



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, 28TH JUNE 2020
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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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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.

COVID-19 AND THE EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

Further changes to the COVID-19 related restrictions have taken effect.

The general closure of church buildings is no longer required by the Public Health Order. It has been replaced by the imposition of limits on the number of persons who can be in the building at any one time. The number of persons who can be present in a church building for a wedding, funeral, memorial service or other religious service is to be determined on the basis of the '4 square metre' rule, ie. the maximum number of persons is the number that can be accommodated by allowing 4 square metres per person within the building.

These changes require the number of people who can attend a wedding, funeral, memorial or other religious service to be determined on a building by building basis, and that number may be less than the limits generally understood to be applicable.

This general limit is further regulated by providing a maximum number of persons who can attend these celebrations, as follows:

Weddings – up to 20 persons, excluding the persons being married, the celebrant and others required to facilitate the wedding service, one photographer and one videographer.

Funerals – More than 50 persons may attend, subject to certain conditions.

Memorial Services – up to 50 persons, excluding those necessary to conduct the service.

Religious Services (including Mass) – up to 50 persons, excluding those necessary to conduct the service.

The details (name, telephone number, and/or email) of any person participating in a wedding, funeral/memorial service or religious service (or a gathering immediately following these events) must be provided to the Parish Priest or delegate, who must record and keep the details for a period of four weeks. This is a mandatory requirement of the Order and it must be observed. The reason for a person being in a church building will not be recorded. The Order no longer requires the collection of contact details of those attending the church building for the purposes of private prayer.

The public celebration of Mass has recommenced in our diocese, with parishes taking all reasonable precautions in relation to hygiene and physical

distancing. Please see the separate notice on page 4 of this bulletin, regarding the resumption of Masses in our region and the need to register your wish to attend.

Because of the limit on the number of people who may be able to attend any particular Mass, all members of the Church of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, except priests, continue to be dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass.

The live streaming of Masses will continue. You are able to watch by Ctrl + clicking on this link at 9.30am on Sunday: [https:// www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/)

ADAPTATIONS TO THE CELEBRATION OF MASS

With the resumption of Masses in our churches from this weekend, we have had to make a number of changes to ensure the health and safety of those who will be attending.

Please be aware of the following adaptations, which we will continue to monitor and revise where necessary:

- Only one Reader will be required. This is being organised on a week by week basis.
- Communion will only be distributed by the Priest Celebrant.
- Communion will only be distributed under one kind, ie. the Chalice will not be offered.
- Communion will only be distributed in the hand, not on the tongue.
- There will be no Procession of the Gifts.
- Collections will not be taken up. Instead, those attending will be invited to place their contributions in two clearly labelled receptacles as they enter the Church. Parishioners who wish to consider electronic contributions should contact the Regional Office for more information.
- The Sign of Peace will be given without physical contact, ie. with a bow, or a wave, etc.
- Printed bulletins will be available at the entrance to the Church – please collect your own and take it with you when you leave.
- Communal singing will not take place, though a small group or a single cantor may be present.

We look forward to the time when we can once again celebrate the fullness of our liturgical life. In the meantime, we much appreciate your understanding and acceptance of these necessary precautions.

Important Information regarding the Resumption of Masses

With the easing of COVID-19 related restrictions that took effect from 1 June 2020, it is now possible to resume the celebration of public Masses, subject to certain requirements.

For the Sacred Heart Cathedral, the celebration of Mass, both weekdays and weekends, has recommenced with effect from **Tuesday 9 June 2020**, subject to the requirements set out on the Cathedral website, www.sacredhearthatilton.org.au

Under the current regulations, the upper limit of attendance at Mass is **50 people** (excluding the celebrant and the people necessary for the conduct of the service). For weekday Masses this number should be easily accommodated, but Sunday Masses regularly attract more than the prescribed limit of 50 people. So that everyone who may wish to attend has an equal and equitable opportunity to attend, **registration in advance will be required.**

Registration to attend Sunday Mass in the Cathedral will open at 9am on the Monday beforehand, and close promptly at midday on the Friday immediately before the Sunday. Registration is valid only for one week; you must register separately for each subsequent Sunday.

