

Newcastle Inner City Parishes

5th February 2012
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE CITY PASTORAL REGION ENCOMPASSES THE PARISHES OF:
Broadmeadow, Hamilton, Tighes Hill/Carrington, Newcastle, Mayfield, Mayfield West, & Stockton

Vision Statement: We are a vibrant, welcoming, inclusive, Catholic faith community; sustained by Gospel values and active in the community.

Dear Parishioners and Visitors:

We come to the Table of the Lord's Word and Table of the Eucharist on the 5th Sunday in the ordinariness of our lives.

Today God's Word gives us two readings that are significant to our human condition in life.

The First Reading is from the Book of Job - Job is complaining, not only about his own personal misfortune, but he bewails the "human lot" or human condition as a whole.

There are many people who can feel overwhelmed by life – some for short periods, others all of the time. So, Job's graphic picture of the human person who yearns for meaning, yet experiences apparent futility can, for some, seem to be quite chilling.

Others find that their faith supports them through the difficult times. During the week I received a letter from people who previously lived in our Diocese but who now live in Tasmania. Their son, diagnosed early in life with paranoid schizophrenia, died in December. They are a wonderful, faith-filled family, who have exercised an extraordinary ministry of faithful commitment to their son. The Mass booklet which they sent showed the breadth and depth of their faith.

The Gospel of Mark today actually offers the Christian response to Job's lament about the futility of human life.

Mark gives us a picture of almost frantic activity on the part of Jesus and it is an activity of aimed precisely at relieving **all** that oppresses us as human beings. We are invited to ponder that it is the person of Jesus who gives both meaning to human life and the **means** to live in a truly **human** way.

We should also note that Mark very deliberately portrays Jesus as seeking out a time and place for prayer in the midst of his activity - something that all of us would do well to remember.

All are invited to attend the **CSO Call to Service Mass** which will be celebrated in the Cathedral at 6.30pm next Tuesday, 7th February.

Next Saturday, 11th February, is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. It is the day when the Holy See invites us to celebrate a World Day of Prayer for the Sick. The Novena Mass at **9.20am** (please note time) will be a Mass for anyone who is frail or ill. We will have a number of priests who will help with Sacrament of Anointing during the Mass for those who wish to be anointed.

Next Sunday, 12th February, there will be an Opening of School Year Mass for St Joseph's and Holy Family at the Cathedral at 5pm. All welcome.



Mike Allan

Parish Priest: Monsignor Allan Hart
Assoc Priest: Fr George Anthicadu

PARISH OFFICE

25 Farquhar Street, The Junction
PO Box 6, The Junction 2291
Telephone: (02) 4979 1101
Fax: (02) 4962 4644

Email: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Office Hours: Monday - Friday
Open: 9am - 5pm Closed 1-2 pm

Web site: www.newcastlecatholic.org.au

Pastoral Outreach

Sr. Patricia McCarthy rsj

Support for Music and Liturgy

Sr. Jeannine French rsj

Coordinator of Mercy Pastoral Team

Sr. Patricia Whitten rsm

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY MASSES: Vigil 5:30pm;
9.30am; (11.30am-Polish Mass); 5pm
Slovenian Mass: 5th Sunday of the
month at 6.00 pm

WEEKDAY MASSES & NOVENA

8:20 am Mon, Tues, Wed, Thur, Fri

12:05pm Wed, Thurs, Fri

9:20am Saturday & 10am Novena

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 10:30-11am & 5-5.15pm

Sunday: 9am-9.15am

Wed, Thurs Fri: 11:00am-11:55am

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Cnr Union St & Tighes Terrace
TIGHES HILL - SUNDAY : 8.00 am
RECONCILIATION : Before Sunday Mass

ST LAURENCE O'TOOLE

125 Broadmeadow Rd
BROADMEADOW

SATURDAY VIGIL 5:30pm

SUNDAY 9:30am (Italian)

ST MARY'S, NEWCASTLE

54 Perkins Street, Newcastle
SUNDAY 7:30am

ST JOSEPH'S, THE JUNCTION

Cnr Kenrick & Farquhar Sts
SUNDAY 9:00am
USUAL WEEKDAY TIMES
Mon 7am St Joseph's
(Liturgy of the Word with Communion)
Tues-Thurs 7am St Joseph's
Fri 10:15am St Joseph's

WEDDINGS & BAPTISMS

Please contact the Parish Office

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St Joseph's Primary School, The Junction
Holy Family Primary School, Merewether

Bulletin notices or Prayer Requests: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au or 4979 1101
The deadline for Bulletin notices and prayer requests is Wednesday at 5:00pm.

