



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, 10TH MAY 2020 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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 James Odoh
Fr Peter Street

Fr Matthew Muller
Fr Peter Thoai
Deacon Lawrence Caelli

Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

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Regional Office Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)
Jade Simonsen (*Business Manager*)
Anne Warren (*Administration*)
Dr Anne Millard (*Director of Music, Liturgy & Sacramental Program*)

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.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE!

The COVID-19 situation means the churches are all now closed and public celebrations of Mass and sacraments are all cancelled. This includes all weekday and weekend Masses. There will be no baptisms, nor will reconciliation be available in any church.

Until further notice, there will be no meetings of parish groups in the region.

Attendance at weddings is limited to the bride and groom, the celebrant and two witnesses (five people in total). Attendance at funerals is limited to ten mourners. In both instances, the 'one person per 4 square metres' rule must be observed.

Bishop Bill will be celebrating Sunday Mass in the Cathedral and he invites you to join with him in prayer from home. You will be able to watch by Ctrl + clicking on this link at 9.30am on Sunday: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/> ...or use the same link to watch at a later time. Share the link with family and friends, and let's gather online to pray as a community at this difficult time of physical isolation.

The Cathedral's YouTube Channel needs 100 subscribers so we can claim a 'custom URL' (as opposed to the long string of numbers and letters we currently have). So far we only have 62, so please consider subscribing to our YouTube channel if you haven't already done so. Please ask your friends to do the same. You can find our YouTube channel by going to <https://bit.ly/3dVO3qc>

City Pastoral Region Online and Telephone groups
Parishioners in the City Pastoral Region have started two groups to connect and pray with each other. You and your friends are welcome to join.

Praying the Sunday Gospel

Each Tuesday 5.00-5.45pm

via internet: <https://zoom.us/j/147952077>

via phone: (02) 8015 2088 Meeting ID: 147952077#

Praying the Rosary

Each Thursday 5.30-5.50pm

via internet: <https://zoom.us/j/654882094>

via phone: (02) 8015 2088 Meeting ID: 654882094#

IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Alois Schmitz,
Rachele Dos Santos

ANNIVERSARY: Carmel Walker,
Ian McGuinness, Sean Roche, Jack Willcock

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

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Please pray today for all mothers. Please continue to pray, too, for all those throughout the world who are affected by COVID-19

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.



We cannot currently run our regular book club meetings, but we are using 'Zoom' technology. This offers free video conferencing for sessions of up to 40 minutes. At 6.30pm on Sunday, 7th June, we will share our thoughts on the book, *Pachinko*, by Minjin Lee.

If you would like to participate in future book club meetings, please send an email to the parish office, newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au



For anyone who has Project Compassion boxes, please hold off on returning them until our Churches are open again and the normal Mass schedule resumes. Thank you.

Current contact arrangements for the Regional Office

Please do not attend the office at 25 Farquhar Street, The Junction in person.

All inquiries are to be made via email to newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au or by phone on 4979 1101



...to all our mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers!

First Reading Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19. R.v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. (R.)

2. For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. (R.)

3. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that

offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.
Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 14:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I am the way, the truth and the life.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Trust in God still, and trust in me.
There are many rooms in my Father's house;
if there were not, I should have told you.
I am now going to prepare a place for you,
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,
I shall return to take you with me;
so that where I am
you may be too.
You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.
No one can come to the Father except through me.
If you know me, you know my Father too.
From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,
so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?'
Do you not believe
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly,

whoever believes in me

will perform the same works as I do myself,

he will perform even greater works,

because I am going to the Father.'

Message to the Region from the Business Manager End of Financial Year and Tax Receipts

Planned Giving Tax Receipts: Parishioners who require a tax receipt for planned giving for the 2019/20 financial year must notify the Parish Office before Friday 12th June 2020. Please notify by one of the following methods:

Email to newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au: Use the wording, "Please provide me with a Planned Giving tax receipt" and include your name and envelope number.

Phone: Call the Parish Office on 4979 1101.

Tax receipt data will be processed on 30 June 2020. No subsequent amendments are possible. Any requests received after 30 June 2020 will result in parishioners not receiving the requested tax deduction. If you do not require a tax receipt for tax purposes, it is preferable to refrain from requesting one as this will enhance the tax deductibility for those who do use the tax receipt. I am happy to provide people who do not submit a tax return with your contribution total.

Planned Givers requiring a DFSBL (Diocesan Family School Building Levy) Reduction Letter: Parishioners who require a DFSBL Reduction letter in relation to school fees, please notify the Parish Office by one of the following methods:

Email to newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au: Use the wording, "Please provide me with a DFSBL Reduction Letter" and include your name and envelope number.

Phone: Call the Parish Office on 4979 1101.

Important to Note: You may receive either the Tax Receipt OR a DFSBL Reduction Letter, not both, so please be mindful of this when requesting.

Praying the Rosary in the Month of May

Pope Francis has asked us to make a special effort in May to pray the Rosary. By doing so we will be united with believers around the world, asking for Mary's intercession in stopping the coronavirus pandemic.

"Contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary, our mother, will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial," the pope said in a letter addressed to all Catholics and released by the Vatican on 25th April.

The month of May is traditionally devoted to Mary and many Catholics already are in the habit of praying the rosary at home during the month, he noted. "The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this 'family' aspect, also from a spiritual point of view."

"You can decide according to your own situations" whether to pray individually or in groups, he said, noting that "it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow."



Pope Francis wrote two prayers to Mary that can be recited at the end of the rosary, prayers he said he would be reciting "in spiritual union with all of you." Both prayers acknowledge Mary's closeness to her son's followers and ask for her protection and for her intercession - just as she interceded with Jesus on behalf of the newlyweds at Cana who had run out of wine for their wedding feast.

Pope Francis' prayers also include specific intentions for those who are sick, for those who care for them, for those who have died and those who mourn for them, for scientists seeking cures and vaccines and for government leaders who must find a way to protect their people.

Pope Francis' Prayers

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus' suffering,
and persevered in your faith.

"Protectress of the Roman people",
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

*We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions in our necessities, but
deliver us always from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.*

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world
is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother
of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your
protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid
this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are
distraught and mourn their loved ones who have
died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves
them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned
for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to
prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to
them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the
uncertainty of the future and the consequences for
the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God,
the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may
end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead
with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the
families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and
their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and
volunteers who are on the frontline of this
emergency, and are risking their lives to save others.
Support their heroic effort and grant them strength,
generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day,
and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and
fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support
everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women
engaged in scientific research, that they may find
effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom,
solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of
those lacking the basic necessities of life and may
devise social and economic solutions inspired by
farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the
enormous funds invested in developing and
stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting
effective research on how to prevent similar
tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realise that we are all
members of one great family and to recognise the
bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity
and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless
situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in
faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your
children in distress and pray that God will stretch out
his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible
pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal
course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of
salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O
Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession

*"Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all
members of one great family and to recognize the
bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity
and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless
situations of poverty and need."*

How to Pray the Rosary

1. On the crucifix, make the sign of the cross and then pray the Apostles' Creed.
2. On the next *large* bead, say the Our Father.
3. On the following three small beads, pray three Hail Marys.
4. On the *chain*, pray the Glory Be.
5. On the large bead, meditate on the first mystery and pray the Our Father.
6. On the ten beads after that, pray a Hail Mary on each bead; on the chain, pray a Glory Be.

Repeat Steps 5 and 6 four more times to finish the next four decades.

Say the Hail Holy Queen:

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve, to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb Jesus, O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Concluding Prayer:

O God, whose only-begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal salvation; grant we beseech Thee, that meditating upon these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mondays and Saturdays:

The Joyful Mysteries remind the faithful of Christ's birth: The Annunciation (Luke 1:26–38); The Visitation (Luke 1:39–56); The Nativity (Luke 2:1–21); The Presentation (Luke 2:22–38); The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41–52)

Tuesdays and Fridays:

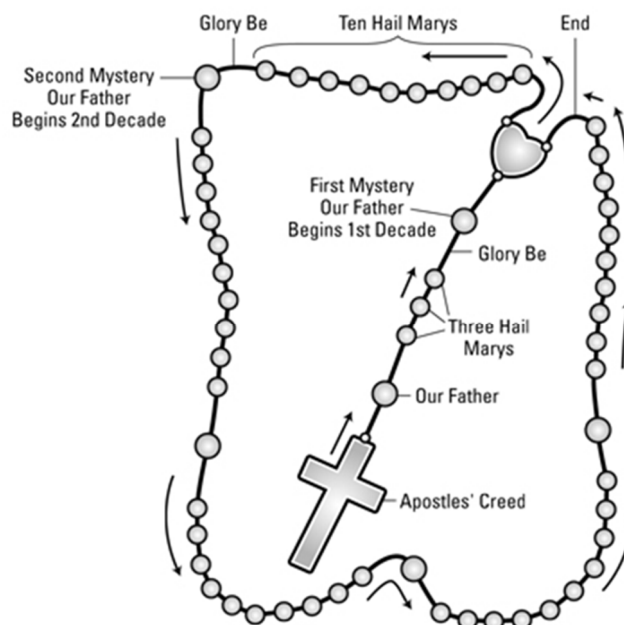
The Sorrowful Mysteries recall Jesus' passion and death: The Agony of Jesus in the Garden (Matthew 26:36–56); The Scouring at the Pillar (Matthew 27:26); The Crowning with Thorns (Matthew 27:27–31); The Carrying of the Cross (Matthew 27:32); The Crucifixion (Matthew 27:33–56).

Wednesdays and Sundays:

The Glorious Mysteries focus on the resurrection of Jesus and the glories of heaven: The Resurrection (John 20:1–29); The Ascension (Luke 24:36–53); The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1–41); The Assumption of Mary, the Mother of God, into heaven; The Coronation of Mary in heaven.

Thursdays:

Pope John Paul II added The Mysteries of Light, also known as the Luminous Mysteries, in 2002: The Baptism in the River Jordan (Matthew 3:13–16); The Wedding Feast at Cana (John 2:1–11); The Preaching of the coming of the Kingdom of God (Mark 1:14–15); The Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–8); The Institution of the Holy Eucharist (Matthew 26).





