



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, 5TH JANUARY 2020**  
**SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY 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

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## 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

<b>Lingard Hospital Team</b>	Contact the Regional Office	
<b>Mercy Pastoral Team</b>	Sr Patricia Whitten rsm	(02) 4979 1116
<b>St Joseph's Pastoral Team</b>	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)

*Christmas time*

### Monday 6 January

8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral

### Tuesday 7 January

8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8.45am Rosary @ Stockton

9.15am Mass @ Stockton

### Wednesday 8 January

8am Mass @ Mayfield West

8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral

10.30am Anointing Mass @ Fronditha Care  
(30 Crebert St, Mayfield)

### Thursday 9 January

8am Mass @ Stockton

8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9am Marian Prayer Group @ Mayfield West

5.30pm Mass @ Seafarers' Centre, Wickham

### Friday 10 January

8am Mass @ Mayfield West

10.15am Mass @ The Junction

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

12.05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

### Saturday 11 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 12 January

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

## THIS WEEK'S LITURGY

**First Reading** Is 60:1-6

Jerusalem is exalted.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13, R. see v.11

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

**Second Reading** Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

Paul declares the Gentiles co-heirs to the Kingdom.

**Gospel Acclamation** Mt 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;  
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

**Gospel** Mt 2:1-12

The Wise Men journey to the infant Jesus.

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

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

**Second Reading** Acts 10:34-38

**Gospel** Mt 3:13-17

## IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Margaret Rae, Augusto Remo Bernardi, Rosemary Enilane, Giovanni Di Paolo, Josephine Timbs, Samuel McPaul, John Giovanni Benzan, Bronislaw Gluszkiewicz, Domenico Fabrizio, Victims of the bushfires

**ANNIVERSARY:** Robert Allan, Mary Ethel Sattler, Dennis Robert Hyndman, Percival Stott, deceased members of the O'Brien family, Fr Patrick Healy, Fr Patrick Davoren, Fr James Hennebry, Fr Joseph O'Donohue, Fr Patrick McCormack



**SICK:** John Belcher, Libby Oates, Graeme Burrage, Brian Swift, Monica Bound, Peter McCabe, Joan Haynes, Dianne D'Angelo, 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](http://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/downloads).*

Please note the **cancellation of weekday Masses at The Junction** on Tuesday, 7th January, Wednesday, 8th January and Thursday, 9th January.

Please also note, in advance, the cancellation of weekday Masses at The Junction on Tuesday, 14th January, Wednesday, 15th January, Thursday, 16th January and Friday, 17th January.

**St Joseph's parishioners, please note the 10.15am Mass on Friday, 10th January, will be offered in remembrance of Josephine Timbs who, for many years, was part of our parish community. Josephine passed away on 1st January, aged 99 years.**

## 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.

**Broadmeadow** and **Tighes Hill** parishioners, please note: Fr James will be on leave until the end of January. Weekend Masses at Broadmeadow and Tighes Hill will continue during that period, but there will be **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".*

## 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](mailto:chris.cootes@mn.catholic.org.au) or phone 4979 1254.



A big **"Thank You"** to everyone who participated in the **PALMS** morning tea fundraiser at St Joseph's on Sunday, 22nd December. \$320 was raised towards this important cause. A wonderful result!

**Men's Breakfast Review Meeting** will be held next Saturday, 11th January, at 10am at Snows Cafe, West End (Marketown), outside Woolworths. All welcome. Please bring your ideas along with you.

**Liturgy Rosters** (January to March 2020) have been prepared for The Cathedral, Tighes Hill and The Junction. Paper copies are available at the churches this weekend.

### *Message from Pope Francis*

Flyers are available at the churches this 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.



### 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

**Join us for Eileen's anniversary:** You are invited to a day of prayer on Friday, 10th January, to mark the 99th anniversary of the death of Servant of God and co-founder of Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor, Eileen Rosaline O'Connor. Father Daniel Donovan will celebrate Mass at Our Lady's Home, 35 Dudley Street, Coogee, at 11am. After morning tea, visitors are welcome to return to the chapel to pray at Eileen's tomb, join in the many recitations of the Rosary throughout the day or just sit in quiet meditation. Please RSVP on 9665 6331 by Wednesday, 8th January, to assist with catering.

**Summer School is coming!** A week-long summer camp/retreat for young Catholics, aged 16-35. 13th to 19th January, 2020 at the Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Yarroville. Visit [www.summerschool.org.au](http://www.summerschool.org.au) for more information.

