



City Pastoral REGION

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

Inner Newcastle Parish: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West; St Joseph's Church, The Junction; St Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Newcastle; Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tighes Hill; St Laurence O'Toole Church, Broadmeadow. **Mayfield Parish:** Christ the King, Mayfield West. **Stockton Parish:** St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton.

SUNDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2021 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B



Image by Dimitris Vetsikas from Pixabay

Our Clergy

Fr Andrew Doohan
Fr Peter Street
Fr Peter Thoai
Fr Matthew Muller
Fr John Vo
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

Our Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)
Anne Warren (*Business Manager Finance*)
Jade Simonsen (*Business Manager Property*)
Dr Anne Millard (*Music & Liturgy & Sacraments*)

Other Contacts

Lingard Hospital Team: Contact the Parish Office

Mercy Pastoral Team: Sr Patricia Whitten rsm
(02) 4979 1116

St Joseph's Pastoral Team: Contact the Parish Office

Parish Bulletin: Prayer requests and items for the Bulletin should be received at the Parish Office by 5pm on Wednesdays

Our Parish incorporates suburbs located on the traditional country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples. St Benedict's Parish pays respect to their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with the land, and pays our respect to their Elders past and present.

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

Second Week of Lent

Monday— 1st March

The Feast of The Chair of St Peter

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—2nd March

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:15am Rosary @ Stockton

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

9:15am Mass @ Broadmeadow

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Wednesday—3rd March

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Thursday—4th March

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

9:15am Mass @ Broadmeadow

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Friday—5th March

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

Followed by Stations of the Cross

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

11am Exposition @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

11am Reconciliation @ The Cathedral

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday— 6th March

9:15am Mass @ The Cathedral followed by
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
followed by Reconciliation

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ Broadmeadow

6:00pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday— 7th March

3rd Sunday of Lent

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's

8:00am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9:00am Mass @ The Junction

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

Live streamed via the Diocesan website:

www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/

10:30am Italian Mass @ Broadmeadow

11:30am Polish Mass @ The Cathedral

5:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West

FROM BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

We proclaim the gospel when we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, offer hospitality to the stranger, visit the sick and the lonely, care for those imprisoned or dying (Mt. 25: 35-36)

We proclaim the gospel when we stand up and tell the truth, although it's easier to stay silent.

We proclaim the gospel when we take time out to be with God, even when there are many demands on our time.

We proclaim the gospel when we agitate for justice and peace to prevail even though our own lives may be comfortable and secure.

We proclaim the gospel when we speak well of our family members, our colleagues, our leaders, our neighbours, our fellow parishioners.

We proclaim the gospel when we share our resources—our time, talent, and treasure—with those who need them.

We proclaim the gospel when we recognise and honour those beliefs, customs, and ways that are different, even radically so, from our own.



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

Recently Deceased: Therese Barr, Faldina Romanelli, John Collins, Fr Robert Barber SM

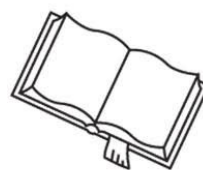
Anniversaries: Edward McCormack, Reg Rees, Norma Loong, Frank Monaco

Sick: Tom Towers

Names may be placed here by contacting the Parish Office. Please refer to the Policy Document on the Parish website—visit www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/downloads.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday 7th March 2021
3rd Sunday of Lent, Year B



Exodus 20:1-17,
1 Corinthians 1:22-25
John 2:13-25

*Please ensure you are exercising
social distancing
before, during, and after Mass*

PARISH NOTICES

Stations of the Cross-at Tighes Hill—directly after Friday Mass @9.15, beginning March 5th

St Laurence O'Toole, Broadmeadow: Beginning on the 7th of April in the School holidays the church will be closed to the public for repairs to the gallery and external walls. We anticipate this will last for a few weeks. Parishioners are encouraged to attend the other available Masses within the Parish.

