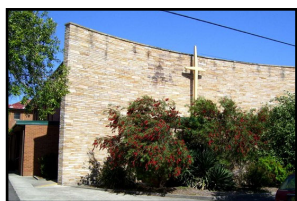


Sacred Heart Cathedral,
Hamilton



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, 12TH JANUARY 2020 BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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*)
Jade Simonsen (*Finance & 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)

1st Week in Ordinary Time

Monday 13 January

8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday 14 January

8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8.45am Rosary @ Stockton

9.15am Mass @ Stockton

Wednesday 15 January

8am Mass @ Mayfield West

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Thursday 16 January

8am Mass @ Stockton

8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9am Marian Prayer Group @ Mayfield West

5.30pm Mass @ Seafarers' Centre, Wickham

Friday 17 January

Memorial of St Anthony, abbot

8am Mass @ Mayfield West

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

12.05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday 18 January

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 19 January

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Broadmeadow and **Tighes Hill** parishioners, please note: Fr James is on leave until the end of January. Weekend Masses at Broadmeadow and Tighes Hill are continuing during this period, but there are **no weekday Masses**. Broadmeadow and Tighes Hill parishioners are invited to attend other weekday Masses in the region, as detailed in the parish diary.

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

THIS WEEK'S LITURGY

First Reading Is 42:1-4, 6-7

The Lord upholds His Servant.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 28:1-4, 9-10. R.v.11

The Lord will bless His people with peace.

Second Reading Acts 10:34-38

Peter brings the good news to the Gentiles.

Gospel Acclamation Mk 9:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear Him.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 3:13-17

Jesus is baptized by John.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

First Reading Is 49:3, 5-6

Second Reading 1 Cor 1:1-3

Gospel Jn 1:29-34

IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

RECENTLY DECEASED: John Scrogings, Dianne D'Angelo, Geoffrey Feighan, Patricia Castle, Dinah Heaton, Victims of the bushfires



ANNIVERSARY: Irena Ivanovic, Edward McCormack, Filomena Borrelli, Antonio Borrelli, Giuseppe Bina, Patricia Oldfield, Fr Gerard Patrick Youll, Fr Colin Barker, Fr Thomas Cronin, Fr Joseph Kelly

SICK: John Belcher, Libby Oates, Graeme Burrage, Brian Swift, Monica Bound, Peter McCabe, Joan Haynes, Tom Towers, Kerry Davies, Lawson Rankin

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 the **cancellation of weekday Masses at The Junction** on Tuesday, 14th January, Wednesday, 15th January, Thursday, 16th January and Friday, 17th January.

The **Wurlitzer electric organ and stool** at Broadmeadow Church are no longer in use. Please contact Sr Carol on 0423 700523 if you are interested in acquiring them.



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, 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.

A reminder to **Mayfield** parishioners that the Friday morning Mass is held at 9.15am in the School Hall during school terms and at **8am in Christ the King Church during school holidays**.

A reminder, also, to **Stockton** parishioners that **Reconciliation** is available each **Sunday morning from 8.20am to 8.50am**, prior to 9am Mass.



The St Vincent de Paul society wishes to thank **Stockton** parishioners for their wonderful generosity. The total collected for the 2019 Stockton *Christmas Appeal* was \$1,305.

Sincere thanks to **Stockton** parishioners, also, for your generous donations to the appeal for *Lawson Rankin*. We wish Lawson a swift recovery and our prayers are with him and his family.

THANK
YOU...



Thank you to the parishioners of **Mayfield West** for your generous support of the Christmas raffle. The proceeds of \$614 went to the Drought & Bush fire appeal.

REGIONAL NOTICES

Bookclub: Our next meeting is at 6.30pm on **Sunday, 2nd February**. 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: There is no January get-together. We are looking forward to starting up again in February 2020!

