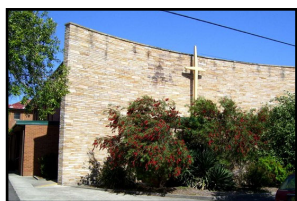


Sacred Heart Cathedral
Hamilton



St Joseph
The Junction



St Mary, Star of the Sea
Newcastle



Immaculate Heart of Mary
Tighes Hill



St Laurence O'Toole
Broadmeadow



Christ the King
Mayfield West



St Peter-in-Chains
Stockton

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF THE CITY PASTORAL REGION

SUNDAY, 19TH JULY 2020
SIXTEENTH 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.

Our Clergy

Fr Andrew Doohan
Fr James Odoh
Fr Peter Street

Fr Matthew Muller
Fr Peter Thoai
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
W: www.sacredhearthamilton.org.au

Our Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)
Anne Warren (*Business Manager—Interim*)
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.

THE PARISH DIARY...(for the week ahead)

Sixteenth Week of Ordinary Time

Monday— 19th July

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday— 20th July

8:00am Mass @ Stockton

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:15am Mass @ Broadmeadow

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Wednesday—21st July

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Thursday— 22nd July

Feast of St Mary Magdalene

8:00am Mass @ Stockton

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:15am Mass @ Broadmeadow

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Friday— 23rd July

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

11am Exposition @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

11am Reconciliation @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday— 24th July

Feast of Saint James

NO NOVENA

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ Broadmeadow

4:40pm Rosary @ Mayfield West

5:00pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday— 26th July

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's

8am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9am Mass @ The Junction

9am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

Live streamed: [https:// www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/)

9:30am Italian Mass @ Broadmeadow

11:30am Polish Mass @ The Cathedral

5pm Mass @ The Cathedral.

NEW PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

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

BOOK CLUB

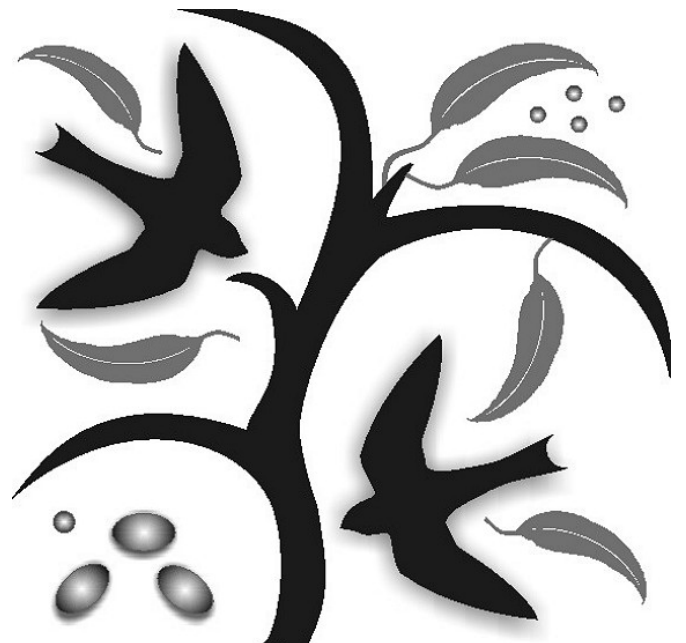
We are continuing our 'Zoom' book club meetings. At 6.30pm on Sunday, 2nd August we will share our thoughts on the book, *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, by Azar Nafisi. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please send an email to the parish office, newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

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>

Lectionary Art and Reflection

by Jenny Close

'The kingdom of heaven is like . . .' Jesus describes heaven as risky, paradoxical and expansive. In the paradoxical image of heaven, human values do not always apply because the logic of heaven is outside human logic. Heaven is a place in which the first will come last and the last first, and where an insignificant thing can become the *pièce de résistance*.



When words fail

By Father Michael Tate

One of the most moving and beautiful moments one has as a priest visiting people who are dying is that, despite apparently losing most ability to converse, invariably they are easily able to recite with you the Hail Mary.

My mother who, to my knowledge, never recited the Rosary as such, in the last month or so of her life would constantly exclaim the words 'Hail Mary' and I would finish the prayer for and with her.

Of course, what is especially moving in these instances is the concluding petition: 'Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now *and at the hour of our death*. Amen.'

