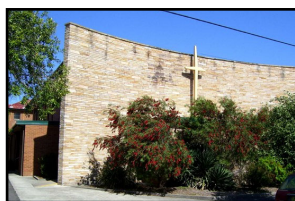


Sacred Heart Cathedral,
Hamilton



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, 2ND FEBRUARY 2020 THE PRESENTATION 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

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)

4th Week in Ordinary Time

Monday 3 February

- 8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral
- 8.30am Liturgy of the Word @ Stockton

Tuesday 4 February

- 7.30am Mass @ The Junction
- 8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral
- 8.45am Rosary @ Stockton
- 9.15am Mass @ Stockton

Wednesday 5 February

Memorial of St Agatha, martyr

- 7.30am Mass @ The Junction
- 8am Mass @ Mayfield West
- 8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral
- 10am Anointing Mass @ Mayfield Aged Care

Thursday 6 February

Memorial of St Paul Miki & companions, martyrs

- 7.30am Mass @ The Junction
- 8am Mass @ Stockton
- 8.15am Mass @ The Cathedral
- 9am Marian Prayer Group @ Mayfield West
- 5.30pm Mass @ Seafarers' Centre, Wickham

Friday 7 February

- 8.30am Liturgy of the Word @ Stockton
- 9.15am Mass @ Mayfield School Hall
- 10.15am Mass @ The Junction
- 11am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation at The Cathedral
- 12.05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday 8 February

- 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 9 February

5th 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

NOTICE TO STOCKTON PARISHIONERS

Fr Joseph invites Stockton parishioners to a parish meeting (approximately one hour), following the 9am Mass on Sunday, 16th February.

THIS WEEK'S LITURGY

First Reading Mal 3:1-4

The Lord will send His messenger.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:7-10. R.v.10

Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Second Reading Heb 2:14-18

Jesus was fully human.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 2:22-40

Jesus is brought to the Temple by Mary and Joseph.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

First Reading Is 58:7-10

Second Reading 1 Cor 2:1-5

Gospel Mt 5:13-16

IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Domenico Buresti, Evelyn Evans, Bruno Angelozzi

ANNIVERSARY: Danny McLean, Michael Dunn, Maria Pham Thi Bich Van, Peter Tu Huu Nguyen, Fr Robert O'Shea, Fr James Hanly, Fr John O'Connor, Fr Philip Ryan



SICK: Margaret Cox, John Belcher, Libby Oates, Graeme Burrage, Brian Swift, Monica Bound, Peter McCabe, Joan Haynes, Tom Towers, Kerry Davies, Lawson Rankin, Patricia (Pat) Gillett ,

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.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Please note that on Saturday, 22nd February, there will be no 9.15am Mass and Novena, due to the ordination of Deacon Graham Fullick starting at 10am.

The Cathedral, St Joseph's, The Junction and St Laurence O'Toole, Broadmeadow 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, commencing at **5.30pm**. Please contact the Regional Office for more details, or visit the website.

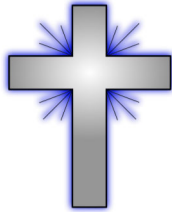
A **Sacramental Preparation** process runs each year in the parishes for children wishing to complete the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation as part of the community of the parishes of the Region. Please contact the Regional Office for more details, or visit the website.

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS, BENEDICTION & ADORATION

Starting on Ash Wednesday, 26th February, and continuing every Wednesday until Easter, there will be Stations of the Cross followed by Adoration and Benediction at St Mary's and St Joseph's Churches.



26th Feb	St Mary's
4th Mar	St Joseph's
11th Mar	St Mary's
18th Mar	St Joseph's
25th Mar	St Mary's
1st Apr	St Joseph's
8th Apr	St Mary's


Each evening will commence at 6.30pm. Reconciliation will be available during the period of Adoration. All parishioners from the region are welcome to attend.

*This Sunday, 2nd February, is the Feast of The Presentation of the Lord, sometimes referred to as **CandleMass** day.*

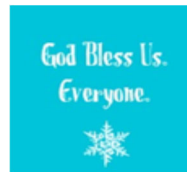


Last week we invited you to bring a candle to Mass this weekend for a blessing. At each Church we have also provided some small candles which you may wish to have blessed and take home with you, as a tangible reminder of the light of faith.

REGIONAL NOTICES

Bookclub: Our next meeting is at 6.30pm this **Sunday, 2nd February** in the Regional Centre, 25 Farquhar Street, The Junction. 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.

