



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 29TH AUGUST 2021

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

Our Clergy

Fr Andrew Doohan
Fr Peter Thoai
Fr Matthew Muller
Fr John Vo
Deacon Lawrence Caelli

Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

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PO Box 6, The Junction 2291
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Our Staff

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

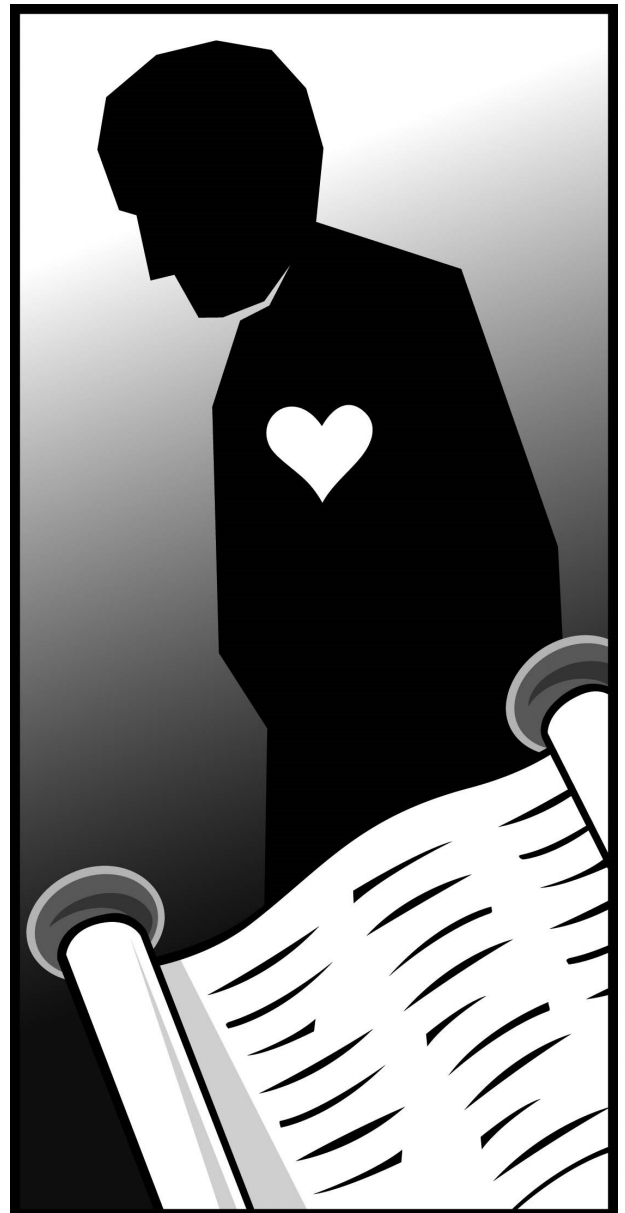
Other Contacts

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 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.

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

22nd Week of Ordinary Time, Year B

ALL CHURCHES ARE CLOSED THIS WEEK

Monday—30th August

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral—Cancelled

Tuesday—31st August

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral—Cancelled

8:30am Mass @ Stockton —Cancelled

Wednesday—1st September

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral—Cancelled

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West —Cancelled

9:15am Tighes Hill—Cancelled

Thursday—2nd September

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral—Cancelled

8:30am Mass @ Stockton —Cancelled

Friday—3rd September

Memorial of St Gregory the Great

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield —Cancelled

10:15am Mass @ The Junction—Cancelled

11am Exposition @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

11am Reconciliation @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)—Cancelled

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral—Cancelled

Saturday—4th September

9.15am Mass @ The Cathedral followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help (followed by Reconciliation)—Cancelled

5:00pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West—Cancelled

5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral—Cancelled

Sunday—5th September

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's—Cancelled

8am Mass @ Tighes Hill—Cancelled

9am Mass @ The Junction—Cancelled

9:00am Mass @ Stockton—Cancelled

9:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

Live streamed via the Diocesan website:

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

11:00am Italian Mass @ The Junction—Cancelled

11:30am Polish Mass @ The Cathedral—Cancelled

5pm Mass @ The Cathedral—Cancelled

5:30pm Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West—Cancelled

HUMANITARIAN CRISES UNFOLDING IN AFGHANISTAN AND LEBANON

As the situations in Afghanistan and Lebanon deteriorate, you can help to support families caught up in the crises.

In Afghanistan, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection.

In Lebanon, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights.

Please donate to Caritas Australia so that we are able to respond to crises like these and others across the world.

Visit caritas.org.au/lebanon or www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

VIEW, CHEW, CHAT, AND LECTIO

View, Chew, and Chat continues to meet via Zoom. On two Wednesdays, we employ the practice of *Lectio Divina* to prayerfully reflect on the Gospel of the coming Sunday. One Wednesday we enjoy bible study.