To register your wish to attend one of the Sunday Masses in the Cathedral, you must do so by visiting the website, www.sacredhearthatilton.org.au, and clicking on the registration button on the right hand column. If you do not have the ability to register via the website, please contact the Regional Office on 49791101, or email newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au where staff will be able to do so on your behalf.

If the number wishing to attend is above the limit of 50 persons, a 'lottery' will determine those who will be able to attend Mass on that weekend. Those selected to attend will be contacted on Friday afternoon/evening. Only those whose names have been selected will be permitted entry to the church for each Mass. There will be no exception to this requirement. You will be required to provide your telephone number and/or email address as part of the registration process. This is a requirement of the current Public Health Order, and there can be no exception made. When attending Mass, please have your name 'ticked off' the list that is being monitored by a volunteer.

For Sunday Masses at St Joseph's, The Junction and St Mary's, Newcastle, a similar registration process will apply. To register, please visit the website, www.newcastlecatholic.org.au or contact the Regional Office on 4979 1101 or via email, newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

If you wish to attend the Saturday evening vigil at **Broadmeadow**, please contact Gwen on 49675010 or Fr James on 0402 223415 or via email, jamesodoh768@yahoo.com

If you wish to attend the Sunday morning Mass at **Tighes Hill**, please contact Fr James on 0402 223415 or via email, jamesodoh768@yahoo.com

If you wish to attend the Saturday evening vigil at **Mayfield West** or the Sunday morning Mass at **Stockton**, please contact Deacon Lawrence Caelli on 0412 447830.

Important to note! If you reach voicemail when you call to register for Mass, **please leave your name and phone number and clearly identify which Mass you wish to attend.** We need to be able to contact you on Friday afternoon/evening, to confirm your attendance. We received some voicemail messages at the Regional Office this week where phone numbers were not provided and we could not complete the registration. We remind you that if you are not registered, you cannot attend Mass.

We thank you for your understanding during these difficult times and appreciate your continuing patience and support in relation to the registration requirements. These are processes we must follow in order to comply with the current Public Health Order.

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). Please consider subscribing to our YouTube channel if you haven't already done so. You can find our YouTube channel by going to <https://bit.ly/3dVO3qc>

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

BOOK CLUB

We are continuing our 'Zoom' book club meetings. At 6.30pm on Sunday, 5th July, we will share our thoughts on the book, *The Land Before Avocado*, by Richard Glover. If you would like to participate in future book club meetings, please send an email to the parish office, newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Praying the Sunday Gospel: Parishioners in the City Pastoral Region are invited to connect and pray with each other from your own home. God speaks to us through the words of the Gospel and then through artist's images of the Gospel message. Each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm. You and your friends are welcome to join via the internet: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86560170676>

AN UPDATE REGARDING PLANNED GIVING

Parishioners who require a tax receipt for planned giving for the 2019/20 financial year must notify the Parish Office **by 30 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.

Jade Simonsen, Regional Business Manager

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



NEW PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Envelopes for the 2020/2021 financial year are available for collection at the churches this weekend.



With the resumption of Sunday Masses, Project Compassion boxes can now be returned to the churches. Thank you.

IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Michael Tynan, Betty McCoy, Ethna Harvey, Kevin Gilbert.

ANNIVERSARY: Elizabeth Cagney, Velta Stevens, Catherine O'Neill, Garth Callinan, Charlie Ryan.

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

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Please continue to pray 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.



GOSPEL FOCUS

Anyone who welcomes

Having spelled out the difficulties of discipleship throughout Ch 10, the gospel writer has Jesus reassuring the disciples that anyone who welcomes them welcomes him. There are echoes here of other parts of the Gospel of Matthew: the Beatitudes, with its blessings on the poor and humble of heart; the welcome of children, the 'little ones' of the kingdom; and the Last Judgment (Mt 24), that reminds us that whatever we do for the least in the world we do for Jesus. Jesus even describes the disciples as 'little ones' – a reminder both to them and to those who welcome them.