St Peter in Chains, Stockton: AVE are installing the rest of the new audiovisual system, which should be completed shortly. The windows are currently in progress, however the rain is significantly slowing down the progress

The Breakfast Conversation (formerly called The Mens Breakfast) for March only, will not occur on the second Monday, but will be held on Monday 15th March. More details in next week's Bulletin. Neil Jones – Convenor 0410 572 579

Change to City Regional Office Opening Hours – Wednesday Closure

Due to the impact of COVID-related circumstances, we have had to review our Regional Office opening hours. We wish to advise that from this **Wednesday, 3 March 2021, the office will be closed each Wednesday.** Messages may still be left on the office voicemail (Ph. 4979 1101), or sent via email. There is also a letter box located on the verandah near the office door, where mail can be left. Phone messages and emails will be checked regularly and urgent matters will be attended to. However, the office will not be open and will not be available for personal attendance, unless by prior appointment. We appreciate your understanding and co-operation in relation to these changed arrangements.

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://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/96144217758>
Password: pray

BOOK CLUB meets 6.00pm on Sunday 6th March to discuss, *Infinite Splendours* by Sofie Laguna. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please send an email to newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

LENTEN GROUP

Father Peter Street will conduct a Lenten Group on Thursdays at 10:30am at the Parish Office in Farquhar St, The Junction. Group numbers will be limited to 10 people per group. As a Delegate for the Synod, Father Peter would like to hear the thoughts, feelings, aspirations and opinions of parishioners as he prepares for the 2nd and 3rd Sessions of the Synod. To register for these groups please contact the Parish Office on 4979 1101.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SURVIVORS OF ABUSE

We acknowledge the lifelong trauma of survivors and their families, the failures of the Catholic Church to protect, believe and respond justly to children and vulnerable adults, and the consequent breach of trust.

CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

Feed the hungry
Give drink to the thirsty
Clothe the naked
Visit the imprisoned
Shelter the homeless
Visit the sick
Bury the dead

SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

Admonish the sinner
Instruct the ignorant
Counsel the doubtful
Comfort the sorrowful
Bear wrongs patiently
Forgive all injuries
Pray for the living and the dead

To this list of seven corporal and seven spiritual works of mercy, Pope Francis recently added an 8th work:

Show mercy to our common home.

MOUNTAINTOP MOMENTS

Throughout the Bible there are instances of important encounters with God on mountaintops. Even this week's first reading, the sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham, occurs on a mountaintop. It is not the potential sacrifice, but the new relationship between God and Abraham that is a mountaintop moment. In modern language, we often speak about 'peak experiences' – moments of exceptional clarity, intense emotion or extraordinary accomplishment. Sometimes, like Peter, we are tempted to try to remain 'in the moment' rather than using the peak experience as a motivator for when we go back down the mountain to our normal (if perhaps changed) existence

TODAY'S LITURGY

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 24:6,2,22

Remember your compassion, O Lord,
and your merciful love, for they are from of old.
Let not our enemies exult over us.
Redeem us, O God of Israel, from all our distress.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Gen 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

We pause for silent reflection.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

1. I trusted, even when I said:
'I am sorely afflicted.'
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful. (R.)
2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. (R.)

Second Reading: Rom 8:31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

God did not spare his own Son.

We pause for silent reflection.

Gospel Acclamation: See Mt 17:5 (Please stand)

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Mk 9:2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

We pause for silent reflection.

Homily

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down
from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of
the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in accordance with
the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of Heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (*all bow*)
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into Hell;
on the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into Heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father al-
mighty; from there He shall come to judge the living
and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Memorial Acclamation

Save us Saviour of the world, for by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.

Communion Antiphon: Mt 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

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POPE FRANCIS' HOMILY

from March 1, 2015

Last Sunday the Liturgy presented Jesus tempted by Satan in the desert, but victorious over temptation. In the light of this Gospel, we are again made aware of our condition as sinners, but also of the victory over evil for those who undertake the journey of conversion and, like Jesus, want to do the Father's will. In this second Sunday of Lent, the Church points out to us the end of this journey of conversion, namely participation in the glory of Christ, which shines on the face of the obedient Servant, who died and rose for us.