Facing death, facing the ultimate encounter with Divine Love, facing the unimaginable transformation of our existence, we abandon our own words and seek the intercession of one who already shares in Christ's divine glory. In the 'Hail Mary' we ask the one who is 'blessed among women' to pray for us as our own words fail.

But there is an even deeper intercession below the articulate level, available to us at any time. In writing to the Romans St Paul tells us,

'When we cannot choose words to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means.'

We have all been in various situations.

One loves someone so much – a child, a parent, a spouse or partner – yet when one tries to pray for that person the words seem only a pale shadow of the intensity of feeling and total love one feels. Stop! Simply put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

One's heart is breaking with grief for someone close who is very ill or dying. Or one feels a terrible anxiety or anguish. Words don't come easily even though one wants to pray. Stop! Put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

Sometimes we have the idea that God has to be assaulted with a torrent of words to get the message we are trying to convey into his loving presence. But when Our Lord was teaching his disciples how to pray he said 'In your prayers do not babble as the pagans do, for they think that by using many words they will make themselves heard.' (Matt 6:7)

Perhaps it is accentuated by the constant messaging of 'social media'. So that, when trying to

pray we can get anxious when there is a lull in the noise and no words come. We fear that God will think we have given up praying. We should fall back on tried and tested, short and simple prayers such as the 'Our Father' or the 'Hail Mary' – the little mustard seeds which we sow in faith.

These are good, but there can be occasions when we are faced with situations where St Paul encourages us to relax beyond even these wonderful short prayers.

We can relax with the wordless confidence that comes from what we learnt from St Paul two weeks ago, that the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling place in our hearts. It is little wonder then that,

'When we cannot choose words to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way which could never be put into words and God *who knows everything in our hearts* knows perfectly well what he means.'

Holy Spirit, divine companion dwelling in our hearts, pray for us. Amen.

© Fr Michael Tate



RECENTLY DECEASED:

Peter Doyle, Terry Hart

ANNIVERSARIES: Amelia & Hilton Hoffman, Edna Street, John & Sarah Mennie, Robert Mennie, Jack Mennie & Richard Mennie, Sr Mary Eucharia rsj, Moira Bailey, Sheilah Delaney, Helen Hall, Carolyn Lennon, Rosemarie McGovern

SICK: Patricia Williams, Catherine Horner (Bridges)

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

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 53:6,8

See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

First Reading: Wis 12:13.16-19

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything,
to whom you might have to prove that you never
judged unjustly.
Your justice has its source in strength,
your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.
You show your strength when your sovereign power
is questioned
and you expose the insolence of those who know it;
but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in
judgement,
you govern us with great lenience,
for you have only to will, and your power is there.
By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people
how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow
men,
and you have given your sons the good hope
that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)
2. All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. (R.)
3. But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. (R.)

Second Reading: Rom 8:26-27

*The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that
could never be put into words.*

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For
when we cannot choose words in order to pray

properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a
way that could never be put into words, and God
who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly
well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints
expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of
God.

Gospel Acclamation

See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the
kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 13:24-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom
of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed
good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep
his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat,
and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and
ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's
servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good
seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does
the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done
this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you
want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No,
because when you weed out the darnel you might
pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the
harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reap-
ers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be
burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Communion Antiphon

Ps 110:4-5

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,
has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him.

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The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and
Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the
Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the
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The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Mis-
sal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy
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REGIONAL NOTICES

Climate Pastoral Care Conference: Christian training in Care, Communication & Action

Don't forget to register now for this year's must-attend conference on climate and the church (30 July - 1 August) online via ZOOM: <https://www.unitingearth.org.au/climate-conference/>

Learn about climate anxiety, grief and mental health issues, and how we can provide best practice pastoral care for people in our churches and communities who are struggling.

Learn how to communicate climate messages from Dr Rebecca Huntley, one of Australia's most experienced and respected social researchers. And learn how your church can take action on climate change together.

This year the conference is even more accessible - available entirely online on the Thursday evening, Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Join us to learn, discuss, and share your wisdom.

N.B. Cost is \$30 for the full 3 sessions.