Fall asleep praying the Rosary. It is better than counting sheep.



Say it in moments of sadness or spiritual drought.



If you can't pray a whole Rosary at once, break it into parts.



Carry a Rosary in your pocket.



Use each mystery to ask for a particular intention.



Say it while you wait (for example, at the bus stop)



Pray while you walk and think of the people in your life.



Recite the Rosary while doing chores or while you work out.



Use images and music. The Rosary is a contemplative prayer.



If you're upset, pray for the situation that worries you.

TIPS TO PRAY THE ROSARY EVERY DAY

SOURCE: ACIPRENDA.COM



A Mother's Day Prayer

Loving God

You wrap your arms around your people and show your everlasting love in the same way a mother loves her children.

We are grateful for the love you have taught us through the mothers in our lives; our own mother who brought us into the world, the mothers of friends who have welcomed us into their homes and families, our grandmothers who took time for us, and the women who have helped us even though we were not their children.

We honour, too, all the mothers who are now with you in heaven and pray that one day we will be reunited.

Bless all the mothers of this world today. May they know the fullness of the love they have shared and be blessed every day of their lives.

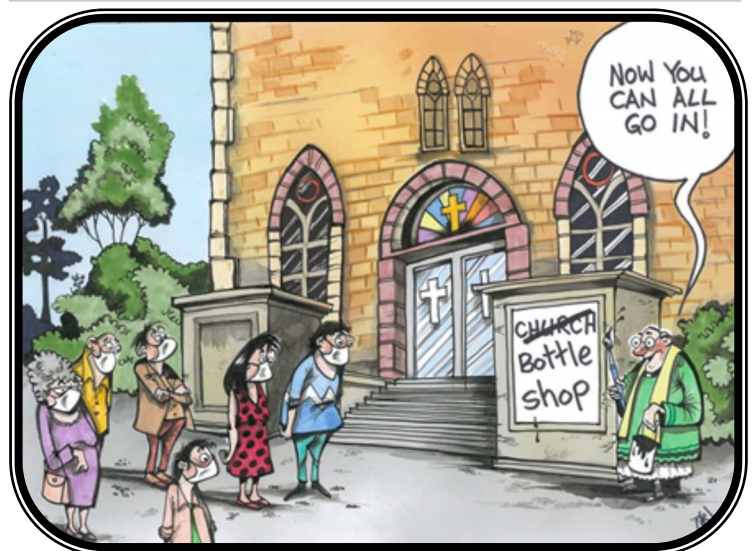
Amen.

Are you wondering how the coronavirus pandemic is affecting the Church around the world?



Aid to the Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

Visit www.aidtochurch.org/covid-19 to read messages from bishops, priests, brothers and religious sisters serving in some of the most remote and dangerous countries in the world.



Courtesy of the Catholic Weekly

HYMNS FOR THIS WEEK'S LITURGY

ENTRANCE HYMN

A TRUSTING PSALM

Kevin Bates

*Lord, let your mercy be on us
as we place our trust in you.*

The word of the Lord is faithfulness and love.
This love can never be measured.
God's beauty is like nothing we have ever seen,
so let us place our trust in God.

The word of the Lord is fire burning strong.
and love that never grows weary.
God will seek and save the lost until we all return,
so let us place our trust in God.

Text: Psalm 33 K Bates Tune Kevin Bates b 1946 Kevin Bates arr by Alister Spence
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LITURGY OF THE WORD

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 33

*Lord let your mercy be on us as we place our trust in
you*



Text: Psalm 33 Tune Anne Millard ©LiturgicalSong Publishers Used with
permission. Reprinted under One License #A625242

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

*I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no
one comes to the Father, except through me*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF GIFTS

AVE MARIA

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION 1:

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your
resurrection until you come again.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Memorial Acclamation and Great Amen and Fraction Rite from
Mass of St. Francis. Music: Paul Taylor. Used with permission.

COMMUNION HYMNS

BE NOT AFRAID Bob Dufford

You shall cross the barren desert,
but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety
though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands
and all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

***Be not afraid. I go before you always
Come, follow me, and I will give you rest.***

If you pass through raging waters
in the sea, you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames,
you shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the power of hell
and death is at your side,
know that I am with you through it all.

Blessed are your poor,
for the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn,
for one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked tongues insult and hate you
all because of me, blessed, blessed are you!

Text: Isaiah 43:2-3. Luke 6:2 Bob Dufford SJ 1943. Tune Bob Dufford, SJ acc. By Sr.
Theophane Hytrek OSF 1915-1992 ©1975 Robert Dufford SJ and New Dawn
Music GIA Publisher Reprinted under One Licence.A#625242

RECESSIONAL HYMN

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE S Toolan

I am the bread of life.
You who come to me shall not hunger;
You who believe in me shall not thirst
No one can come to me unless the Father beckons.

***And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day.***

The bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world,
and if you eat of this bread,
you shall live forever, you shall live for ever.

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