The Gospel page recounts the event of the Transfiguration, which takes place at the height of Jesus' public ministry. He is on his way to Jerusalem, where the prophecies of the "Servant of God" and his redemptive sacrifice are to be fulfilled. The crowds did not understand this: presented with a Messiah who contrasted with their earthly expectations, they abandoned Him. They thought the Messiah would be the liberator from Roman domination, the emancipator of the homeland, and they do not like Jesus' perspective and so they leave Him. Neither do the Apostles understand the words with which Jesus proclaims the outcome of his mission in the glorious passion, they do not understand! Jesus thus chooses to give to Peter, James and John a foretaste of his glory, which He will have after the Resurrection, in order to confirm them in faith and encourage them to follow Him on the trying path, on the Way of the Cross. Thus, on a high mountain, immersed in prayer,

He is transfigured before them: his face and his entire person irradiate a blinding light. The three disciples are frightened, as a cloud envelops them and the Father's voice sounds from above, as at the Baptism on the Jordan: "This is my beloved Son; listen to him" (Mk 9:7). Jesus is the Son-made-Servant, sent into the world to save us all through the Cross, fulfilling the plan of salvation. His full adherence to God's will renders his humanity transparent to the glory of God, who is love.

Jesus thus reveals Himself as the perfect icon of the Father, the radiance of his glory. He is the fulfillment of revelation; that is why beside Him appear transfigured, Moses and Elijah appear; they represent the Law and the Prophets, so as to signify that everything finishes and begins in Jesus, in his passion and in his glory.

Their instructions for the disciples and for us is this: "Listen to Him!". Listen to Jesus. He is the Saviour: follow Him. To listen to Christ, in fact, entails taking up the logic of his Pascal Mystery, setting out on the journey with Him to make of oneself a gift of love to others, in docile obedience to the will of God, with an attitude of detachment from worldly things and of interior freedom. One must, in other words, be willing to "lose one's very life" (cf. Mk 8:35), by giving it up so that all men might be saved: thus, we will meet in eternal happiness. The path to Jesus always leads us to happiness, don't forget it! Jesus' way always leads us to happiness. There will always be a cross, trials in the middle, but at the end we are always led to happiness. Jesus does not deceive us, He promised us happiness and will give it to us if we follow His ways.

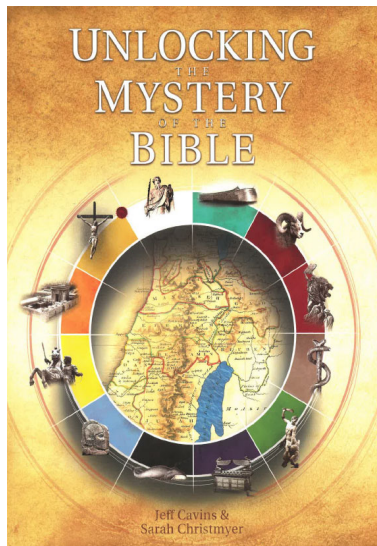
With Peter, James and John we too climb the Mount of the Transfiguration today and stop in contemplation of the face of Jesus to retrieve the message and translate it into our lives; for we too can be transfigured by Love. In reality, love is capable of transfiguring everything. Love transfigures all! Do you believe this?



BIBLE STUDY

Father Peter Street will commence Bible Study Group on Thursday, 8 April 2021. If you are interested in participating please contact the Parish Office on 4979 1101 to register your interest prior to 15 March 2021.

It is anticipated that this will be offered face-to-face and via zoom with the time to be determined by those involved.



Father Peter will be using *“Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible”* to help us make sense of the Bible and to see how it relates to our everyday lives. We will discover the remarkable connection between the Old and New Testaments, and see how the sacraments, the Church, and our entire Catholic Faith are rooted in the Scripture.