**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](mailto:info@magiholidays.com.au)

The **SACRAMENTALITY OF THE WORD** can be understood by analogy with the real presence of Christ under the appearances of the consecrated bread and wine. By approaching the altar and partaking in the Eucharistic banquet, we truly share in the body and blood of Christ. The proclamation of God's word at the celebration entails an acknowledgement that Christ himself is present, that He speaks to us, and that He wishes to be heard. Saint Jerome speaks of the way we ought to approach both the Eucharist and the word of God:



"We are reading the sacred Scriptures. For me, the Gospel is the Body of Christ; for me, the holy Scriptures are His teaching. And when He says: *whoever does not eat my flesh and drink my blood* (Jn 6:53), even though these words can also be understood of the Eucharist, Christ's body and blood are really the word of Scripture, God's teaching. When we approach the Eucharist, if a crumb falls to the ground we are troubled. Yet when we are listening to the word of God, and God's Word and Christ's flesh and blood are being poured into our ears we pay no heed, what great peril should we not feel?"

Christ, truly present under the species of bread and wine, is analogously present in the word proclaimed in the liturgy.

*Verbum Domini (2010) 56*

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD** By reason of the sign, it is required that the material for the Eucharistic Celebration truly have the appearance of food.



Therefore, it is desirable that the Eucharistic bread, even though unleavened and made in the traditional form, be fashioned in such a way that the priest at Mass with the people is truly able to break it into parts and distribute these to at least some of the faithful...

The gesture of the fraction or breaking of bread, which was quite simply the term by which the Eucharist was known in apostolic times, will bring out more clearly the force and importance of the sign of the unity of all in the one bread...

*GIRM 321*

# 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](http://catholic.org.au/drought)

*We pray, too, 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.*

*The feast of the Epiphany* celebrates the revelation of Jesus to humanity. The wise men are the representatives of humanity, bearing witness to this revelation. However, the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus as not only the Messiah of Israel, but the Saviour of the whole world. Interestingly, in this gospel that emphasises the 'Jewish-ness' of Jesus, the witnesses to the birth are gentiles from a foreign land. Their inclusion is a powerful declaration that the revelation of Jesus is for all people. Regardless of the liturgical year, this reading is always used on the feast of the Epiphany to celebrate this pivotal moment.

The wise men, or Magi, are warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and they go home by a different way. How could they do anything but go home another way – indeed, go home as different people? They are changed by their encounter with the child Jesus and they go home a different way; in a different state; in a whole different frame of mind. When we genuinely encounter Jesus – in scripture, in life, in prayer, in ourselves – then we cannot go home the same way; we must go home by a different way as the Magi did.

*Thank  
you*

**The Newcastle Conference of Vinnies** would like to thank the local parishioners for their magnificent contributions of almost \$13,000 to the Christmas Appeal, as well as over \$4,000 to the Bushfire Appeal. Your generosity is amazing!



*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.*

### ***Stars and Seekers after Truth***

There is a fascination with stars: their beauty shining and sparkling in the dark canopy of the night; amazement and wonder at their number and extent. And who amongst us hasn't stolen a furtive glance at the horoscopes, half humorously checking 'what the stars hold for me'.

The Magi, the wise men in today's gospel story, were not like the writers of our horoscope columns. They were astronomers – astrologers from ancient religions found to 'the East' of Bethlehem, perhaps modern day Iraq or Syria.

In particular, they would have thought that the birth of those destined to be great figures would be signalled by unusual constellations of events in the night sky. They really believed that stars greatly influenced and controlled the destiny of human beings.

But, *these* Magi were open to the insights of other religious traditions. And it was that combination of their own religion of astrology and their reading about Jewish expectations of a wonderful person who would inaugurate a new epoch of history, which led them to:

To what? To whom? To Jesus, in a nondescript dwelling, in a nondescript town, hovered over by an exhausted Mary and a protective Joseph. This would be a most unexpected culmination of their journey.

Yet, because they were genuine seekers after truth, they were open enough to see in this baby what their own religious teaching had prepared them for, even as they were led beyond that religious system.

They were the first non-Jewish people to kneel before that infant. They did homage to this baby. Why? I think it was because they realised that the stars did not control *this* infant.

On the contrary: 'There is something in *this* baby which *caused* the night sky to respond. *This* baby is responsible for the movement of the stars!'

They were sufficiently filled with wonder that they preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, not reporting where they had found him. And, then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

What does this Gospel passage hold for us today?

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth.

People may be trapped in the limiting language of their astrology or Buddhism, or an ideology such as atheism or whatever. Of course, those systems of thought cannot save anyone.

But, individually and personally, Buddhists and atheists and astrologers can be set on a journey towards 'the Love which moves the sun and all the stars' (Dante).

As a person responds to the (often anonymous) prompting of the Holy Spirit and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God.

This is where we differ drastically from some fundamentalists. The Catholic Church believes that the billions in China and India, who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved.

But, such persons, even leading humane lives, do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

That Truth which we have the privilege of understanding leads us to accept the claims made on us by the baby to whom the Astrologers paid homage:



We understand and accept  
that *He* is the Body Language of God,  
that *He* is 'God with us', Emmanuel,  
that *He* is The Answer to all the seeking after truth  
and the yearning of the human heart.  
O come, let us adore *Him*.