Student Accommodation: 34 Kenrick St, The Junction is a share-house owned by the parish, with four independent living quarters. Unit 2 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, via email chris.cootes@mn.catholic.org.au, or phone 4979 1254.

Liturgy Rosters (January to March 2020) have been prepared for The Cathedral, Tighes Hill and The Junction. Paper copies were made available at the churches last weekend. If further copies are required, please contact the Regional Office on 4979 1101.

Message from Pope Francis

Flyers were made available at the churches last weekend, containing a message from his Holiness, Pope Francis, for the celebration of the 53rd World Day of Peace, 1st January 2020:
Peace as a Journey of Hope: Dialogue, Reconciliation and Ecological Conversion.
Apologies to Broadmeadow parishioners. Your flyers were omitted last week, but are available this weekend instead.

Can You Help?

Lawson Rankin, a recent graduate of St Francis Xavier College, was critically injured in an accident in Bali. 'Bucket collections' were taken up at the Christmas Masses in our region, to assist with Lawson's medical expenses. Further donations are being accepted at the regional office, as well as on the collection plate in an envelope marked Lawson Rankin. Please give as generously as you are able.

OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE THE REGION

2020 Catechists Mass: Bishop Bill invites you to an annual celebration of the wonderful work of catechists on Saturday, 22nd February at 2pm, at the Sacred Heart Cathedral. Celebrate the ministry of Special Religious Education, Sacraments of Initiation, RCIA and Children's Liturgy.

Shrines of Our Lady Pilgrimages: Journey with Our Lady as you visit famous shrines and sites of her apparitions. Explore various pilgrimage sites in Portugal, Spain and France during this eight night pilgrimage led by Catholic Priests. Featuring Lisbon, Fatima, Albe De Tormes, Avila, Segovia, Burges, Loyola, Lourdes, Manresa, Montserrat and Barcelona for an all-inclusive land package price of \$3890+tips. The fare includes entrances and sites as per itinerary + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfast & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. 2020 Departures available: 11th May 2020 and 2nd September 2020. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300 721561 or email info@magiholidays.com.au

We pray for all those affected by bushfires.

*God Almighty, giver and sustainer of life,
For those whose homes are threatened by fire,
we ask your mercy.
For those whose lives are threatened by flames,
We pray your protection.
For those who have lost all their possessions,
We pray your comfort.
For those whose health is impaired by smoke,
We pray your healing.
Be with those who respond,
Keep safe firefighters, police and volunteers.
Make their efforts effective.
God in your mercy,
Hear our prayers.
Amen.*

We continue to pray for those affected by crippling drought conditions - and for the gift of rain.

We stand in solidarity with those suffering most acutely, offering our ongoing prayers and practical support to those in need.

National Prayer Campaign

*for the gift of rain, for people affected by drought,
for support services*

Eternal God,

In wisdom and love
you created our earth
to sustain us and give us life.

We turn to you now
in faith, hope and love,
asking you to look with favour
on our drought-stricken land,
on our starving animals,
on our failing crops.

Strengthen, sustain and give new heart
to our farmers
and to all who are affected by drought;
be with those who support them.

In your loving providence,
send abundant rain
and restore our parched earth.

Father of all compassion,
hear our prayer
through Jesus Christ your Son,
in whom the promise of new life
has dawned, and
through the power
of the Holy Spirit,
the Lord the giver of life:
Renew your faithful people;
Renew the face of the earth.

Our Lady of the Southern Cross,
Mary, help of Christians –
Pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop –
Pray for us.



catholic.org.au/drought

Parish Holy Land Pilgrimage September 2020

In September 2020, Fr Peter 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 Peter or Fr Andrew.

Gospel Focus—Leave it like this

There is comfort to be found in the words Jesus spoke to John, 'Leave it like this for the time being'. We can sometimes be frustrated by the slow pace of change in the world and in our own lives – we often want things to happen immediately, if not yesterday! But Jesus' words convey a sense that there is an order to things a right time for them to come about. 'Leave it like this for the time being' says, let things unfold in their own time without being anxious; work for change, but there is a proper time for things.