First Reading**2 Kgs 4:8-11. 14-16**

A reading from the second book of the Kings

That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 88:2-3. 16-19. R. v.2**

(R.) Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)
2. Happy the people who acclaim such a king,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who find their joy every day in your name,
who make your justice the source of their bliss. (R.)
3. For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength;
it is by your favour that our might is exalted:
for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord;
our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. (R.)

Sr Kathleen Mernagh rsj

As announced last week, Sr Kathleen passed away on 18th June. Her funeral at the Lochinvar Chapel on Monday was livestreamed and can be viewed via this link: https://youtu.be/IHA9nwz_HS4

A memorial Mass will be planned at a future date. Please watch the bulletin for details.

Second Reading**Rom 6:3-4. 8-11**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation**1 Pt 2:9**

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people.

Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light.

Alleluia!

Gospel**Mt 10:37-42**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

HYMNS FOR THIS WEEK'S LITURGY

GATHERING HYMN:

BAPTIZED IN WATER

Michael Saward

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
Heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
Faithfully now God's praise we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
One with his rising, freed and forgiven
Thankfully now God's praise we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:
Born of one Father, we are his children
Joyfully now God's praise we sing.

Michael Saward b. 1952 ©1982 Jubilate Hymn GIA Publishers

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PREPARATION OF GIFTS

TAKE UP YOUR CROSS

David Haas

If you lose your life for my sake, you will find it;

If you want to save your life, let it go.

Take up your cross, deny yourself;

Come follow me, follow me.

1. How will you profit by gaining the world
while you forfeit all of your life?
What will you give in return?
What will you give in return?
2. Before I return in glory,
I will give you the gift of my love;
You will never taste death.
You will never taste death.

Text and Tune: David Haas b 1957

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COMMUNION HYMN:

THE SUMMONS

John L Bell

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown In you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer In you and you in me?
Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean In you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name
Let me turn and follow you And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow In you and you in
me?

Text John L Bell, b.1949. © 1987, WGRG, Iona Community

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THE PRAYER OF ST FRANCIS

Sebastian Temple

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord.
And where there's doubt true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness only light,
And where there's sadness ever joy.

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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RECESSIONAL HYMN

CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

Bernadette Farrell

Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to you
Make us your own, your holy people
light for the world to see.

***Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness,
Christ be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.***

Longing for peace, our world is troubled
Longing for hope, many despair
Your word alone has pow'r to save us
Make us your living voice.

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Reflection by Richard Leonard

For all the great things the Church of yesteryear achieved, it also did some terrible things. One of the worst demands it made was that a Catholic who married a person who was not a Catholic did so at a side altar, oratory or in the sacristy of the Church. How humiliating this directive was. For how long were we going to punish the Protestant Reformers and young Catholic woman or man who fell in love with someone from these denominations? In these ecumenical days, it's hard for us to understand these actions.

Today, especially at weddings, I hear older Catholics talk about this experience more than anything else. It's often given as the reason why the person or their family stopped practising their Catholic faith. Recently an older wedding guest told me that her wedding day at the side altar was the last day she came to the Church of her own free will. She never had her children baptised and her painful experience was still palpable forty years on as she compared and contrasted her wedding day with the Catholic marriage ceremony of a couple in a similar religious circumstance to her own which we had just celebrated. All I can do in such circumstances is apologise for the hurt our shortsightedness caused and be full of admiration for those who were subjected to similar treatment but have remained constant to our Catholic community.

These days inter-denominational marriages are rarely the reasons over which a family will divide. But we know that other religious issues can still break up a family. It's always a tragedy when this happens. For example, maybe you've had a son, daughter or a grandchild join a religious sect or cult. It's heartbreaking stuff for parents who wonder what their child sees in the sect and where it will all end.

