



Sixth Sunday of Easter - Yr C

25th May, 2025

Parish Priest Fr Vincent Nguyen
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Ph: 5428 2591

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CHILD PROTECTION - is everyone's responsibility

Check the Parish Website for:

Child Safety & Code of Conduct Policy
Parish Privacy Act / Professional Standards

A parent must accompany any child leaving the church during Mass.

Parish Email: gisborne@cam.org.au
Parish Website melbcatholic.org/s/gisborne
Parish Facebook Page www.facebook.com/stbrigidsparishgisborne

Secretary Hours Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm**CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:**

Please pray for those who are in ill health:

**Eileen S, Corine V, Anthony S,
Fran S, Helen K, Shane R, George T,
Diane M, Marg P, Zoe F,
Ellen K & Pat P.**

We pray for the recently deceased and for those who have
an anniversary at this time, especially

**Dr. Frank Power, Margaret Fletcher, Aida Freijah &
Charmaine Daly.**

May they rest in peace

Upcoming Parish Masses & Events

Fri 23/05/25 9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne
Fri 23/05/25 Warrina Communion Service
Sat 24/05/25 Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne
Sun 25/05/25 Normal Sunday Masses
Sun 25/05/25 12pm – Baptism's – Gisborne
Mon 26/05/25 5:30pm Sacramental classes – Gisborne
Tue 27/05/25 5pm – Weekday Mass – Gisborne
Wed 28/05/25 9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne
Thu 29/05/25 9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne
Fri 30/05/25 9:15am – Weekday Mass - Gisborne
Sat 31/05/25 Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne
Sun 01/06/25 Normal Sunday Masses
Mon 02/06/25 5:30pm Sacramental classes – Gisborne
Tue 03/06/25 5pm – Weekday Mass – Gisborne
Wed 04/06/25 9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne
Wed 04/06/25 6:30pm – Baptism info night - Gisborne

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Some people have the idea that God is awfully remote, dwelling beyond the edge of the cosmos. We make contact by sending a prayer like a long range rocket, hoping it will find its target.

This is far distant from Our Lord's teaching in today's Gospel.

'If anyone loves me and keeps my word, my Father and I will make our home with that person.' It is not in outer space, but in inner space that Divine Love will make a home.

What turns a house into a home? It is in sitting around a table sharing a meal. So, Jesus created a sacred meal for us and invites us to share in the Heavenly Bread and Spiritual Drink.

When we do so, we find, in the words of St John Paul II, that we 'digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection'. We take into ourselves the Real Presence of the Risen Lord who makes his home with us.

Coming to Communion, even after a long time away, satisfies the yearning of the human heart because it is made to be the habitation of Divine Love. We could pause for a moment to reflect on the gracious fact that God chooses to dwell in our hearts. Let us respond wholeheartedly.

mtate@bigpond.com**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 19th – 25th May, 2025**

National Volunteer Week 2025 will celebrate the power of volunteering to bring people together with the theme
'Connecting Communities'.

Volunteering creates lasting relationships that enrich lives and strengthen communities. Join us as we explore how giving to others fosters community engagement, connection and belonging.

Let's acknowledge the spirit of connection and the incredible impact volunteers have in building thriving and inclusive communities and those especially who volunteer at St. Brigid's and bring life to our parish & celebrations.

Thank you to our readers, musicians, special ministers, church carers, florists, committee members, liturgical program co-ordinators (Baptism & Sacraments), sacristans, tradesmen and to anyone who helps within our parish.

You are very much appreciated for all that you do.



Rosters & Events



Ministers for next weekend's Masses

The Ascension of the Lord – Year C

31st Mayth & 1st June, 2025

6:00pm Mass St. Brigid's Reader: N. Spiers Eucharist: L. Scott	8:00am Mass St. Ambrose's Welcomer: J. White Reader: AM Drummond	Flowers: T. Armstrong
9:30am Mass St. Patrick's Reader: B. O'Callaghan Eucharist: R. Fisher	11:00am Mass St. Brigid's Reader: K. Page Eucharist: T. Armstrong	

SECRETARY ANNUAL LEAVE

For the remainder of May, I will only be working 1 day a week instead of 2.

The office will be **unattended** on:
Tuesday 27th May

OPEN HOUSE

Meet after 11am Sunday Mass at the Kaffee Bar for a coffee and chat.

Everyone Welcome!

SCRIPTURE STUDIES

Thursday – 10am

For all enquiries please contact
Bernie 0414 890 377

BAPTISM PRAYER

We ask our God, the giver of life, to bless each of you,

**Bowie, Georgie, Freddy,
Caoimhe & Indi**

who will be baptised today.
We the Church of St. Brigid's welcome and support you.

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the Thanksgiving Program, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Brigid's Church Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6742 95773

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.

PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the Priest & Presbytery expenses, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Brigid's Presbytery Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6672 72303

Please use your surname as the reference.

AN INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER

Week 3 – Step by step.....

Here are some hints on how to approach your prayer time. Remember, these are just suggestions, not hard and fast rules, but if you are really struggling to begin, then these might be helpful.