© Greg Sunter

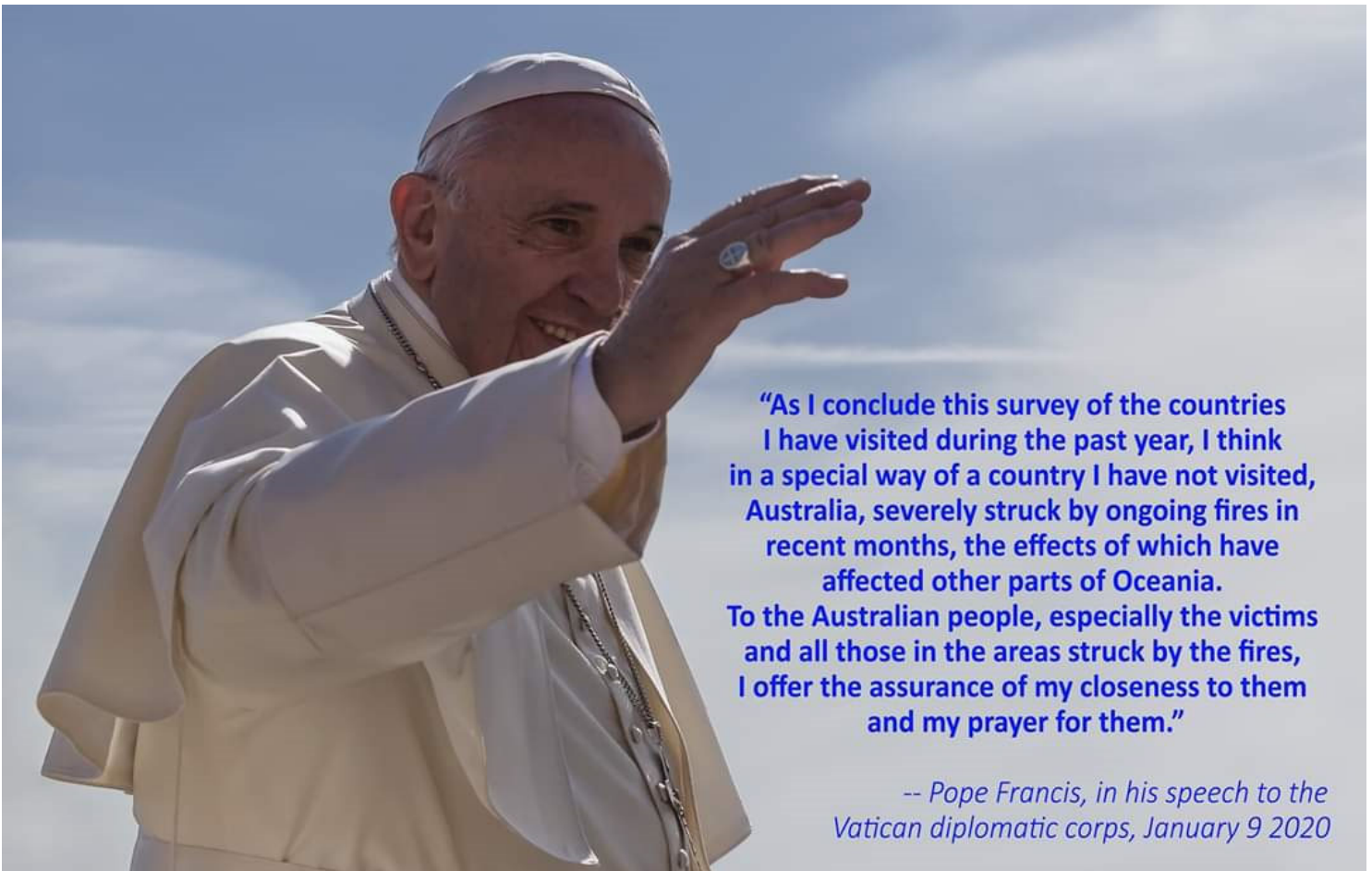
Message from Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

"I have been deeply saddened to hear of the continued bushfires and their devastating impact across many parts of Australia. My thanks go out to the emergency services, and those who put their own lives in danger to help communities in need. Prince Philip and I send our thoughts and prayers to all Australians at this difficult time."

