lucky Door Prizes

**Pick up a copy of the SANDPIPER today
available from the back of the church.**

*The best way to keep track of all that happens in our parish is to follow us on Facebook . To stay in touch with news, events, people in our community and our schools:
[@stmarysparishechuca](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysparishechuca)*

May 12 & 13

Altar Servers:

6.00pm Oliver Williams & Oliver Bray

10.00am Macy & Abby Larkin,
Georgia Emonson

Commentators:

6.00pm Rose Quinn

8.00am Tim Fulton

10.00am Rob Morris

Lectors:

6.00pm Mary Marwood, Jan Davey

8.00am Margaret Oman

10.00am Claire Hogan, Michelle Shingles

Eucharistic Ministers:

6.00pm Malia Black, Barb Smith,
Christine Sebire

8.00am Bob Cooper, Margaret
Walter, Ross Veale

10.00am Kate Bruty, Kirrilee
Westblade, Kathy Nanscawen, Clem
Mulcahy, John Moyle

Setting up for Mass:

6.00pm Marg Summers

8.00am Chloris Dignan

10.00am Theresa Jacobs

Altar Society:

Eileen Pineo, Kay Westblade,
Anne Bennett

Glanville Communion:

Leanne Roberts

Wharparilla Communion:

Vic & Naomi Burton

Bupa Communion:

Nancy Goldrick, Lois Williams

Home Communion:

Leanne Roberts

Hospital Visiting:

Mick Westblade

Proof Reading-May 11

Sr Margaret Duffy

Counting-May 8

Margaret Hart & Roma Bowman

Lawns-May

Bernie Oliver & Tom Oliver

Baptism- May

Mary Byrne

Calendar

May

6: Social Committee meeting
3pm PC

9: Christian Meditation 10.45

**9: Sacramental Team
meeting-PC-5.00pm**

11: Aged Care Services

13: Mothers Day

20: Come & See Mass

**23: Reconciliation
Ceremony**

23: CWL meeting –PC-12.30

Women's Breakfast

Saturday 2 June

Parish Centre 9.30am

Entry by ticket only

Tickets available from Parish

Office

(a donation on the day would be appreciated)

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Sick: Des Taylor, Mary Edwards, Patricia Vagg, Cheryl Carey, Mary Roberts, Mary Byrne, Enid Stapleton, Bruno Barbera, Anne Henderson, Jill Sutherland, Helen Munro, Frank Dullard, Judy Clark, Vanessa Rose Maroni, Matt O'Neill, Terry White, Beatrice Phillips, Barry O'Sullivan & Alan Roache

Recent Death:

Anniversary: Bryan Kennedy, Peter Boyer, Mary Farley

Christian Meditation will be held every Wednesday at 10:45 am in the Parish Centre.

All welcome to come whenever you can.

Do you remember how special the Pentecost Come and See Mass was a couple of years ago?

Do you recall the power of the Spirit that was palpable amongst us?

Do you remember the candles and the flames?

Do you remember the birthday cake?

What a joyful celebration of the birth of the Church!!

Please bring some party food to share !!!!!



**We're celebrating
the Spirit!**

Sunday 20th May - 5pm

**St Mary's School
Auditorium**

St Mary's children will enflame our hearts with the Holy Spirit as we celebrate Pentecost.



Readings

1st Reading: Act of the Apostles 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48.

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up', he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia,

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 97:1-4

R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. **R.**

The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel. **R.**

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy. **R.**

2nd Reading 1 St John 4:7-10

My dear people,
let us love one another
since love comes from God
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and
knows God.
Anyone who fails to love can never have known
God,
because God is love.
God's love for us was revealed
when God sent into the world his only Son
so that we could have life through him;
this is the love I mean:
not our love for God,
but God's love for us when he sent his Son
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Today's Gospel: John 15:9-17

Next week:

1st Reading: Act of the Apostles 1:1-11

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 46:2-3, 6-9

2nd Reading: St Paul to the Ephesians 4: 1-13

Gospel: Mark 16:15-20