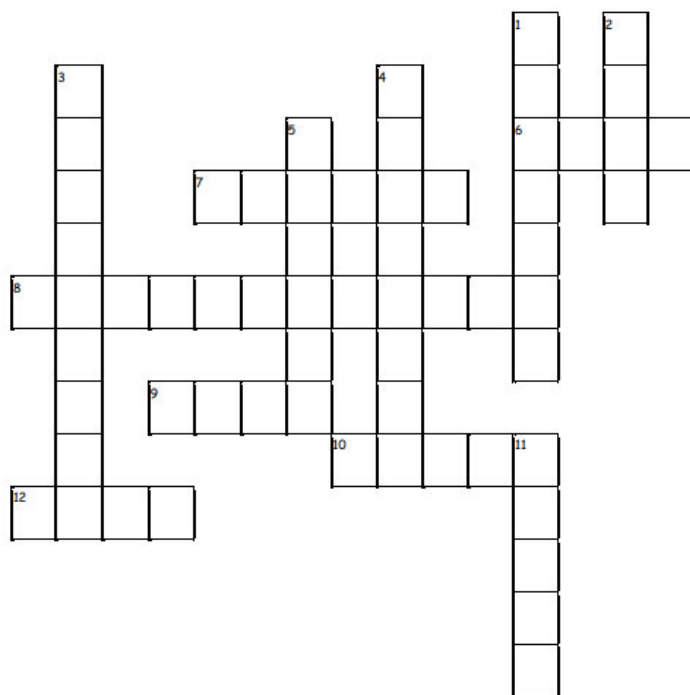
© Fr Michael Tate



## CROSSWORD

### We come to worship the king

Mt 2:1-12



#### Across

- 6: north, south, \_\_\_\_\_ and west  
 7: look  
 8: one of the gifts given to Jesus  
 9: a soft, yellow metal  
 10: another of the gifts given to Jesus  
 12: this showed the wise men where to find Jesus

#### Down

- 1: rested on your knees  
 2: one who has wisdom  
 3: significant  
 4: to do something without others knowing  
 5: alerted to danger  
 11: a type of building people live in

The Epiphany of the Lord,

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## JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

### The glory of the Lord shines upon you

Is 60:1-6  
 Ps 72:1, 2, 10abc, 10de-11, R, see v.11  
 Mt 2:1-12

M R W M F S P J Z N Z B O G F  
 Y W P L C F K X F A O I T R D  
 R F G O L D T S S H P N E M I  
 R C R N X D P O A M E V G T V  
 H Y Y M C R O W D A N F H R Z  
 G L O R Y Y Q R J I Q Q J P D  
 F R A N K I N C E N S E T L X  
 U F V X A X Z Z R L I Q B X E  
 W Z H K H D C Q J S W S M W B  
 A O Y E B D H O U S E T U C P  
 O Y F M C E J V K W E A R Q C  
 R G D G X L X J S Z A R S E A  
 E G E Y E S D L Q H S T Y I L  
 E G L L O Z P R U V T I V N E  
 E L D A Y I Q I S Y S P I P E

Try to find these words:

crowd  
 day  
 east  
 eyes  
 frankincense  
 glory  
 gold  
 house  
 myrrh  
 open  
 sea  
 star

The Epiphany of the Lord

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## COMING WEEKEND ROSTERS

The Cathedral	ADULT SERVER	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	COUNTERS
11 Jan 5.30pm	Louise Outram	Lena Josue Kath Williams	Kath Williams, Bart Connors, Mansoor Jessa, Rose Jessa	John & Mary
12 Jan 9.30am		Charlize Allado Mary Allado	Cora Armstrong, Frances Barber, Peter Owens, Betty Stott	
12 Jan 5.00pm	Allen Brierley	Sue O'Sullivan James O'Sullivan	Clare Walsh, Vera Walker	

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

STOCKTON	WELCOMER	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
12 Jan 9.00am	Jan D	Sue M, Helen O'B	Moira, Janine	Bernie, Pat, Harry

TIGHES HILL	WELCOMERS	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
12 Jan 8.00am	Moya Lantry Dorothea Norman	Rose McAlister Val O'Hara	Margaret Crockett Catherine O'Kane	Mary Samwell, Sue Horton, Lawrence Hallinan

THE JUNCTION	WELCOMERS	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	COUNTERS
12 Jan 9.00am	Martyn Docherty Deb Docherty	Diane Murphy Mary O'Connor	Cath Purkiss	Deb Docherty, Anna Holz, Kathryn Russell	D Lederwasch A Frost P Kish

BROADMEADOW	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	MINISTER OF COMMUNION	COUNTING TEAM	WELCOMING TEAM
11 Jan 5.30pm	Michael Tully Janet Tully	Rosalie Nunn	G Haggerty, R Cathcart, T Casey, A Skehan	Eileen Howard & Robin Cathcart

MAYFIELD WEST	WELCOMER	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
11 Jan 6.00pm	Doreen	P Boland K Williamson	K Harvey	D Mundy G Mundy, Sister Ann