Elizabeth R



"As I conclude this survey of the countries I have visited during the past year, I think in a special way of a country I have not visited, Australia, severely struck by ongoing fires in recent months, the effects of which have affected other parts of Oceania. To the Australian people, especially the victims and all those in the areas struck by the fires, I offer the assurance of my closeness to them and my prayer for them."

-- Pope Francis, in his speech to the Vatican diplomatic corps, January 9 2020



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

Catholic Church plans national response to bushfire crisis

Australia is facing an unprecedented calamity as fire engulfs the land in many places. We have all seen the apocalyptic images, even if we are not in the areas most affected. Lives have been lost, homes and towns have been destroyed, smoke has shrouded large swathes of our country. And there is no end in sight to the horror which confronts us with our powerlessness before the devastating force of nature.

The efforts of firefighters have been heroic. The resilience of the communities affected has been extraordinary. This has been Australia at its best, and we all stand with those who have been most stricken and with those who are putting their lives on the line to fight the fires.

But we need more than words. Expressions of solidarity are important, but they are not enough.

The bishops are aware of the huge amount being done around the nation, led by governments and first responders. Many local faith communities, including Catholic parishes and organisations, as well as ecumenical and inter-religious coalitions, are also making a big contribution.

While the bishops typically respond to challenges at a parish or diocesan level, the scale of this crisis requires a national response from the whole Church to complement and coordinate what is happening locally.

From the Bishops Conference, that national response includes:

- The facilitation of a national network connecting people affected by the bushfires with people who can help with tasks such as preparing meals, clearing properties, rebuilding communities, as well as pastoral and counselling support.
- The distribution of special prayers and other resources for use in parishes, families and other Catholic communities.
- Collaboration with key national agencies like Catholic Health Australia, Catholic Social Services Australia, the National Catholic Education Commission and the St Vincent de Paul Society (Vinnies) to ensure as effective a response as possible from the wider Catholic community.

- Cooperating with Catholic Religious Australia and religious institutes and their ministries.
- Parishes across the country taking up a special collection at Masses on the Australia Day weekend, with all funds to be donated to Vinnies' bushfire appeal.

Vinnies is responding in all affected states and territories. Its network of local conferences and support services has seen them rapidly respond throughout the nation as the fire crisis has spread.

As well as donations at Masses on Australia Day weekend, people are encouraged to support the immediate response and the ongoing work of Vinnies in your state or throughout bushfire-affected communities.

Our experts on the ground – from agencies like Vinnies, Catholic Care and Centacare, in parishes and other Catholic communities, including Catholic hospitals and aged care providers – know this will be a long-term process to help people and whole towns rebuild.

With broad and deep roots across the nation, the Church stands ready to walk alongside people throughout their journey of recovery.

Facing this exceptional crisis, we renew our call for insistent prayer for those stricken by drought and fire, for those who have lost their lives in the fires and their families, for rain to quench the parched land and extinguish the fires, and for urgent action to care for our common home in order to prevent such calamities in the future.

A genuinely Catholic response to a crisis of this magnitude must draw strength from prayer which inspires concrete and compassionate action.

