

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Year B

28 April 2024

## First Reading

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

**Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31**

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

### The Word of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

**(R.)** I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.  
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.  
May their hearts live for ever and ever! **(R.)**
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,  
all families of the nations worship before him.  
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **(R.)**
3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.  
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,  
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:  
'These things the Lord has done.' **(R.)**

## Second Reading

### A reading from the first letter of St John

**1 John 3:18-24**

My children, our love is not to be just words or meretalk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the

truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

### The Word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

**John 15:4-5**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

## Gospel

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**John 15:1-8**

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-dresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more.

You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

### The Gospel of the Lord.

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**REFLECTION** See Page 3



# ST PATRICK'S PARISH

142 Princes Hwy, Pakenham

Parish Office: 5941 7315, Parish Website: [www.stpatrickspakenham.com.au](http://www.stpatrickspakenham.com.au)

Email: [parishoffice@stpatrickspakenham.com.au](mailto:parishoffice@stpatrickspakenham.com.au)

Parish Office hours: Monday to Friday: 9.00 am to 3.00 pm

## Parish Team

**Fr. Janeesh Jose** (Parish Priest)  
stm.janeesh@gmail.com

**Andrea Jayawardena** (Parish Secretary)  
[parishoffice@stpatrickspakenham.com.au](mailto:parishoffice@stpatrickspakenham.com.au)

**Chiara Rosario** (Sacramental Co-Ordinator)  
[sacraments@stpatrickspakenham.com.au](mailto:sacraments@stpatrickspakenham.com.au)

**Katrina Venn** (Pastoral Care)  
[katrina@stpatrickspakenham.com.au](mailto:katrina@stpatrickspakenham.com.au)

**Herbie O'Flynn** (Safeguarding Officer)  
[safetyofficer@stpatrickspakenham.com.au](mailto:safetyofficer@stpatrickspakenham.com.au)

**Helen Staindl**, (Principal)

**St Clare's Primary School**, 5940 6777

**Meg Escalante** (Principal)

**St Patrick's Primary School**, 5943 9000

**Vincent J. Feeney**, (Principal), **SFX College**, 9707 3111

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

St. Patrick's Catholic Parish acknowledges the Bunurong and Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners of this land, who have walked upon and cared for it for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

## CHURCH RENOVATION FUND-RAISING

Thank you for your kind support and generous donations. Fund Raising brochures are available in the church foyer.



As at 31/03/2024	Sponsored Already	Pledged	Money Paid
Pews	31	46,500.00	40,761.60
Stations of the	9	36,000.00	28,600.00
Bricks	54	13,750.00	14,152.40
Gold Sponsors	7	70,000.00	60,000.00
General Donation e.g, dinner, sausage sizzle, plants etc		115,964.12	115,964.12
Community Raffle		15,314.00	15,314.00
		<b>297,528.12</b>	<b>274,792.12</b>

## Mass Times

Monday	9.30 am (Liturgy of the Word & Communion)
Tuesday	6.00pm
Wednesday	9.30am
Thursday	9.30am
Friday	9.30am
Saturday	9.30 am (Mass followed by Reconciliation and Exposition) and 6.00 pm
Sunday	9.00 am & 10.30 & 5.00 pm

## OUR OFFERINGS TO OUR PARISH

Stewardship envelope (1st Collection): \$1210.00 and cash: \$1112.10 Presbytery (2nd collection+Baptism): \$860.45  
If you would like to donate online:

**St Patrick's Parish Pakenham – Donations**

**Bank: National Australia Bank, BSB: 083-879**

**Account Number: 75 577 0740**

*Your contributions are greatly appreciated.*

**Flower Arrangement Roster**  
**Marlene Burhop—28th Apr**  
**Volunteer—4th May**

**SAFEGUARDING:** Our Parish is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children, young people and adults at risk.