The Church has sometimes let families down in this regard. Appearing to prefer dogma to the complexities of people's lives, formal liturgy to creating communities of hospitality, care and justice, the church can appear to be out of touch, especially with our young. I know that every person in authority

in the Church today knows that the Catholic Church needs to listen to our young people, hear about the issues that concern them and present our faith in a way they find accessible and engaging. Very often it's not what we say about our rich faith, it's how we say it. Many people don't leave the mainstream churches because they are attracted by another group's doctrine, though some do want the world to be very black and white. Many leave for smaller groups offering a tightly knit community.

From today's Gospel we know that the same family heartbreak occurred in the early church. At this time, however, Christianity was the small sect drawing believers away from Judaism, to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah. It ripped families apart. The early church became the new family of many followers who were disowned. They lost their life and found a new one in Christ.

There can be moments when a family's lifestyle, beliefs, behaviour or values are such that one member feels that, in conscience, or by conviction, he or she does not belong anymore.

When this happens we can listen carefully to reasons the family member gives. Maybe we have lost something essential in our life together that needs challenging and change. And maybe it's the family member who is in the wrong.

Keeping the lines of communication open, speaking the truth with calmness and love and remaining as compassionate as possible are the best Christian responses.

I can't pretend that any of this is easy, but, when I have seen families do it, the prophetic, truthful and charitable rewards Jesus offers in today's Gospel are powerfully in evidence.

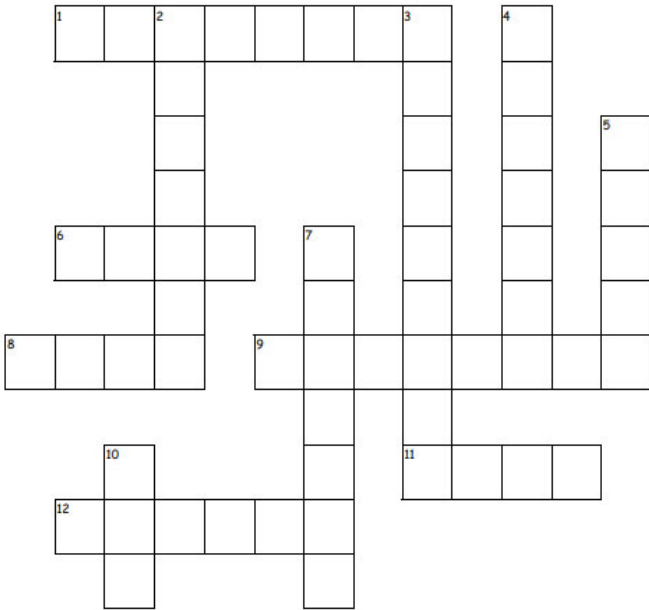
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Richard Leonard SJ is the Director of the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting, is a member of the Australian Catholic Media Council and a film critic for all the major Australian Catholic newspapers. He completed a PhD in cinema studies at the University of Melbourne. He lectures in cinema and theology at the Jesuit College of Spirituality and has been a visiting lecturer in Australian cinema at the University of Melbourne, a visiting scholar within the School of Theatre, Film and Television at UCLA and is visiting professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Catholic University, has lectured widely and is the author of numerous books.

CROSSWORD

Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me

Mt 10:40-42



Across

- 1: to be given a reward
- 6: nice, kind
- 8: alike
- 9: a person who follows
- 11: Jesus said, "anyone who welcomes me welcomes the Father who _____ me"
- 12: the opposite of boastful

Down

- 2: a warm greeting
- 3: Jesus' followers
- 4: the first gospel is the Gospel of _____
- 5: you might drink this when you are thirsty
- 7: a holy person and messenger of God
- 10: something you drink from

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

God blesses those who are faithful

2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a
 Ps 89:1-2, 15-16, R, v.2a
 Rom 6:3-4, 8-9
 Mt 10:40-42

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

Try to find these words:

- Elisha
- good
- humble
- husband
- prophet
- repay
- rewarded
- rich woman
- share
- son
- water
- welcome