The Bible is a story about the Father’s unfailing love for us, a love that we are called to share with others.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Meditation will not instantly solve all problems. But it changes how we view and deal with the challenges we face. It helps us to 'set our troubled minds at rest' and to find the authentic, interior peace that stabilises us when we are in turmoil.

Join us for meditation at Living Waters,
34 Kenrick St., The Junction at:

Wednesday, 7.30 am

Friday, 11.00 am

Monday, 6.30 pm

CONTACT: annecuskelly@hotmail.com or
0407 436 808

FIRST FRIDAY FISH & CHIPS

March 5th from 5pm at Bar Beach. All welcome. BYO
Enquiries to Chris 0419265194



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join Father Peter Street for Stations of The Cross on Wednesdays at 6:30pm during Lent. Stay after Stations of the Cross for a period of adoration, during which time Father Peter will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Vespers and Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament will then follow. The Stations of the Cross will alternate between St Mary’s Star of the Sea Newcastle and St Joseph’s The Junction.



Wednesday 3 March	St Mary’s Star of the Sea
Wednesday 10 March	St Joseph’s The Junction
Wednesday 17 March	St Mary’s Star of the Sea
Wednesday 24 March	St Joseph’s The Junction
Wednesday 31 March	St Mary’s Star of the Sea

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLLING NOW

The Parish hosts a family-based and Parish-supported sacramental program for the children of our Parish, in conjunction with parents, who are the first educators of their children in the faith. We undertake the formation and education of children to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Penance, formerly known as Confession), Confirmation, and First Communion.

The Parish works with parents to help them educate their children in the faith. In this, we are supported by the Principals and teachers in our four Primary Schools, together with our Parish Catechists who teach Special Religious Education in local State Schools.

This year, in trying to cope with COVID, preparation for the sacraments is fully online. While we understand this change may require some adjustment, we feel it’s very important to keep everyone safe. The ceremonies wherein the children receive the three sacraments will, of course, be in person and not online.

Please register your interest by completing the online form:

<http://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/sacramental-enrolment-form/> or contacting the Parish Office on 4979 1101. Once you enrol, you will receive an information packet, which will then assist you to log into MOODLE, which contains all the information about the program, and sign up forms for the ceremonies.

If you registered for the 2020 Program your enrolment will be carried forward and you will be contacted in the next week.

COVID-19-RELATED INFORMATION

Maximum Number of Persons in Churches

Under the current Public Health Order, the limit on the number of persons who can be present in a church is now calculated by allowing 2 square metres per person within the building.

In our Region, those limits are:

Sacred Heart Cathedral	220
St Mary's, Newcastle	108
St Joseph's, The Junction	200
Mary Immaculate, Tighes Hill	110
St Laurence O'Toole, Broadmeadow	110
St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton	140
Christ the King, Mayfield West	140

The limit applies to all Masses and other liturgical celebrations, such as weddings and funerals.

Provision of Contact Details

The Public Health Order requires the collection of contact details for those who attend any liturgical celebration in a church (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 contact details that are required are defined as a) name, b) phone number or email address, and c) the time of arrival.

A Contact Details Form will be provided at the door to permit the collection of these details. The Cathedral also provides an 'online' version via SignIn.com.au which permits you to sign in via your mobile phone. If you have the Service NSW app on your phone, you can also use that to sign in at the Cathedral.

General Requirements

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.

Liturgical rituals have been adapted, and will continue to be adapted, in order to ensure the health and safety of all parishioners and visitors to our churches. We ask those who are particularly at risk – the elderly, those with compromised health, those who are sick – to refrain from 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.

Requirements for Attending Mass

Cathedral: There is no need to register in advance to attend Mass. If you wish to return to Mass, you are at liberty to do so, though capacity limits will need to be observed at all Masses.

