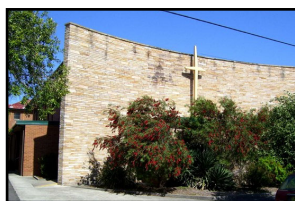


Sacred Heart Cathedral,
Hamilton



St Joseph's,
The Junction



St Mary, Star of the Sea,
Newcastle



Immaculate Heart of Mary,
Tighes Hill



St Laurence O'Toole's,
Broadmeadow



Christ the King,
Mayfield West



St Peter-in-Chains',
Stockton

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF THE CITY PASTORAL REGION

SUNDAY, 1ST DECEMBER 2019 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Incorporating the Parishes of St Benedict's, Inner Newcastle, St Columban's, Mayfield, and St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton, our mission is to proclaim Christ in the inner suburbs of the City of Newcastle.

Our Parishes incorporate suburbs located on the traditional country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples. We acknowledge their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with the land, pay respect to their Elders past and present, and commit ourselves to work together for reconciliation and justice.

Clergy in the Region

Fr Andrew Doohan

Fr Joseph Figurado

Fr Peter Street

Fr Matthew Muller

Fr James Odoh

Deacon Lawrence Caelli

Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

25 Farquhar Street, The Junction

PO Box 6, The Junction 2291

P: (02) 4979 1101 F: (02) 4962 4644

E: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

W: www.newcastlecatholic.org.au

Regional Office Staff

Chris Cootes (*Regional Business Manager*)

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)

Anne Warren (*Administration*)

Dr Anne Millard (*Director of Music, Liturgy & Sacramental Program*)

Office Hours

The Regional Office is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm, and closed for lunch from 1pm to 2pm.

Other Contacts

Lingard Hospital Team

Contact the Regional Office

Mercy Pastoral Team

Sr Patricia Whitten rsm

(02) 4979 1116

St Joseph's Pastoral Team

Contact the Regional Centre

Regional Bulletin

The Bulletin is published weekly.

Prayer requests and items for the Bulletin should be received at the Regional Office by Noon on Wednesdays.

THE PARISH DIARY...(for the week ahead)

First week of Advent

Monday 2 December

8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday 3 December

Memorial of St Francis Xavier, priest

7.30am Mass @ The Junction

8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9.15am Mass @ Broadmeadow

8.45am Rosary @ Stockton

9.15am Mass @ Stockton

Wednesday 4 December

7.30am Mass @ The Junction

8am Mass @ Mayfield West

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9.15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

10am Anointing Mass @ Mayfield Aged Care

Thursday 5 December

7.30am Mass @ The Junction

8am Mass @ Stockton

8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral (*cancelled*)

9.30am Mass @ The Cathedral

(End-of-year Mass for Diocesan Staff)

9.15am Mass @ Broadmeadow

5.30pm Mass @ Seafarers' Centre, Wickham

Friday 6 December

9.15am Mass @ Mayfield West

9.15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

10.15am Mass @ The Junction

11am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation at The Cathedral

12.05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

6pm Polish Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday 7 November

Memorial of St Ambrose, bishop, doctor

9.15am Mass & Novena @ The Cathedral

5.30pm Vigil Mass @ Broadmeadow

5.30pm Vigil Mass @ The Cathedral

5.30pm Rosary @ Mayfield West

6pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday 8 November

Second Sunday of Advent, Year A

7.30am Mass @ Newcastle

8am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9am Mass @ The Junction

9am Mass @ Stockton

9.30am Mass @ The Cathedral

10.30am Italian Mass @ Broadmeadow

11.30am Polish Mass @ The Cathedral

5pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Please note: Cancellation of the 8.15am Mass at the Cathedral on Thursday, 5th December. An end-of-year Mass for Diocesan Staff will be celebrated at 9.30am on that day.

THIS WEEK'S LITURGY

First Reading Is 2:1-5

All nations shall stream to the mountain of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R. see v.1

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading Rom 13:11-14

Live honourably, the day of the Lord is near.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 24:37-44

The Lord is coming when we least expect.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

First Reading Is 11:1-10

Second Reading Rom 15:4-9

Gospel Mt 3:1-12

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2019

Christmas Eve – 24 December

5.30pm Cathedral

5.30pm Broadmeadow

6.00pm Mayfield West

6.00pm The Junction

7.30pm Cathedral

10pm Cathedral Polish Mass

Christmas Day – 25 December

Midnight Cathedral

7.30am Newcastle

8am Tighes Hill

9am The Junction

9am Stockton

9.30am Cathedral

10.30am Broadmeadow Italian Mass

11.30am Cathedral Polish Mass



The Cathedral and St Joseph's are served by a hearing loop—use the setting marked "T".

