

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A

7th/8th February 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Welcome to The Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time.

### Going to the margins

With the images of salt and light, Jesus says what he expects from his followers. They don't need to be always thinking about their own interests, their own prestige, their own power. Even though they are a small group in the huge Roman Empire, they are the «salt» and the «light» that the world needs. "You are the salt of the world." The simple people of Galilee spontaneously knew what he meant. They knew what salt is good for: giving food flavour and conserving it from spoiling. Just so, we need to contribute to helping people find the savour in life. "You are the light of the world." Without sunlight, our world would stay dark and gloomy. Jesus' disciples can shine a light to probe the meaning of life, to walk with hope.

These metaphors have something vital in common. If the salt stays in the shaker, it doesn't do its proper work. Only when it dissolves in the food can it give flavour to what we eat. The same thing happens with light. If it stays closed up and hidden away, it can't enlighten anyone. Only when it shines out in the dark can it illuminate and guide. A church isolated from the world can be neither salt nor light.

Pope Francis called on Catholics today to "go out to the margins." He preferred a church that is "bruised and dirty because it has been out on the streets" to one that is "clinging to its own security, caught up in a web of procedures." We can't hunker down in our structures with passive hope. The Gospel invites us to run the risk of meeting face to face with others. It wants to promote a culture of encounter, because what our church needs today is to heal wounds and to warm hearts.

(José Antonio Pagola)

Taken from *The Association of Catholic Priests*

### ST PAT'S NANANGO -Prue Clarke, APRE

In our starting weeks of Religious Education, our students have been deepening their understanding of our school's heritage and faith story.

Our learning has included Saint Patrick, the patron saint of our school. Students explored his life as a brave missionary and how his courage, kindness, and steadfast faith continue to shape our school community today. Understanding why our school bears his name helped students make meaningful connections to our identity and values.

We also spent time learning about the priests after whom our sports houses are named: Fr Bergin, Fr McGinley and Fr O'Callaghan. Students remembered how each house honours a priest who served faithfully within our parish community. By learning about these remarkable men, students gained a deeper appreciation of the heritage and mission that shape our school community

It has been a wonderful week of connection — linking our school's identity, our history, and our shared faith story, and the remarkable individuals who built the foundations we stand on today.

### ST. MARY'S KINGAROY WORKING BEE

**Saturday 28th February from 7:30am to 12 noon,** there will be a working bee to continue to maintain the church garden and grounds. Morning tea will be provided. Please bring along general gardening tools if possible and hats and water.



## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 7th February	Blackbutt	5pm	Liturgy
Sunday 8th February	Kumbia	8am	Liturgy
	Nanango	8am	Mass
	Kingaroy	10am	Mass

**First Reading:** *Isaiah 58:7-10*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *All light rises in the darkness for the upright.*

**Second Reading:** *1 Corinthians 2:1-5*

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, Alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!*



**Gospel:** *Matthew 5:13-16*

## WEEKDAY MASS - FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Thursday 12th February	Blackbutt	9am	Liturgy
	Kumbia	5:30pm	Liturgy
Friday 13th February	Kingaroy	9am	Liturgy
	Nanango	- No Mass or Liturgy	

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Friday 13th February	No Cooyar Vigil		
Saturday 14th February	Blackbutt	5pm	Liturgy
	Kumbia	6pm	Vigil

## SACRAMENT OF PENANCE - PARENT INFORMATION

**First Rite of Reconciliation  
INFORMATION SESSION  
for Parents and their children  
SUNDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2026  
11:15am at St Mary's Church Kingaroy**

If your child has completed the Initiation Sacraments of the church - Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion, they are now eligible to prepare for and receive the Sacrament of Penance.

You and your child are invited to attend an information session about preparing for this Sacrament, helping you to decide if you and your child think they are ready for this next step in their Catholic faith journey.

### DATE CLAIMER:

St Mary's Parish Kingaroy will be holding a Cent Auction with Afternoon Tea on the Saturday 16th of May 2026. More information to follow.

### DO YOU HAVE PALMS FROM PALM SUNDAY?

Please remember, the 8th of February is the final day to bring palms from Palm Sunday last year, to allow sufficient time to burn palms for ashes. Place in baskets provided.



## PARISH PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

**Recently Deceased:** Terence (Terry) Burns.

**Death Anniversaries:** Mick Lenihan, Lyle Stephan, Wieslaw Kozlowski, Jennifer Kozlowski, Brian Ross, Laurette Trace, Irene Cecil, Joe Anderson.

### Prayers for the sick:

**OLHC Parish** - Amelia Cole, Greg Knaggs, Damian Wyvill, Kyle Sutherland (Perrett), Chris Stevens, Shirley Warner, Bruce McCarthy, Wendy Smith, Luke Colahan.

**St Mary's Parish** - Denise Mann, Liz Mamczur, Ellie Spicer, Joe Smoothy, Judy Stanton, Jo Saunders, Michael Carroll, Therese Hanley, Teresa O'Sullivan, Juliette McCorley, Bruce McCarthy, Darren Hooper.

## TERRY BURNS-FUNERAL NOTICE

Family and friends are invited to attend a Requiem Mass for Terry, to be held in St. Mary's Catholic Church, Kingaroy on **Wednesday 11th February 2026 at 1pm**, followed by interment within the Taabinga Monumental Cemetery.

## OLHC NANANGO - MAJELLAN MORNING TEA

 The Majellan Morning tea will be on Tuesday 10th February 2026 at 10-00 a.m. in OLHC Parish Hall. All welcome. Please bring a plate to share.

## CATHOLIC LEADER

Love reading *The Catholic Leader* in print? Have it delivered direct to your door. An annual subscription costs \$70 and includes 12 editions. Subscribe at [www.catholicleader.com.au/subscribe](http://www.catholicleader.com.au/subscribe) or call (07) 3324 3555 today.

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026

A planning meeting is to be held next Friday 13th February at 10am at The Salvation Army Church, 107 Kingaroy Street, Kingaroy. A representative from each church has been invited to attend. If you are able to attend as our representative, please contact the Parish Office and let us know.

## SEEKING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The South Burnett Support Alliance are seeking our support to provide a meal in Kingaroy on any Wednesday from the 25th February 2026 and onwards. They are currently asking host groups for only 120 meals with a little dessert (but should you be able to provide more, it would be gratefully received and some frozen for our weekly Sunday lunch meals provided from O'Neill Square). If there are any individuals or groups in our Parish who would be interested in volunteering either through your own Parish group or through The Parish Leadership Team. Please contact The Parish Office on (07) 4162 5121 during working hours to register your interest.