LIVE-STREAMING NOTICE – 9.30AM MASS FROM

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL The 9.30am Mass from Sacred Heart Cathedral is live-streamed (and recorded) each week. The camera is located under the choir loft and faces towards the sanctuary, though it can be directed to various parts of the Cathedral if needed.

Parishioners should be aware that they may be filmed during the celebration of the 9.30am Mass. This filming will mostly capture their image from behind. We cannot guarantee, however, that their faces will not be featured on the live-stream or recording, particularly the case during the Communion Procession. The live-stream will make use of multiple camera angles to minimise the identification of individuals as much as possible, but this will not eliminate the possibility of being filmed.

Parishioners with concerns about being filmed or recorded should speak with the Cathedral Rector, Father Andrew Doohan, in the first instance.



Contact Details for those needing assistance:

Sarah Kemp Mob: 0490255100

Email: sarah.kemp@vinnies.org.au

A PRAYER FOR THOSE SUFFERING FROM CORONAVIRUS

Merciful God, hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer because of the pandemic.

May those who are infected receive the proper treatment and the comfort of your healing presence.

May their caregivers, families and neighbors be shielded from the onslaught of the virus.

Give solace to those who grieve the loss of loved ones.

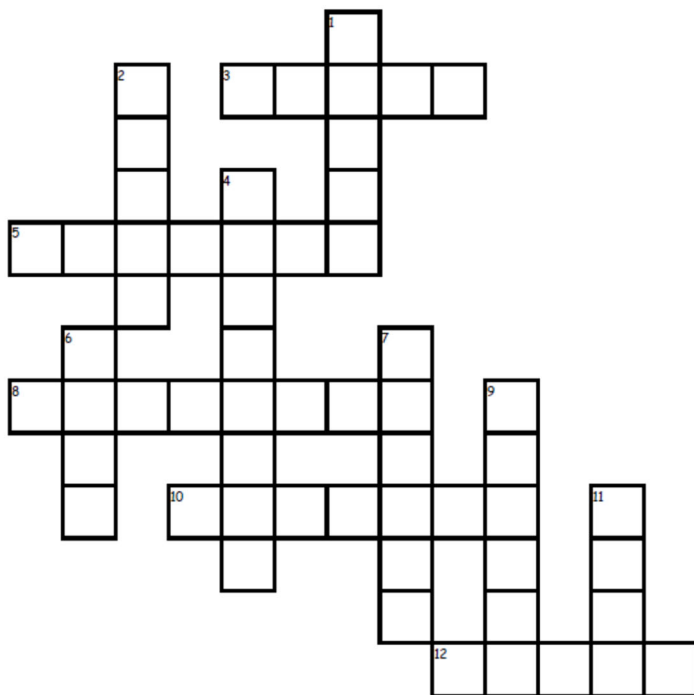
Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure, that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health.

Help us to rise above fear. We ask all this through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, and in the name of your Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

CROSSWORD

Nothing can separate us from God's love

Rom 8:31. 38-39
Ps 103:1-2. 8 & 11. R. v.8a
Mk 9:2-10



Across

- 3: Jesus and the disciples heard God's voice coming from this
5: Jesus' _____ became much whiter
8: Jesus and some of his disciples went up a high _____
10: if something is happening now, it is happening in the p_____
12: this man wanted to build three shelters

Down

- 1: _____ and Elijah appeared and spoke to Jesus
2: the opposite of above
4: Peter wanted to build three of these for Jesus, Moses and Elijah
6: nothing can separate us from God's _____
7: heavenly beings
9: if something hasn't happened yet, it might happen in the f_____
11: certain

SENIOR WORDSEARCH

Nothing can separate us from God's love

Rom 8:31. 38-39
Ps 103:1-2. 8 & 11. R. v.8a
Mk 9:2-10

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

Try to find these words:

angels
below
clothes
cloud
future
love
Moses
mountain
Peter
present
shelters
sure