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation is available at **Sacred Heart Cathedral**:
Usually Fridays from **11am** until **11.55am** and on Saturdays from **about 10.30am** until **11am**. Other times available by appointment.

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays, generally following our Sunday Masses. A monthly Baptism Preparation meeting takes place in the Regional Office on the first Wednesday of each month, though as a 'one-off', the December meeting will be held on the **second Wednesday, 11th December**, commencing at **5.30pm**. Please contact the Regional Office for more details, or visit the website.

A **Sacramental Preparation** process runs each year in the parishes for children wishing to complete the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation as part of the community of the parishes of the Region. Please contact the Regional Office for more details, or visit the website.

For adults who wish to become part of the Church, our parishes celebrate the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** for those who have not been baptised, and the **Rite of Reception into Full Communion** for those who have been baptised in other churches as part of our commitment to proclaim the Gospel. Please contact the Regional Office for more details, or visit the website.

Weddings are celebrated by arrangement with at least three (and preferably more) months notice. Please contact the Regional Office for more details, or visit the website.

IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Connor Farrell

ANNIVERSARY: Alfredo Peverini, Gladys Broad, Kevin Gardiner, Marie Morton, Nell Turner

SICK: Dennis Harvey, John Belcher, Betty Stott, Libby Oates, Graeme Burrage, Brian Swift, Monica Bound, Peter McCabe, Joan Haynes, Dianne D'Angelo, Tom Towers



*Names may be placed here by contacting the Regional Office.
Please refer to the Policy Document on the Regional website—
visit www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/downloads.*

*Please note we will delete names from the sick list after a period
of three months, unless otherwise advised.*

REMINDER FROM FR JOSEPH

Fr Joseph would like to remind **Stockton** parishioners that **Reconciliation** is available each **Sunday morning from 8.20am to 8.50am**, prior to 9am Mass.

Parish Holy Land Pilgrimage September 2020

In September 2020, Fr Andrew will be leading a Parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land "In the Footsteps of Jesus", visiting the Dead Sea, Mt Nebo, Petra, the baptismal site of Jesus, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Cana, the Sea of Galilee, Mt Tabor, Mt Carmel, Haifa, Jericho, and Jerusalem. There will also be an optional extension to attend the Oberammergau Passion Play. The pilgrims will depart Australia on 3rd September 2020. The number of pilgrims will be limited to heighten the experience for those undertaking the pilgrimage.

For centuries, Christians have gone on pilgrimage, to seek and immerse themselves in the presence of God. Pilgrimage is a journey of faith, allowing the Holy Spirit to renew those who journey. It is an opportunity to seek what our spirit longs for; it's travel with a purpose and faith that bears lasting fruit. Our pilgrimage operator, Harvest Journeys, has many years of experience in facilitating this experience.

More detailed information will be available in coming weeks, but if you would like to know more about the pilgrimage, please speak with Fr Andrew.

REGIONAL NOTICES

Student Accommodation: 34 Kenrick St, The Junction (the old Newcastle Presbytery) is a share-house owned by the parish, with four independent living quarters. Unit 1 is currently vacant and available for student accommodation in 2020. Unit 2 has one bedroom, bathroom and living room, and shares the kitchen, laundry, dining, lounge and common rooms with three other female occupants. This unit would suit a female university student, or newly employed person, looking for independent accommodation in Newcastle. If you know anyone looking for student accommodation in Newcastle, please pass on our contact details. Inquiries to the Business Manager, Chris Cootes, on 4979 1254 or email chris.cootes@mn.catholic.org.au.

Lectio Divina at St Mary's

Lectio Divina is a traditional monastic practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer, intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's word. Each **Thursday** evening, there are gatherings at St Mary's, starting at 6pm. The first on 28th November took us through the process of lectio divina, then on each of the Thursday nights of Advent, we will explore the gospel for the coming Sunday. All welcome!