## SPECIAL MINISTERS AND READERS ROSTER

27th/28th Apr	Special Ministers	Readers
6.00pm	Menaka M	Niru F Jane P
9.00am	Chrismeen F Prymani F Jilsa G	Mary O Ivan O
10.30am	Christina P Wanguii G Chiara R	Anette T Maria Duque
5.00pm	Anne B	Lawrismin G Nisha G
4th/5th May	Special Ministers	Readers
6.00 pm	Andrea J	Braden P Andrea M
9.00am	Cecilia M Pam M Johanna S	Mashenka W Ben W
10.30am	Paisami S Annette T Jane E	Chiara R Patrica C
5.00pm	Matthew F	Grace B Kevin M

**St. Patrick's Parish Centre Phone:** 5941 7315

**Presbytery:** 5941 3874

# Parish News & Events

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Sick:** Umberto Tibri, Maria Austin, Joso Kruljac, Francisco Ramos Piga, Mikaylah Piston, Katherine Davies, Sunandha Fernandez, Joseph Lozada, Benjamine Stalder, Sylvianne Surette, Diane Ding, Ben Wiegerink, Angelina Lazaris & Evie Minnis

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**Death Anniversaries:** Frank Olejniczak, Charles Lockwood, Brian Schlitz, Moyo McIlrath, Bridget & Regis Perera, Clementina Basso Mary Borg, Antony Mendis, Victor Emmanuel Sangalang and Sebastian Lobo

## BAPTISM

Parents who would like to have their children baptised are required to attend baptism preparation. The next one is on Wednesday 1 May 2024 in the church at 6.00 pm.

Please enrol through the parish website/contact Andrea at 5941 7315 the parish office.



## PARISH MINISTRIES AND GROUPS

**PADDY'S KITCHEN:** Serves dinner and dessert as take away every Sunday between 4-4.45pm. Contact Tresa Andrews on 0421 931 888 or email on stpatrickspaddys@gmail.com.

**MARTHA AND MARY FRIENDSHIP GROUP:** Rosary at 10.00 am on Tuesdays followed by cuppa in the Hall.

**LEGION OF MARY:** All are welcome to join every Friday at 10.15 am. Contact Jilsa at 0450 070 262 or Winnie at 0422 179 999.

**SERVANT COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP:** Every Thursdays at 7.00 pm—Praise, Worship and Healing Mass on first Thursdays of the month. For details: Jean-Claude at 0410 126 415.

**D'VINE KIDS: CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM:** Year 3-6 kids from 7—8.30 pm **May 10, Jun 14th & July 12th**

**THE VINE YOUTH GROUP:** Years 7-12 from 7-8.45 pm — **May 3 & 17, Jun 7 & 21, Jul 5 & 19 and Aug 2 & 16th.**

**HEARTS ON FIRE- YOUNG ADULTS GROUP:** Ages 18-40. For details contact the parish office on 5941 7315 or email heartsonfire@stpatrickspakenham.com.au

**SERAPHS OF ST PAT'S MENS GROUP:** Every Sunday at 6:00 p.m., we gather for music, fellowship, talks, and more. Additionally, our choir performs on the **first and third Sunday** of every month during the 5:00 p.m. mass. For further details, contact Dominic Thomas at 0425 742 254

**ST PATRICK'S LUNCHEON GROUP:** Meets for lunch every first Wednesday of the month. Contact Kathy at 0418 679 616.

**ST PATRICK'S GIFT SHOP:** Open before and after weekend Masses or by appointment through the parish office.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:** Meets every 2nd Tuesday at 10.00am in the Parish—Help Line is 1300 305 330.

**SEWING GROUP:** Meets every Thursday at 10.00am Contact Cheryl through Parish office.

**MARY'S INTERCESSORY MINISTRY:** Rosary and Chaplet of Mercy before the Blessed Sacrament every Saturday morning at 10am interceding for families, our church, priests and the world. Contact Rochelle 0401 017 752

## CONTACT DETAILS OF VARIOUS SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY

**NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, FAMILY AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** Call 1800 Respect / 1800 737 732,

**SAFE STEPS:** 1800 015 188

**NO TO VIOLENCE: MEN'S REFERRAL SERVICE:** 1 800 766 491 Mon-Fri: 8am-9pm; Sat-Sun: 9am-6pm

**MULTI-CULTURAL CENTRE AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE:** 1800 755 988

**WAYS EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION:** 9703 0044, **Lifeline** 13 11 14, **BEYOND BLUE** 1300 22 4636

**KIDS HELPLINE:** 1800 55 1800 or kidshelpline.com.au (Concerned adults can call for advice)

**CATHOLIC CARE:** Counselling services 1800 522 076, Or visit 1 Rogers Street, Pakenham.



## REFLECTION

## Spiritual Drink

by Fr Michael Tate

We are too familiar with today's gospel. Christ is the vine and we are the branches, sometimes in need of a good pruning. But God's purpose is not to produce a perfect vineyard. It is to produce a full-bodied wine at the end of history. There is a foretaste of this at every Mass. The wine we offer – 'fruit of the earth and work of human hands' – becomes the spiritual drink which best serves the purpose of our Heavenly Father. How does this happen?