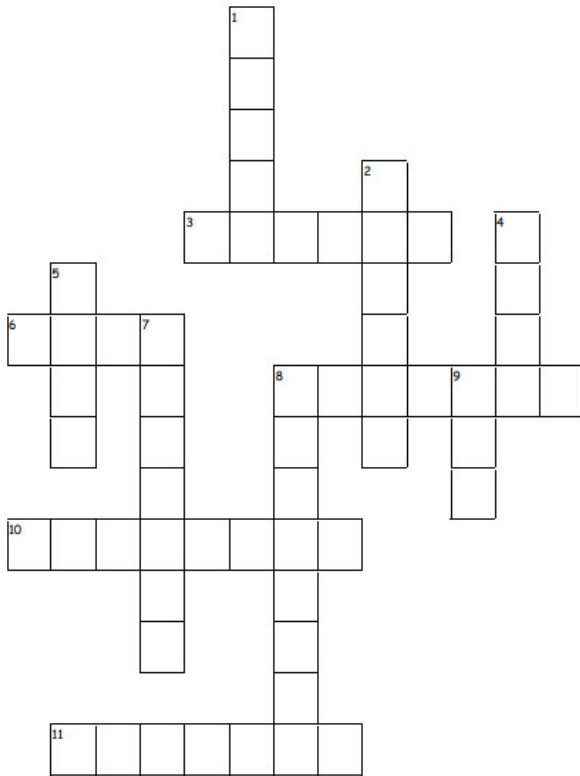
Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Conference President



CROSSWORD

You are my own dear son

Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



Across

- 3: the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus while he did this
- 6: the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus in this form
- 8: to be happy with something
- 10: to become one of God's people
- 11: footwear commonly worn in biblical times

Down

- 1: John baptised people with this
- 2: a voice was heard coming from this place
- 4: John told people of a man who would baptise them with the Holy Spirit and with _____.
- 5: the cousin of Jesus who baptised people with water
- 7: extremely happy
- 8: strong and mighty
- 9: the vast space above the earth

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

God will bring justice to all the earth

Is 42:1-2, 4, 6-7
Ps 29:3abde-4, 3cde & 9ef-10, R, 11b Ps
Acts 10:34-38
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



Try to find these words:

- baptised
- dove
- excited
- foreign
- healing
- John
- message
- powerful
- sandals
- servant
- strong
- worships

COMING WEEKEND ROSTERS

The Cathedral	ADULT SERVER	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	COUNTERS
18 Jan 5.30pm	Peter Owens	Lena Josue Sue Paton	S Jarmain, M Simmons, Pedrita Spence, Kath Williams	Luke & Susana
19 Jan 9.30am	Peter Owens	Kerri Morante Bernice Matthews	Rosa Tomassetti, John Askew, Trish O'Dowd, Cora Armstrong	
19 Jan 5.00pm	Allen Brierley	Clare Walsh Chris Stubbs	Elizabeth Keeling, Clare Walsh, Vera Walker	

NEWCASTLE	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
19 Jan 7.30am		Volunteer	

STOCKTON	WELCOMER	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
19 Jan 9.00am	Mary V	Marie M, John	Sue, Harry	Angela, Jan, Helen O'B

TIGHES HILL	WELCOMERS	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
19 Jan 8.00am	Barry Reed Annemaree Turner	Brian O'Donnell Lawrence Hallinan	Sue Horton Annemaree Turner	Mike O'Connor, John Hayes, Maureen Hall

THE JUNCTION	WELCOMERS	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	COUNTERS
19 Jan 9.00am	Des Holz Anna Holz	Pam Dagwell Anna Holz	Cathy Olds	P Lane Diane Murphy Christine Dowling	G Radecki M Williams

BROADMEADOW	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	MINISTER OF COMMUNION	COUNTING TEAM	WELCOMING TEAM
18 Jan 5.30pm	Terry Casey Sr Judith Murphy rsm	Eileen Croke	Judy & Denis Johns	Eileen Howard & Robin Cathcart

MAYFIELD WEST	WELCOMER	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
18 Jan 6.00pm	Doreen	K Mernagh R Ahkin	D Bleakley	P Boland, A Jenkins, S Veronesi