The full program and registration link can be found here: <https://www.unitingearth.org.au/climate-conference/>

Hello Hunter
49HUNTER 49486837



Hello Hunter helps people who are feeling isolated, lonely or anxious. Volunteers are available to make a friendly call, deliver essentials, assist in finding specialised help or on request pray with the person. Hello Hunter has a call centre, which takes requests for assistance, then neighbourhood hubs mobilise their volunteers. Hubs are formed according to suburb and postcode. The goal is to have the person in need assisted by their nearest neighbour. Hello Hunter are now looking for hub leaders and volunteers. Volunteers need to submit a form, validated by their local parish priest or parish leader. Go to hellohunter.org.au for more information.

Sharing our story

Everyone has a story. No matter how ordinary yours may seem, we've all got a story to tell and you never know what it can mean to someone until you share it. As we enter a fallow period, we have been given the gift of time. A time to reflect on our life, a life of being faithful people. We invite you to share your story. You could use the following questions as a guide.

Who are the people who guided your faith journey? How did they do that?

Describe some defining moments of your faith journey? What made them significant?

How has your faith been reflected in your work, your hobbies, your values, your choices, and your priorities at various times in your life?

In what ways has your faith guided and supported you over your lifetime? How has your church/faith community guided and supported you?

We hope to use these stories as part of a Diocesan Formation and Education project.

Please send your story to:

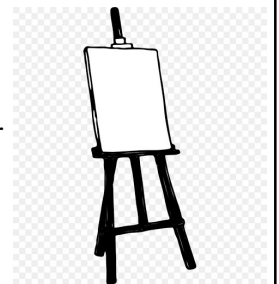
shareourstory@mn.catholic.org.au

Making it real art competition

The Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement *Making it real: Genuine human encounter in our digital world*, affirms the positive possibilities for encounter and solidarity offered by new digital media, while

warning of those elements of our digital world that may be harmful. The Statement points out that we are called not just to be inhabitants of this new digital world, but active citizens shaping it.

Artists are invited to create a work based on the themes in the Social Justice Statement. Works must be on A3 paper, with a 150-word artist statement accompanying the work. Entries close Friday 14 August. Exhibition date is Saturday 29 August at San Clemente High School, Mayfield. \$150 prize for each category (Stage 3,4,5,6 and adult). Contact rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au for more information.



Marriage and Relationship Education



Do you know someone who is getting married or someone in a relationship who would like to know more about how to create strong, stable relationships? CatholicCare Social Services Hunter Manning offers pre and post marriage and relationship education workshops and individual sessions

that explore the research around intentional connected relationships. They have the aim of supporting couples to build and maintain 'relationship satisfied' partnerships.

Online workshops will be run soon. Go to www.catholiccare.org.au.

THIRD PHASE OF EASING COVID-19 RELATED RESTRICTIONS —1 JULY

The next step in the easing of COVID-19-related restrictions that had been previously announced a few weeks ago by the NSW Government began on July 1.

While the presence of COVID-19 in our community remains a threat to the health and safety of the Australian and NSW communities, the NSW Government is seeking to ease related restrictions *as quickly and as safely* as is possible. Many people, including many Catholics, would like the easing to take place much faster for any number of reasons, but we need to be conscious of more than just our own needs and wants in the face of the current pandemic event. As Christians, we should have not hesitancy in embracing personal sacrifice for the sake of the health and safety of the Australian community.

The latest easing of restrictions are to be warmly welcomed, but we must remain vigilant to our moral and legal obligation towards our brothers and sisters and ensure we do all that we must to restrict the further spread of COVID-19. We look forward to further easing of restrictions in coming months, and the opportunity to gather as a worshipping community and celebrate our liturgical life in all its fullness.

Easing Taking Effect 1 July

A new Public Health Order has been gazetted to give effect to the NSW Government announcement. The limit on the number of persons who can be present in the Cathedral is now calculated solely based on allowing 4 square metres per person within the building. There is now no longer an arbitrary limit; the only limitation is the size of the available space in the Cathedral.

We have 'remeasured' the available space in the Cathedral building, and can now advise that the upper limit on the number of persons who can be present in the Cathedral is **105 persons**, which limit applies to all Masses and other liturgical celebrations, as well as the Cathedral's availability for private prayer.

Opening Hours of the Cathedral

The Cathedral will continue to be open Monday through Friday from approximately 8am until approximately 5pm. You are welcome to attend the Cathedral during these hours for private prayer or a time of silence.

On weekends, the Cathedral will only be open when in use for Mass or other scheduled liturgies, generally from about one hour before the scheduled

start time until approximately 30 minutes after conclusion. This decision is based on the increased need to clean the Cathedral after all liturgical celebrations, which naturally are increased over the weekend. We apologise for any inconvenience this might cause but feel this is the most appropriate course of action in the current circumstances.