Newcastle & Hunter Multicultural Choral Society Christmas Concert: The 42nd Annual Christmas concert from around the world will be held this **Sunday, 1st December** at 7pm at the Sacred Heart Cathedral. Many renowned choirs and individuals take part in this annual event, including communal singing. In lieu of an admission fee, a collection plate will go around to cover the night's expenses. All are welcome to attend. The concert finishes at around 9.45pm. To learn more, contact the PR officer, Joop de Wit via email multiculturalchoralsociety@gmail.com or by phone on 4954 5227.

Final FFF&F for 2019 - Don't miss it! Please join parishioners, visitors & dear friends for 10.15am Mass, Anointing & morning tea on **Friday, 6th December**, to celebrate what has been a wonderful year of getting to know each other & ourselves a little better! The efforts of many ensure we share and enrich our faith and have a bit of fun in the process.



First Friday Fish & Chips: A final get-together for 2019! Meet at Bar Beach Pavilion at 5pm on **Friday, 6th December**. 'BYO Everything'! Inquiries to Chris on 0419 265194.



Students from St Joseph's Primary School, The Junction and Holy Family Primary School, Merewether Beach, will attend the 12.05pm Mass at the Cathedral on **Friday, 13th December**, to celebrate the end of the school year. Please make these young members of our parish welcome.



A big "thank you" to those who attended the St Mary's concert on Sunday, 17th November. It was a wonderful afternoon!

Special thanks from Anne Millard for the support and kind words she has received on the launch of her recently-published, 'Simply Singable Psalms'.

Today Stockton commences its **Christmas Appeal and Advent Collection** of goods for Christmas Hampers for the needy in our area. The Advent Collection will continue for only *three* Sundays, 1st, 8th and 15th December.

Thank you for your continuing generosity!

St Columban's Year 6 Farewell Mass will be held in the *San Clemente School Hall* at 11am on **Friday, 13th December**. All are welcome to come and celebrate with the children this important milestone in their school lives!



Bookclub There are no Bookclub meetings in December/January. The next meeting is at 6.30pm on **Sunday, 2nd February 2020!** We meet in the Regional Centre, 25 Farquhar Street, The Junction and we bring along a light snack to share. All are welcome to join Bookclub for one book or for them all. At the February meeting, we will share our thoughts on the book, *Daisy Jones & the Six*, by Taylor Jenkins Reid.

View, Chew & Chat: Another successful year completed. Our 4th! Thank you to all involved, for nourishing and supporting one another 'in food and in faith formation'! We look forward to starting up again in February 2020!

Hamilton's annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal continues this weekend and next weekend. Columban calendars are available for sale at \$10 each and packets of 10 religious-themed Christmas cards at \$7 per packet.

The Vinnies Christmas Appeal for **St Joseph's and St Mary's** starts this weekend. Columban calendars and Christmas cards are available also.



There is a special '**Bushfire Bucket Appeal**' this Sunday at **St Joseph's and St Mary's**. Please see containers at the back of the Churches.

Tax deductible donations to the St Vincent de Paul Bushfire Appeal can otherwise be made at any Vinnies shop or by phoning 131812.

Many thanks, in anticipation, for your generous support.

Raffle to aid Drought & Bushfire Relief

The faith community of **Christ the King, Mayfield West** will be holding a raffle, the proceeds of which will go to the Drought & Bushfire Relief Appeal.

Commencing after Mass this weekend, Saturday, 30th November .

Drawn on Saturday, 21st December.

Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Your support will be much appreciated!

OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE THE REGION

Calvary Mater Newcastle Hospital Cancer Carers Auxillary invites you to a Christmas luncheon. **Friday 6th December**, 11.30am at Newcastle Harness Racing Club, 294 Turton Rd, New Lambton. \$45 per person. RSVP to Evelyn 4954 0535 or Margaret 4963 1991.

MNICC Christmas Carols to be held at St John's Church, corner of Parry & Dawson Sts, Cooks Hill, on **Sunday, 8th December** from 7.30pm to 8.45pm. Children from the Holy Family School will be participating in this event, so please come along and show your support.

Carols Singalong with the Hunter Valley Chorus at 6.30pm on **Thursday, 12th December**, at Mayfield Baptist Church, Cnr Hanbury & Highfield Streets. A light supper will be provided. For more information, go to www.huntervalleychorus.com

Carols in the Cloister return this year to St Joseph's Chapel, New England Highway, Lochinvar on **Sunday, 15th December**, starting at 6:30pm. All are welcome to come along and be immersed in the music and spirit of Christmas. Celebrate the reason for the season! Stay afterwards and enjoy light refreshments and good company.