Step 1: Greet God - You're initiating a conversation, so it's only polite to say, "Hello" before launching into a list which may include requests, demands, complaints! This **will** feel strange to begin with, but try to imagine each member of the Trinity as someone you want to engage with, e.g. you may think of the Father as looking like St John Paul II. Jesus will be a lot easier; there are lots of paintings, drawings, statues, etc depicting Jesus so we have a reasonable idea of what we think He may look like. The Holy Spirit will be harder still, but in the first verses of the bible, the Spirit is described as 'hovering over the void' and so the image here could be one of a bird, or tongues of fire coming down as they did on the apostles at Pentecost. Regardless of which image you focus on, the Spirit is the power of God through which all good things are manifest.

Step 2: Honesty – Tell God how you are doing today. "Okay, God knows everything," I hear you say, "so why do I have to tell Him how I'm feeling?" You're right, He **does** know everything – but do you really know how you're feeling as you begin to pray? You might be feeling stressed, angry, excited, confused – any number of emotions that you might take to a good friend or close family member but, in this instance, it is to the Lord and He wants to know. And here is where you leave all your worries and also your joys in His hands, and you can expect that, in some way, He will speak to your current situation.

Step 3: Worship – André Regnier states, "*Now you've looked inwards, you need to return your gaze to God. You do that through worship. Worship is a sure and easy way to enter God's presence. Praise is how we express our desire to honour God's greatness and majesty. It's also a great way to remind your own heart, regardless of what is happening, that God is good and can be trusted!*"

This can be really hard for a lot of people, but luckily there are loads of places to look for help with this. If this is not 'your thing', turn to the psalms – people have been honouring God for millennia and in amongst the psalms, you'll find many examples of people finding ways to praise God. And before you know it, you'll find yourself able to use your own words to praise God. Another good place is through music – the "Hallow" app has a number of "Praylists" which has some beautiful songs and music to listen to while you contemplate God. Don't worry if you find you're not 'into worship' – ask the Holy Spirit for help and keep at it, as we know, 'practice makes perfect'!

That's probably enough for this week, Steps 4 and 5 in the next 2 bulletins!

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Should you have a loved one gravely ill and in need of anointing or the services of a priest, please call the Parish Landline on 5428 2591.

St Brigid's Parish Weekly Giving

Collections last week: Presbytery \$630
Thanksgiving \$1285

Thank you for your ongoing support through the Thanksgiving Program.

Introduction: In our Easter Season we hear successive images of the mission of the Church and the Gospel standard of love. Today we hear the mandate of Jesus to love one another as he has first loved us.

1st Reading: Acts 15:1-2,22-29

We hear of a debate in the early Church about the obligations of pagan converts to observe the Jewish Law. After a council of the apostles and elders they decide that the Spirit leads them not to burden the converts beyond the essentials.

2nd Reading: Apocalypse 21:10-14.22-23

We hear about the vision of heaven. The holy city, the new Jerusalem, is portrayed as coming down from God out of Heaven and God will be with his people.

Gospel: John 14: 23-29

We hear of the discourse of Jesus at the Last Supper and his promise of the Holy Spirit whom he will send and his gift of peace that the world cannot give.

Prayer of Intercession: At the Last Supper, Jesus promised the disciples that he would send the Spirit to remind us all of what he had said. Let us now pray that his Spirit will be with us to bring the peace that the world cannot give.

1. For our laity, priests and bishops; that the gift of peace promised by Christ might fill their hearts and strengthen them in the challenges of their ministry.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

2. We Pray for those who are troubled or afraid that they will be comforted by Christ's gift of peace.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

3. We pray for our children who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and today profess their commitment to the reception of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. May their lives proclaim the fruits of God's love

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

4. That the standard of love mandated by Christ may guide all churches in the search for Christian unity that they may be one in answer to the prayer of Jesus.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

5. We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick – those on our parish prayer list – the frail, and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **Dr. Frank Power, Margaret Fletcher, Aida Freijah & Charmaine Daly.**

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Please join in the parish Prayer.

Celebrant: Father we leave our petitions with you, knowing that our brother, Jesus, who is with us in prayer, always intercedes for our needs both now and always. Amen.

Next week's readings: Acts 1:1-11; Heb 9:24-28 10:19-23; Luke 24:46-53

ST. BRIGID'S GISBORNE PARISH PRAYER

God our Father, we thank you for all the blessings we enjoy in our parish family of St. Brigid's Gisborne.

Many have laboured to build our parish. May we all work together and hand in hand stand together.

May our parish be filled with holiness and prayer, faith and love.

May all who come here find a welcoming home, comfort in their needs and strength for their journey.

St. Brigid, St. Patrick, St. Ambrose and St. Colmcille watch over us always we pray, that with faith we grow and learn.

We make our prayer in Jesus name.

Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (*all bow*)

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; "he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

The Living Word

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C

25 May 2025

First Reading

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 66:2-3. 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Second Reading Apocalypse 21:10-14, 22-23

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel

John 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

The Gospel of the Lord.