The program for September is as follows:

1st September: No meeting

8th September: Lectio Divina

15th September: Bible Study

22nd September: Lectio Divina

29th September: No meeting

To participate, please email the parish office.

The Bible Study series from Ascension Press, **Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible** by Jeff Cavins and Sarah Christmyer, is an engaging journey through the Bible.

Prayer Requests

ANNIVERSARIES: Margaret Hogg, Joan Fitzgerald (nee Dwyer), Laurie Dowling, Harold Crockett, James Dixon.

SICK: Kath Murray, Grahame Chegwidde, Veronica McCann, Wayne Bishop, John Tobin, Paul O'Callaghan, Rozsa Silivinec, Dianne McGoldrick, Peter Skinner, Carmel Blair, Margaret Jones

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.

JOIN OUR DIOCESAN COUNCILS

Our Diocesan Councils need you! Becoming a Council volunteer is a wonderful opportunity to not only meet fellow members who share your interests, but also to make a difference in an area you're passionate about!

Pastoral Ministries are seeking expressions of interest for these Councils:

Diocesan Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Ministry Council

Diocesan Adult Faith Formation Council

Diocesan Council for Ministry with Young People

Diocesan Council for Women

Diocesan Ecumenical and Interfaith Council

Diocesan Social Justice Council

Check out our Information Pack to find a Council that interests you!

<https://tinyurl.com/ysfzr4s7>

You can submit an Expression of Interest Form here:

<https://tinyurl.com/uvja9s>

ENGAGE YOUR HEART IN LEADERSHIP

You're invited to the fifth biennial *Mission: one heart many voices* conference. The conference will be online and you can register now.

Join us from: Wednesday 1 – Friday 3 September, 2021.

This special online gathering will integrate and engage with all the fantastic capabilities of the online world in helping us achieve the purposes and outcomes of this conference.

We are designing a program that will provide participants with an opportunity of wholistic formation and transformation, for personal and professional development and to enable us all to live the joy of the Gospel and lead mission.

For more information: <https://2021.mohmv.com.au/>

THE CHUCKLE...



Several children found a dead robin. Feeling that a proper burial should be performed, they secured a small box and some cotton batting, dug a hole in the back yard, and made ready to dispose of the deceased. The minister's 5-year-old son was chosen to say the prayer. And so with great dignity, he intoned, "Glory be to the Father...and unto the Son...and into the hole he goes."

The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible. -- *George Burns*

PLENARY COUNCIL CONVERSATIONS

In preparation for the upcoming First Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council our Diocesan Plenary Council members Bernadette Gibson, Fr Andrew Doohan VG, and Helen Belcher are seeking input from our diocesan community.

You are invited to join them for a series of conversations around the Plenary Council agenda and its associated questions, and guided by the Holy Spirit, so they can hear from as many people as possible. Plenary Conversations will be over a number of weeks each Thursday from 26/8 to 30/9 - 7.00pm to 8.30pm via Zoom.

Program for Plenary Council Conversations:

Online Registration is now open to register for all or one of the conversations.

Thursday 2/9 – Formation

Thursday 9/9 – Prayer

Thursday 16/9 – Structures

Thursday 23/9 – Governance

Thursday 30/9 – Institutions

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/plenary-council-lead-up-conversations-tickets-168063956819>

BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 5th September @ 6pm: Bookclub meets to discuss *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

PRAYING THE GOSPELS

You are invited to connect and pray with each other across the Diocese from your own home.

God speaks to us through the words of the Gospel and then through artist's images of the Gospel message.

Join us each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm.

Zoom link:

<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/96144217758>

Password: pray

For more information contact:

rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Is 35:4-7

Jas 2:1-5

Mk 7:31-37

Weekday and Sunday readings can be found at www.usccb.org



AUGUST APPEAL

CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning is the official charitable agency of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. At our CatholicCare, everybody is welcome. Our Community Programs receive no government funding, so we're calling on the Catholic and broader community to help. After a difficult eighteen months, we expect to be welcoming even more people through our doors.

You can help.

Help us feed more people in our community kitchens.
Help us support more refugees in our programs.
Help us deliver more meals to people in need.
Please give a gift to our 2021 August Appeal today. Every dollar counts.
Your generosity will support those who have nowhere else to turn, ensuring no one goes without and that all are welcomed with food, support, and a smile.

Donate today

Send your cheque to PO Box 775 Newcastle 2300
Give a gift online
www.catholiccare.org.au/augustappeal

"AMORIS LAETITIA FAMILY YEAR" 19 MARCH 2021- 26 JUNE 2022

The "Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) Family Year" is an initiative of Pope Francis, which aims to reach every family around the world through several spiritual, pastoral and cultural proposals that can be implemented within parishes, dioceses, universities, ecclesial movements and family associations.