St. Columba's Adamstown Drama Group, 'Bright Sparks', present *'The Toymaker, the Boy and Christmas'* at 2pm on **Sunday, 15th December** at St Columba's Hall, Lockyer Street, Adamstown. Cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, 5-14 years. Enquiries call Christine Williams on 4943 3824 or Lyndall Ford on 4957 8527 or mobile 0415 745623.



'Sing Gloria'

A concert for Christmas presented by the Newcastle Tudor Singers.

Directed by Anne Millard, with pianist, Marcia Wall, organist, Peter Guy, and featuring the Hunter Handbell Ringers.

The programme includes new and familiar music for Advent and Christmas.

7.45pm on Friday, 6th December at the Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Admission \$15 or Concession \$10.



Aid to the Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

ACN Gifts of Faith

Did you know that each year Australians spend upwards of \$20 billion on Christmas gifts, food and celebrations? That is around \$1,300 per person. How many of us struggle, though, to find something meaningful to give, when the truth is that so many of us have all we need anyway?



This year, for the very first time, ACN is pleased to present our 'Gifts of Faith' catalogue. A Gift of Faith is a Christmas donation, given to ACN on behalf of a loved one, in lieu of giving them a material gift. Our Gifts of Faith support Catholic people, amidst suffering, oppression and persecution. To arrange a Gift of Faith, phone 1800 101201 (Mon-Fri, 8am - 5pm, or complete the order form online at www.aidtochurch.org/giftsoffait. Please order by 9th December, to ensure your Gift of Faith card and envelope arrives in time for Christmas.

Stockton and Mayfield Parishioners

Save the date!

Sunday, 15th December from 4pm to 8pm, for a combined Christmas Barbeque.



FIRST AND SECOND COLLECTIONS

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Each weekend at our parish Masses, there are two collections. The 1st collection immediately follows the Prayers of the Faithful, while the timing of the 2nd collection may vary (either immediately following the 1st collection, or after communion).

THE FIRST COLLECTION provides, in the first place, for the priests of the parish: their monthly stipend, household food expenses, cooking and cleaning expenses. Funds surplus to the local priests' needs are forwarded to a central fund, which provides for the health care of priests and for the care and upkeep of retired priests and the Bishop. Surplus funds do not stay within your parish.

THE SECOND COLLECTION provides the income for all the running expenses of your parish - staff employment, insurance, maintenance, maintaining and operating the Regional Office and the Churches, liturgical supplies, waste collection and, most importantly, parish and regional ministries and services. Surplus funds stay in your parish and are invested to meet the parish's future needs.

First Collection: Currently the only way to contribute to the 1st collection is via a weekly cash contribution to the collection plate.

Second Collection: There are various ways to contribute to the 2nd collection:

1. **Cash** donations on the 2nd collection plate.
2. **Weekly Envelopes** (known as the planned giving scheme) which are placed in the 2nd collection each weekend during Mass. Contributions made via Planned Giving can be offset against any Catholic School Building Levy you may be liable for, when you have one or more children attend a Catholic Primary or High School.
3. **Automated contributions** via your credit card or direct debit. The Catholic Development Fund can make a charge to your nominated credit card or bank account on a monthly, fortnightly or weekly basis according to a signed authority, offering a 'set and forget' option for contributions. Of course you can withdraw your authorisation for these contributions at any time. This type of planned giving is also an eligible offset to the School Building Levy.

If you wish to apply for Weekly Envelopes, set up a periodical contribution or have a monthly contribution activated, please contact the Regional Office in person at 25 Farquhar Street, The Junction, by post to PO Box 6, The Junction 2291, or by emailing your request to newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Many Catholic diocesan and parish works currently helping those in need in the Hunter region are made possible by bequests. Each of us finds different ways to make our mark on the world. One way of doing this is by making a bequest. A bequest is a gift left in a will. When you leave a bequest to the Church, you give a gift that lasts longer than your lifetime, a gift that will always be remembered.

Since 1841 the Catholic Church has been meeting the material and spiritual needs of the people of the Hunter. That need is always growing. The work of the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle in the parishes of the Newcastle, Mayfield and Stockton Region takes many forms.

After providing for your family, a bequest to your parish is a special way of ensuring the work of the Church in the parishes of the City Pastoral Region continues. Depending on family situations, some bequests are large and some are small, but all are vital to the work of the Church. Please consider donating to your parish to ensure that the work of spreading the message of Jesus Christ can continue.