First Friday Food & Fellowship: This coming **Friday, 7th February**. Those who attend the 10.15am Mass at



St Joseph's on First Friday are invited to receive an anointing and then join together for morning tea in the regional centre at 25 Farquhar Street.

We welcome our friends from Lindsay Gardens and share lots of love and laughter! Come and join us!

First Friday Fish & Chips: 7th February from 5pm at Bar Beach Pavilion. BYO everything. All welcome! Enquiries: Chris 0419 265194.

Broadmeadow and **Tighes Hill** parishioners, please note there are **no weekday Masses** while Fr James is on leave. At Tighes Hill, there are communion services at 9.15am on Wednesdays and Fridays, until the weekday Masses resume on Fr James' return from leave. Broadmeadow and Tighes Hill parishioners are also invited to attend other weekday Masses in the region, as detailed in the parish diary.

Thank you

Many thanks to the parishioners of St Joseph's and St Mary's for your generous donations to last weekend's bushfire appeal. The amount raised was \$2,983.50.

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.

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.

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.

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

On Thursday, 27th February, there will be a Holy Hour at St Joseph's Church, The Junction. This will be the first in a series of Holy Hours moving around the region, to be held on the last Thursday of each month.

During this time of prayer we will pray for vocations to the Priesthood. All parishioners of the region are asked to come and pray that those men whom the Lord is calling to Priesthood may be open to responding with a yes to the call they receive from God.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2020 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

A child's catholic faith journey begins with the sacrament of Baptism and continues with the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation and then celebrating their First Communion (completing the sacraments of initiation).

The preparations for these sacraments in the region will run from February to June 2020. Preparations are completed as a family, with online activities and volunteer work within the community.

Enrolments for 2020 are now open for any child aged seven and above. If you are interested in participating, please visit the parish website and complete the online enrolment form: www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/sacramental-enrolment-form/

An information meeting will be held at the Southern Cross Hall in Hunter St, Newcastle West (near the Sacred Heart Cathedral) at 7pm on Tuesday, 18th February.

For more information please contact Anne Warren at the Regional Office on 4979 1101 or email anne.warren@mn.catholic.org.au



Mens Breakfast

Women and men – all welcome

Sr Di Santleben speaking on **ZARA's House for Refugee Women and Children.**

MON 10th FEB

Tea/Coffee and toast from **6.30am.**

Talk starts at **7am**, followed by questions.

All finished by 8am.

Regional Centre, 25 Farquhar St, The Junction.

Please use the **BACK DOOR.**



The Newcastle St Vincent de Paul Conference is desperately seeking volunteers to participate in home visitations. The need for welfare assistance locally is ongoing and the opportunity to exercise charity is provided through the society. Those interested please phone Ian Black,

*A reminder to please return
last year's palms to your
church, in readiness for Ash
Wednesday, 26th February!*



OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE THE REGION

Lina's Project: In 2017, the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle facilitated *The Atonement: Lina's Project* on behalf of Lina, a victim of child sexual abuse at the hands of a member of clergy. Bishop Bill then established 15th September as a Perpetual Day of Remembrance and, for a week, Lina's Project was screened onto the external walls of the Sacred Heart Cathedral. A screening will be held at Toronto Multi-Purpose Centre (9 Thorne Street, Toronto) on Wednesday, 12th February, at 6pm and a barbeque will follow (6.30pm to 8pm) in the adjoining grounds. For catering purposes, please RSVP by 7th February to linasprojecttoronto@mn.catholic.org.au or on 4979 1188. Personal details are not required to RSVP – only the number of attendees. Community members are invited to attend this event to support victims and survivors of abuse and to gather in a spirit of recognition, healing and hope.

The Rite of Election at the Sacred Heart Cathedral at 2.30pm on Sunday, 1st March. This is an opportunity to welcome all the catechumens who will be baptised in their parishes at the Easter Vigil. [A catechumen is an unbaptised person whose search for meaning has brought them to the Catholic Church]. Join the People of God in witness and prayerful support of those who choose to become Catholic. Afternoon tea will follow and for catering purposes, please RSVP via email sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au, or phone 4979 1134. See further details on the church noticeboards.

The **National Biennial Liturgy Conference** 12th-14th March 2020 is a great formation opportunity for anyone involved in liturgy preparation and ministry – pastoral ministers, catechists, musicians, educators and all who are interested in the Church's liturgy. Keynote speaker, Fr Paul Turner (Kansas USA), is greatly respected by our local church and well worth hearing as he touches on some Australian Plenary Council themes. Members of our diocesan Liturgy Council will also be presenting a workshop! The Parramatta location is attractively close for our participation and accommodation is available at the conference venue. Early bird registrations close 1st February, so don't delay to seize this opportunity. For more information see church noticeboards, or go to bit.ly/nlc2020event

An invitation is extended to singers of all types to join the Cathedral Choir for when the Church of Maitland-Newcastle gathers for significant liturgical events.