Over the course of ten monthly episodes, hear the Holy Father talk about each of the chapters of the Apostolic Exhortation Amoris Laetitia, along with the testimonies of different families who will share some aspects of their daily lives.

This initiative is a joint collaboration between the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life and Vatican News, and aims to facilitate the reading of the Apostolic Exhortation, with the aid of downloadable material prepared for personal and community reflection.

To access this resource:

<http://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/amoris-laetitia/iniziativa-e-risorse/10-video-amoris-laetitia.html>

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC MEN'S GATHERING

On Saturday, 31st July, the Australian Catholic Men's Gathering was launched online. Hundreds of men and men's groups have already signed up to be a part of this inspirational event. The gathering aims to encourage all men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, church and the world.

The Australian Catholic Men's Gathering is a free event and all the pre-recorded events can be downloaded and watched individually, or as part of a small group.

The opportunities to gather at this time are complicated by the need to act safely during the pandemic. And yet, it is important to gather and connect.

Our Diocese will be hosting four online meetings to watch and discuss the four sessions of the Men's Gathering. These sessions will be an opportunity to engage with the material and with other men, while also being an opportunity to explore men's ministry in our diocese and our local communities.

These online meetings will kick off on the Wednesday after Fathers' Day and run for four weeks during September. Each session will run for an hour. (7.30-8.30pm – 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th September).

If you would like to be a part of our Diocesan online gatherings, or if you would like to explore how you could run the sessions in your own local community, please email brendon.mannyx@mn.catholic.org.au to register your interest.

For more information, visit

www.catholicmensgathering.com.au.

TRIBUNAL

Marriage breakdown is a distressing experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Maitland-Newcastle Diocesan Office of the Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process. For further information please phone the Maitland-Newcastle Diocesan Office of the Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney on 4979 1370 or email tribunal@mn.catholic.org.au

UFOs

A Reflection by Anne Millard

I'm a knitter. It's more than a hobby; I am addicted to knitting. I knit everywhere. I can't read a book unless I am knitting. I fall asleep in front of the TV unless I'm knitting. Once I'm hooked on a project, I can sit up half the night to complete it. Holidays always include scoping out the LYS (local yarn store) to find some exquisite, new, or rare yarn. I'm a firm believer in the theory that she who dies with most yarn, wins.

And, like many knitters, I have UFOs—unfinished objects, those projects that are just too hard, or don't quite look right, or get shelved for whatever reason. I recently completed a UFO that I was knitting in the hospital when my mother was dying. I couldn't touch it for years afterwards, and although it's finished now, somehow sadness is still enmeshed in the fabric.

During this second lockdown, I've pulled out my UFOs and lined them up in the lounge room to ensure I finish them! So far, I've completed four projects with two remaining. I'm loving this time to dig into things that had previously been too hard to tackle.

What about you? What are you doing this lockdown? Do you have UFOs that might enjoy finding their way to the "done and dusted" pile? Or maybe you have other interesting ways to make the lockdown special. I've love to hear about them! Please email your lockdown stories, projects, ideas, etc to the parish office and I will include them in the bulletin over the next few weeks.

Email: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

GOSPEL FOCUS

The things within

We live in a culture that is very quick to lay blame on external factors; some people are very reluctant to accept responsibility for their own actions and look for opportunities to distance themselves from feelings of guilt or even regret. Jesus makes it very clear that evil intentions – the things that make a person 'unclean' – actually come from within. He presents a confronting list of the things that come from within and we may be able to add others relevant to our own time. In our culture of no personal responsibility, Jesus challenges us to rethink just where the buck does stop.

A STORY (AUTHOR UNKNOWN)

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room.

One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back.

The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on holidays.

Every afternoon, when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window.

The man in the other bed began to live for those one hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside.

The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every color and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance.

As the man by the window described all this in exquisite details, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine this picturesque scene.

One warm afternoon, the man by the window described a parade passing by. Although the other man could not hear the band — he could see it in his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words.

Days, weeks and months passed.

One morning, the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep. She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away.

As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone. Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the real world outside. He strained to slowly turn to look out the window besides the bed.

It faced a blank wall.

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 85:3,5

Have mercy on me, O Lord,
for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest.
and on earth peace to people of good will.**

We praise You. We bless You. We adore you.
We glorify You.
We give You thanks for Your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only-begotten Son.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father:
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
You take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the holy one. You alone are the
Lord. You alone, are the most high Jesus Christ.
With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Dt 4:1-2. 6-8

*You may add nothing to the word which I
speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.*

Responsorial Psalm Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Whoever walks without fault;
who does what is just,
and speaks the truth from his heart;
whoever does not slander with his tongue.