LENTEN GROUP - A CALL TO START A LENTEN GROUP: For those wishing to lead a parish Lenten Group, there are a number of options available from the Parish Office. You are welcome to come in and have a look at the booklets. (1) "Living Faith" - Diocese of Wollongong; (2) "Towards the Light" - Archdiocese of Brisbane; (3) "Living a Life in Grace" - Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn; (4) "Make Disciples of All Nations - The New Evangelisation" - Archdiocese of Sydney. Once you have gathered your group, the office staff can order the appropriate number.

TUESDAYS OF LENT - St Mary's at 5.30 pm each Tuesday of Lent, commencing 28th February, will conduct a Celebration of the Word, with meditation and communion.

ST. LUKE'S SOCIAL CENTRE - DAWSON ST. COOKS HILL. Feeling lonely and shut-in, then join the friendly staff of St. Luke's any day from Monday to Friday for a day of entertainment, outings, various activities, and most of all great food. Transport available when required. For further information contact Kerri Maybury 49 29 69 57 or 0400 383 553.

NEWCASTLE CONSERVATORIUM is pleased to announce the commencement in February 2012 of a 'School for Young Organists', for children aged 5 and upwards. Scholarships available. Please contact 4921 8900 or conservatorium@newcastle.edu.au. No previous keyboard experience necessary.

SONGSHINE - Songshine is a group of singers who meet each Saturday. Aimed at people aged 50 and over. No audition required. Cost for all choirs is \$96.03 per 9 week term. For details, please contact Bernadette Lannen T 4921 8892 or by email: bernadette.lannen@newcastle.edu.au.

INTRODUCTORY COURSES AT LIVING WATERS CHRISTIAN MEDITATION CENTRE, 34 Kenrick Street, The Junction, commence on **Monday 6th February** at 6.30pm and also on Friday 10th February at 10.00am. (Sessions last one hour and continue for 5 weeks) All are welcome. Cost for course: \$25. Contact: E carmel.moore@ssjl.org.au or T 0412 122 297.

ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT - The group interested in Adult Faith Development in the Inner City region will meet on **Wednesday 8 February, 7.00pm** in the City Region Catholic Centre. All welcome.

PASTORAL WALKING TEAM - New members for the Walking Team are invited to join the meeting on **Friday, 10th February** in the Hamilton Parish Rooms at 9.30am. For details, please ring 4979 1116.

MEREWETHER NEWCASTLE INTER CHURCH COUNCIL - For many years the Christian churches of the Merewether-Newcastle area have joined together to work in an 'Inter Church Council' to organise events such as the local Christmas Carols by Candlelight and an Easter Dawn service at Merewether Beach. Anyone interested in taking an active part in this ecumenical action is invited to contact Moira Gordon, ph: 4963 2046.

OLN BROWN NURSES GOLDEN JUBILEE - February 19th, 2012 marks the occasion of Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor arrival in the **Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle**. You are invited to celebrate this day at the **9.30am Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral**. Morning tea will be served in the Victor Peter's Suite after the Mass. For catering purposes we would appreciate your RSVP by Friday Feb 10th, 2012 - phone 02 4963 1193.

Feast Days of the Week

Mon 6 Feb St Paul Miki (1562-1597) and Companions, Martyrs

Paul Miki, the son of a Japanese military leader, joined the Jesuit Order in 1580, and became known for his eloquent preaching. Crucified in 1597 with 25 other Catholics, Paul's words from the cross were:

"The only reason for my being killed is that I have taught the doctrine of Christ. I thank God it is for this reason that I die. I believe that I am telling the truth before I die. I know you believe me and I want to say to you all once again: Ask Christ to help you become happy. I obey Christ. After Christ's example, I forgive my persecutors. I do not hate them. I ask God to have pity on all, and I hope my blood will fall on my fellow men as a fruitful rain."

Fri Feb 10 St Scholastica 480 - 543

Twin sister of St Benedict, Scholastica consecrated her life to God. After her brother went to Monte Cassino, where he established his famous monastery, she took up her abode in the neighbourhood at Plombariola, where she founded and governed a monastery of nuns, about five miles from that of St. Benedict, who, it appears, also directed his sister and her nuns.