February is always a busy time on the liturgical calendar and that is more so this year. Currently we are looking for people to join the choir for the following events:

The Launch of Project Compassion which takes place in the Cathedral (Bishop Bill presiding) on Tuesday, 25th February at 10.30 am. (Presence required from 9.00am.)

The ordination of Graham Fullick at 10am on Saturday, 22nd February in the Cathedral.

The Rite of Election at 2.30pm on Sunday, 1st March in the Cathedral.

To be part of the choir for any event requires attendance at rehearsals. There are rehearsals on Thursday nights from 6pm to 7pm in the Cathedral and generally at least one hour ahead of the event. Because we have so many liturgies in a short time frame, rehearsals on Thursday Feb 6th, 13th & 20th will focus on Project Compassion and the Ordination. The rehearsal on Feb 27th will focus on the Rite of Election.

If you would LOVE to be part of the choir for any or all of these events, please contact Sharon Murphy via email, sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au, or on 4979 1134. Please provide your name, mobile and email address.

We need to hear from you as soon as possible and no later than one week prior to the first rehearsal for any event. This ensures we have enough music copies for all choir members. It also ensures we can contact you if something unforeseen happens and a rehearsal is cancelled.

We are very excited about growing our choir for significant diocesan events and look forward to you being a part of it!



INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

You are invited to a four week program at 'LIVING WATERS', 34 Kenrick Street, The Junction.

Early in the New Year is a good time to reassess our Spiritual Journey. Learning to meditate can be of great benefit to our Spiritual Life.

This program provides an opportunity for those interested in finding out about Christian Meditation to experience and practise in a small group, to learn about its origins and to discover its relevance as a form of prayer in the contemporary world. The Program is open to all!

Wednesday Evenings: 6.00pm to 7.00pm.

January 29th, February 5th, 12th, 19th.

For more information please contact Anne Cuskelly:

Email annecuskelly@hotmail.com

or phone 0407 436 808

The Word of God for young and old

In a time (in the Western world at least) when there seems to be a growing gap between the old and the young, a gap in comprehension of the current world and in expectation as to the future, it is good to reflect on this Gospel incident.

A young woman, still in her teens, a newly-wed cradling her newborn son in her arms, places that baby in the arms of a very old stranger who embraces her child with all the fervour of a *now* fulfilled hope. Young and old have come together around Jesus. As Pope Francis remarks of this encounter: 'Jesus is at the centre'. (*Homily 2 Feb 2018*)

Is this the key to overcoming the distance between young and old in our culture? Can the young, like Mary, listen to the wisdom of tradition from an elder? Can the old still be open to a moment of serendipity mediated by the young?

With such a cacophony of voices promising this or that, could it be that a wordless baby wrapped in swaddling clothes answers the deepest yearning and needs of the human person of any age? An answer which we of any age can share.

But at whatever age we find ourselves, we have to admit our need for sense to be made of our personal history, of our world's history. We have to admit our yearning for giving love and being loved to the uttermost. And as we reach out, perhaps not so

confident about finding the answers we need, Mary places Jesus in *our* arms to fulfil those hopes and those yearnings. Then we can say with Simeon:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace...'

For Simeon personally, so for us, this is a peace for our questing hearts which the world cannot give. Paradoxically Jesus rests in our arms so that, as St Augustine famously observed: 'Our hearts are ever restless Lord, until they rest in Thee.'

Salvation is rescue from everything that dehumanises us, such as sin and illness, but especially death. This saving power comes from the Conqueror of death, our Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

We have the great gift and advantage of the Christian Scriptures. We should immerse ourselves in *the word* of the Gospels especially, so that we may see the full life of the One whom Simeon only saw as a baby.

Then we may sing with St Richard of Chichester:

"Dear Lord of Thee, three things I pray,
to see Thee more clearly,
love Thee more dearly,
follow Thee more nearly."

© Fr Michael Tate

The role of the observer

In today's gospel passage, it is the devout Simeon and the prophetess, Anna, who declare the greatness and far-reaching influence of the child that has been brought to the Temple.

This is a common feature of the gospel accounts. It is not Jesus himself who proclaims his greatness but those who have observed him and recognised the revelation of God's presence amongst the people.