For the Jewish people observing an animal whose throat is cut, it is obvious that the life drains out with the blood. 'Life' and 'blood' became synonyms. So, when the Jewish Jesus says of the wine in the chalice at the Last Supper: 'This is my blood', amongst other things he is saying: 'This is my life force, this is my very life given unreservedly for you.' So, when we drink from the chalice at Holy Communion, the life of the Risen Lord courses through our bodies just as the sap of the vine courses through its branches. We share the same ultimate vitality so that our bodily existence builds into the Body of Christ. He becomes truly 'full-bodied' as the Divine Vigneron desires.

# Parish News & Events

**RETURN OF CHURCH KEYS:** We have updated our church door locks to be managed electronically as part of our church renovation project. If you have a 'hard' key (**Blue, Green, Pink or Red**) still in your possession, please return it to the parish office. The main doors are now set up to **operate on a timer**, depending on the day and time. As the doors are now locked automatically, you don't need a 'hard' key to lock them. Please ensure that you shut the doors properly. Leaders of various ministries are provided with electronic 'key fobs' to access the doors and disarm the security system. If you have any queries or feedback regarding our new access control system, please inform the parish office, and we will try to rectify them as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding.

**ST PATRICK'S LUNCHEON GROUP:** We had a great lunch at Castello's and it was great to see some new faces. Next month we are going to the Deep Creek Reserve Bistro, At the Golf Club at the end of Cameron Way, on Wednesday the 1st of May at 12.00 noon. If you would like to come or need a lift contact Kathy 0418 679 616.

**THE VINE YOUTH GROUP :** meets on Friday the 3rd of May. Years 7-12. Join us for some food and fun at St Patrick's School Gym. Parents are asked to sign children in for a 7.00pm start finishing at 8.45pm. A registration fee of \$10 will be charged on the night.

## Children's Liturgy—Roster

Andrea & Volunteer 27th Apr 6.00 pm Sat  
Trent & Volunteer—28th Apr 9.00 am Sun  
Sara & Volunteer —28th Apr 10.00 am Sun  
Shingai & Jackie 5th May 9.00am Sun  
Christine V & Lisa 5th May 10.30am Sun



## Living the Gospel – Bearing fruit

The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.

The Month of May is Devoted to  
Our Blessed Virgin Mary

Legion of Mary of St Patrick's Parish, Pakenham  
invites you to join us to pray the Rosary  
every Friday during the month of May at 7.00 pm  
& on Tuesdays after the 6.00 pm Mass

Commencing on Friday 3rd May 2024 at 7.00 pm  
Followed by fellowship  
(Please bring a plate to share)

Feast of The Visitation of Mary  
Walk with Mother Mary (Procession)  
followed by the Mass on  
Friday 31st May 2024 at 6.30 pm

Celebrants:  
Father Janeesh, Father Ajin & Father Paul

 St Patrick's Church, Pakenham  
142 Princess Highway, Pakenham Vic 3810

ALL ARE WELCOME



JOURNEYING  
WITH  
MARY

Diocesan Day of Devotion to Mary

YOU ARE INVITED

9:15am Mass  
9:45am Adoration  
10:15am Cuppa  
10:30am Presentation by Mike Hansen (St. Michael's Parish, Traralgon)  
Praying with Scripture and Icons  
11:30am Personal reflection and sharing - Who is Mary for me?  
12:00pm Midday Marial prayer  
12:30pm Lunch (BYO)  
1:00pm Rosary  
1:30pm Benediction  
2:00pm Close

DAY	TIME	PLACE
MAY 11TH	9:15AM-2:00PM	Our Lady Help Of Christians Narre Warren