

Newcastle Inner City Parishes

8th January 2012
Feast of the Epiphany

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:

As we gather at the table of the Lord's Word and the table of the Eucharist for the second movement of the Christ mystery, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, the revealing of the **face** of the Son to the wider world.

Monday January 9, concludes the Christmas Season, with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus is baptised into his mission to reveal the **face** of the Father's love.

During this Christmastide we have explored the message of the *Face of Love*, which has been a consistent theme. May the **face of God's love** continue to shine on us and may we, in turn, reflect this love to our world in 2012.

May I commend your prayerfulness and happy demeanour at the Christmas Masses - those attending the Civic (which was full), the Cathedral (with Bishop William at the Vigil and Midnight), Broadmeadow, Tighes Hill, St Mary's and St Joseph's - there was a happy prayerfulness which generates hope. Thank you to the organisers, the musicians, proclaimers, collectors and everyone who played a large part in helping create such a prayful atmosphere.

I would like to thank you for your generosity to the Christmas collection towards the *Reality of Water Needs* program, a program monitored by the Sacred Heart Fathers. Over 1.2 million people have inadequate or unsafe drinking water, while people in developed countries spend in excess of \$17million per year on pet food. It would require only half this money to ensure everyone had access to clean drinking water. Unsafe drinking water is responsible for 80% of all diseases. The result of the collections at our Christmas Masses was as follows:

Civic Theatre:	\$3,731.45
Cathedral:	\$2,205.25
Broadmeadow:	\$ 547.65
St Mary's:	\$ 836.80
St Josephs:	\$1,064.35
Tighes Hill:	\$ 240.00

**THANK YOU for your generosity to this
water needs program!
And also, thank you for your
Christmas Dues offerings.**

After the Advent-Christmas cycle, we return to *Ordinary Time* which highlights and celebrates the *ordinariness* of life.

Bishop William is celebrating the 9.30am Mass at Sacred Heart this weekend and has arranged his program to celebrate Mass at the Cathedral more often, usually every two weeks, at either the Vigil or 9.30am Masses.

I believe in making this decision he has been influenced by St Augustine, Bishop of Hippo in North Africa from 354 - 430 AD. He was 'big' on using his Cathedral to teach the faith, speaking to the newly-initiated (neophytes) at Easter and Christmas about the meaning of the sacraments of initiation - Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. In his most well known homily (No. 272) Augustine begins explaining the mystery of the Eucharist by noting that the Church itself is the Body of Christ, as Paul says in 1Corinthians 12-27...

*If then you are the Body of Christ and its members, it is your own mystery that is placed on the table of the Lord, it is your **own mystery** that you receive, to what **you are**, you answer 'Amen' and by answering you sign **your name** to it. For you hear the words 'The Body of Christ' and you answer 'Amen'.*

Augustine is stressing the importance of the Eucharist in daily life. We need to encourage families to come, not just at Christmas and Easter, but to see the importance of every **Sunday** in our lives.

To this end, the Australian Bishops are holding a year of Grace, from Pentecost 2012 and it will lead into Pope Benedict's Year of Faith, which begins in October 2012, to commemorate the beginning of the 2nd Vatican Council 1962-1965.

May this New Year of 2012 be a Year of Grace for us all.

Mike Allan



Parish Priest: Monsignor Allan Hart

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 & 4.45-5.15pm

Sunday: 9am-9.20am

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.

MIDDAY MASS AT SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL: During all of January, midday Mass will be celebrated **ONLY on Fridays**, when there will also be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession from 11am - 11:55am. There are also Confessions on Saturdays at 10:30am at the Cathedral following the Novena.

THE PARISH MEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB - The next gathering of this group is on **Monday, 9th January**. The group gathers at 6.30am in the City Region Catholic Centre, 25 Farquhar Street, The Junction. Shirley McHugh will be the guest speaker at this breakfast and the topic will be "What was, what is and what will be". For further information ring Roger Peters on 4927 0779.

TIGHES HILL CHILDREN'S MISSION PARTNERS - The December amount is \$195.

FISH AND CHIPS AT BAR BEACH - For Family Groups and all interested parishioners. BYO. Friday, 20th January from 5pm. For more information, please contact Chris Dowling 4926 5194.

BECOME A PART OF THE PARISH PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM TO HELP YOUR PARISH GROW - We thank most sincerely all Parishioners who contribute to the Planned Giving Program. Your ongoing commitment and contributions assist the responsible budgeting for the operating expenses of the Parish (wages, rates, electricity, building maintenance, etc) as well as pastoral planning for Parish growth (faith education, sacramental preparation, resources, etc). To obtain Planned Giving envelopes, please complete a form and place on the Collection Plate, or contact the Parish Office on 49791101. Part of your Planned Giving Contributions are Tax Deductible.

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS - EXODUS JOURNEY 2012 - Harvest Pilgrimages will conduct a 21 day tour to Cairo, Petra and the Holy Land leaving Sydney on 20th May 2012. Spiritual guidance on the tour will be offered by Terrigal's Parish Priest, Fr Dominik Karnas of the Polish Congregation of St Michael the Archangel. Cost: \$6,790. Contact: Harvest Pilgrimages 1800 19 156 - Suzanne Martin (Newcastle) 4929 4021.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION is a week-long retreat for young people aged between 16 and 35. The Summer School provides an opportunity to experience the Holy Spirit through drama, music, lectures and friendship. It will be held from **Sunday 15 to Sunday 22 January 2012** at Tocal College, Paterson. To register or for more information, call Bruce on T 0412 885 958 or Beryn on T 0412 449 556 or E doisse@doisydneynorth.org.

EPIPHANIES ARE MEANT FOR SHARING...

The word Epiphany means "to show forth". Unfortunately, most people who have some sort of religious epiphany, i.e. something becomes clear to them in their lives, tend to keep it to themselves. Why? Such experiences can be difficult and disturbing as we can't seem to find the words to express this revelation in our lives.

Epiphanies sometimes happen in communication with others: we find something to be life changing; people find their soul-mate or a child or grandchild is born and we want to reveal it to "the world".

Maybe we need to be people who show forth our faith in 2012.