New Christmas Tradition

Beginning December 1st read one chapter of the book of Luke in the Bible each evening.

There are 24 chapters.

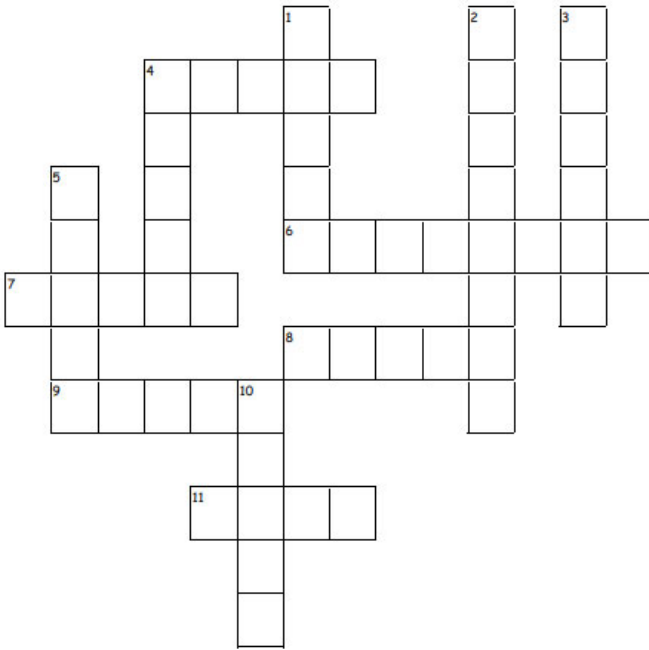
On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus's Life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!!



CROSSWORD

Stay awake, you must be ready

Mt 24:37-44



Across

- 4: a substance that comes from wheat
- 6: consuming liquid
- 7: prepared
- 8: picked up and removed
- 9: someone who steals
- 11: God told this man to build an ark

Down

- 1: meadow or grassland
- 2: dividing into pieces, pulling apart
- 3: arriving
- 4: protect from danger
- 5: to have removed dust or dirt with a broom
- 10: overflow with water

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

The Lord will gather us in eternal peace

Is 2:1-5
Ps 122:1-2, 8-9 R.v.(see 1)
Rom 13:11-13a
Mt 24:37-44



Try to find these words:

- field
- flood
- guard
- light
- mountain
- night
- Noah
- swords
- taken
- thief
- wake
- worship

COMING WEEKEND ROSTERS

The Cathedral	ADULT SERVER	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	COUNTERS
7 Dec 5.30pm	Louise Outram	Kath Williams Michael Fuller	Helen Bridges, Douglas Burke, Ching Burke, Rose Jessa	Annunciata & Marian
8 Dec 9.30am	Peter Owens	Mary Allado Vincia Martin	Cora Armstrong, John Askew, Trish O'Dowd, Christopher Lovell	
8 Dec 5.00pm	Allen Brierley	Clare Walsh-Gregory David Hayes	Vera Walker Clare Walsh-Gregory	

NEWCASTLE	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
8 Dec 7.30am	R Rossi T Mather	Volunteer	K Rees Ian Thomas

STOCKTON	WELCOMER	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
8 Dec 9.00am	Jan D	Angela, Pat	Peter, Angela	Margaret, Bernie, Wendy

TIGHES HILL	WELCOMERS	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
8 Dec 8.00am	Jacob Healey Barry Reed	Libby Oates Rose McAllister	Bob Frazer Rosie Hayes	Nicky Cathcart Brian O'Donnell, Julie Gurr

THE JUNCTION	WELCOMERS	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	COUNTERS
8 Dec 9.00am	Sally Casey Rebeka Stokes	P Lane Sidonie Coffey	Brad Dagwell	Eleanora Macdonald Lena Josue John Cavenagh	D Lederwasch A Frost, P Kish

BROADMEADOW	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	MINISTER OF COMMUNION	COUNTING TEAM	WELCOMING TEAM
7 Dec 5.30pm	Monica Murphy Terry Casey	Gwen Haggerty	Judy & Denis Johns	Eileen Howard & Robin Cathcart

MAYFIELD WEST	WELCOMERS	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
7 Dec 6.00pm	Diane & Doreen	K Williamson A Jenkins	K Harvey	L Caelli, M Williamson, P Boland