Continuing Restrictions

Although the number of persons who can be in the Cathedral has increased, there is still a requirement for the collection of contact details for those who attend any liturgical celebration in the Cathedral (e.g. Mass, Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms, etc.). If a 'discrete' group attends, e.g. a family, a husband and wife, people from the same household, etc., only one (adult) member of the group is required to provide their contact details.

The requirements regarding cleaning, observing physical distancing, refraining from communal singing, etc. remain in place for the time being, as does the requirement to refrain from physical acts of devotion that involve touching or kissing icons or statues. Because of the need to ensure health and safety, the previously advised adaptations to the celebration of Masses and other liturgical celebrations will continue to be observed.

To manage the entrance to and exit from the Cathedral, only one door – the side door closest to the Diocesan office building – will be used for the foreseeable future. This entrance has had a hand sanitiser unit mounted on the wall for convenience and provides adequate 'desk space' to allow for the recording of contact details. The use of one door will also permit the management of numbers within the Cathedral for Mass and other liturgical celebrations.

Requirements for Attending Mass

With the increase in the number of persons who can attend, we will discontinue the need to register in advance to attend Mass. If you wish to return to Mass, you are at liberty to do so, though there will still be the need to ensure that no more than 105 persons are at any particular Mass.

You may continue to provide your contact details in advance via the relevant page on the [website](#), but there is no longer a need to register for each Mass. If you provide your contact details in advance, you need only 'tick' your name on the list provided rather than complete the Contact Details Form.

We ask those who are particularly at risk – the elderly, those with compromised health, those who are sick – to consider not returning to Mass for the sake of their own health. The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass given by the Bishop remains in place in these circumstances.

For Sunday Masses at St Joseph's, The Junction and St Mary's, Newcastle, the registration process still applies. 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

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.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

With the current Covid 19 regulations in place for the holding of meetings, the Breakfast Meetings have been suspended until further notice. We currently have two speakers arranged and several other in discussion. However nothing can be finalised until we have a complete all clear, as the majority of our members are in the vulnerable age group, a meeting in the chapel would not be advisable. The chapel would only hold 10-11 members to comply with social distancing. Government regulations prevent us from serving tea/coffee or food and the parish is committed to observing these rules.

By waiting until at least August, when we hope that there is a relaxation of some requirements, we will be able to engage more interesting presenters. In the meantime we apologise for the disruption to our very friendly meetings – but remember “We Will be Back”

GIVE AWAY...

A parishioner would like to give some historic newspapers to someone who might be interested in them. The papers include Queen Elizabeth's coronation, President Kennedy shooting and Newcastle's 200 years edition, Princess Diana's death, 2000 Olympics, among others. Let the parish office know of your interest.

STASH BUSTING...

Hey knitters! The Mission to Seafarers ALWAYS needs beanies. They give a package of beanies to every vessel that comes in to port. If you've got the wool and some energy to spare, they have the need!



Special Religious Education (SRE) is an important ministry within our Diocese which supports parents, students, clergy and parishes in the religious education of approximately 2500 students attending government schools.

The SRE ministry exists to promote the Kingdom of God on earth through parishes, into schools and homes, by proclaiming Christ's Gospel of justice, peace, love and forgiveness.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has had an impact on this ministry. On March 23 the NSW Department of Education provided advice that all SRE was to pause. As we emerge out of restrictions SRE is now allowed back in schools from the beginning of Term 3. The current concern is many of those involved in the SRE ministry fit into the vulnerable category according to the [NSW Health guidelines](#) and the [AHPPC guidelines](#).

We need your help!

Do you have a calling to spread the good news and joy of the Gospels to children in 2020?

Are you able to be there to support the children in the SRE classroom and the Catechists who are unable to return?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IONdRTBJwXo&feature=youtu.be>- **Be There for Me Campaign**

Can you assist with Special Religious Education in the short and/or long term?

For more information on how to become a trained Special Religious Educator visit <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/childrens-ministries/sre-scripture/>

God is good and forgiving

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

Try to find these words:

- barn
- burn
- children
- doubt
- enemy
- field
- prays
- right
- sleeping
- strength
- weak
- weed



The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat.

Help the farmer scatter the seed by finding the path to the wheat. Keep a look out for weeds!