It is a role that continues today. Those of us who believe and recognise the presence and influence of God in the world are challenged to proclaim it in both our actions and our words.

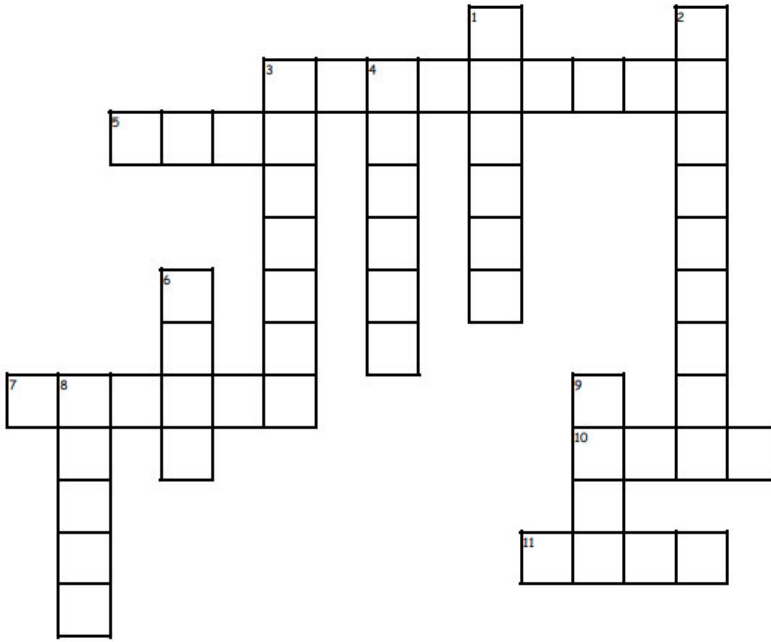
© Greg Sunter



We continue to pray for our drought-affected communities and ask God to bless them with the gift of much-needed rain.

CROSSWORD

Lord, I am your servant



Across

- 3: the Law of the Lord says the parents of the first-born son must offer a _____
- 5: a white bird of peace
- 7: God appeared to Simeon in this form
- 10: Simeon held the baby Jesus in his _____
- 11: you use these to see

Down

- 1: this man was pleased to see baby Jesus at the temple
- 2: Mary and Joseph took baby Jesus to the temple in this city
- 3: Simeon praised God and said, 'Lord, I am your _____'
- 4: God's Spirit told Simeon he would not die until he had seen _____ the Lord
- 6: the mother of Jesus
- 8: the opposite of war
- 9: Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem when he was a _____

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

I will send my messenger



Try to find these words:

- announce
- baby
- day
- dove
- eyes
- Jerusalem
- messenger
- prepare
- sacrifice
- Simeon
- stand
- temple

COMING WEEKEND ROSTERS

The Cathedral	ADULT SERVER	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	COUNTERS
8 Feb 5.30pm	Louise Outram	Sue Paton Denise Vaughan	Pedrita Spence, M Simmons, S Jarmain, Bart Connors	John & Mary
9 Feb 9.30am		Joan Woodcock Bernice Matthews	John Askew, Rosa Tomassetti, Peter Owens, Cora Armstrong	
9 Feb 5.00pm	Allen Brierley	Chris Stubbs David Hayes	Vera Walker	

NEWCASTLE	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
9 Feb 7.30am	K Frasca C Prider	Volunteer	P Clark R Rossi

STOCKTON	WELCOMER	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
9 Feb 9.00am	Jan D	Stan, Helen D	Lyn, Sandra	Bernie, Pat, Harry

TIGHES HILL	WELCOMERS	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
9 Feb 8.00am	Lawrence Hallinan Jacob Healey	Sophia Wooldridge Xanthe Lamont	Keziah Lamont Annemaree Turner	Brian O'Donnell, Dorothea Norman, Lawrence Hallinan

THE JUNCTION	WELCOMERS	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	PROCESSION WITH GIFTS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	COUNTERS
9 Feb 9.00am	Sally Casey Rebeka Stokes	P Lane K Walker	Mary O'Connor	Kathryn Russell Christine Dowling Pam Dagwell	C & R Perrin T & J Collins

BROADMEADOW	MINISTERS OF THE WORD	MINISTER OF COMMUNION	COUNTING TEAM	WELCOMING TEAM
8 Feb 5.30pm	Monica Murphy Sr Pauline Murray rsm	Pat Fitzpatrick	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
8 Feb 6.00pm	Doreen	K Williamson K Mernagh	N Mundy	P Boland A Jenkins, S veronesi