Who does no wrong to a neighbour,
who casts no slur on a friend,
who looks with scorn on the wicked,
but honours those who fear the LORD.

Who lends no money at interest,
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a one shall never be shaken.

Second Reading Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Be doers of the word.

Gospel Acclamation Jas 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,
that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

*You forget the commandments of God and hold
on to human tradition.*

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.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Memorial Acclamation

When we eat this bread and drink this cup we
proclaim your death O Lord, until you come again.

Communion Antiphon Ps 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

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SEASONS OF CREATION – FILM COMPETITION

Do you love making TikTok videos or short films? Amidst the climate crisis and the coronavirus pandemic, our sisters and brothers are clamoring for hope and restoration. NOW is the time to come together and take action! #SeasonOfCreation. You are invited to participate in a film contest which involves creating a 2-minute film that explores the 2021 Seasons of Creation theme – A Home for All.

For more information, visit <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/upcoming-events/> or contact rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

Mark's Audience

It is widely believed that the Gospel of Mark was written for a predominantly Greek-speaking, Gentile audience. Today's gospel passage is a perfect example of literary evidence that has been used to establish this position. The gospel writer clearly explains the Jewish practice of washing to the elbows before eating and ritual cleansing upon return from the marketplace where they would have encountered Gentiles. Obviously, a Jewish audience would not need this explanation. This practice of looking for information about the author and their audience within the text itself is a form of Literary Criticism.

SEASON OF CREATION

Amid crises that have shaken our world, the global Christian family was awakened to the urgent need to heal our relationships with creation and with each other during the ecumenical Season of Creation.

During the 2021 Season of Creation, from 1st September through 4th October, thousands of Christians on six continents get together for a time of restoration and hope, a jubilee for our Earth, and to discover radically new ways of living with creation.

More than ever before, the global Christian family will unite to pray and take action for our common home.

2021 Launch | 10:00AM Wednesday, 1 September

<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/65971747861>

Password: 533823

Pints with a Purpose | Explore Season of Creation with Rose McAllister

The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment.

MN Catholic Youth welcome Rose McAllister (Manager - Formation and Education) who will explore this year's theme; inviting us to consider how we can celebrate this season so we are caring for our common home.

Time: 7:00PM

Date: Monday, 6 September 2021

More information: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/pints-with-a-purpose-season-of-creation-tickets-168044011161>

Seasons of Creation Celebration

This year the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, is partnering with Seasons of Creation to help raise awareness of the urgent need to care for the earth and for one another.

Join us to hear guest speakers break open this year's Season of Creation theme, "A Home for All? Renewing the Oikos of God".

Finalists from the film competition will be viewed and the winner will be announced.

For more information on the film competition go to: www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/upcoming-events/

Time: 2:00PM

Date: Saturday, 25 September 2021

More information: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/season-of-creation-tickets-167271083313>

Obey the commands of God

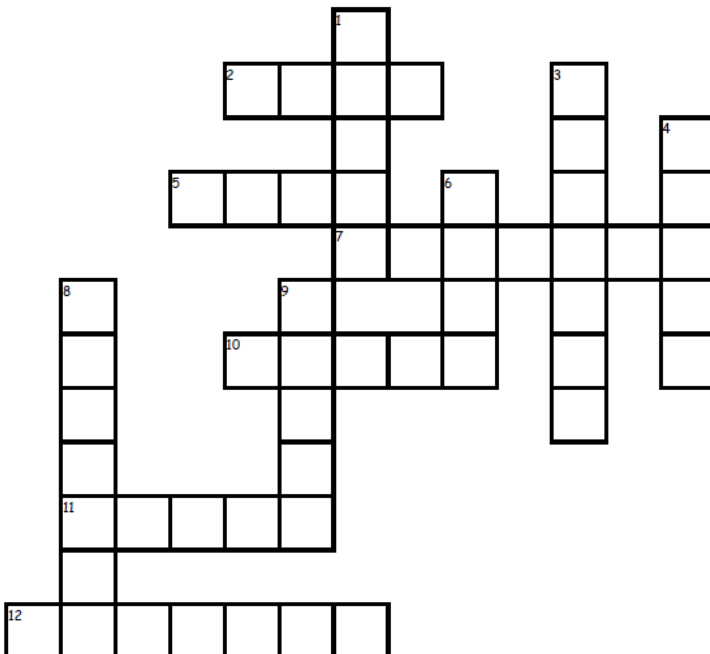
R S N J U X R N S C L D E A J K H
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Z E S Q H E B O Z R I Z C U I K S
R I O U G A S E Z I H D E K B D I
J H T O L L P U Y N S C T M N Y R
E V K F H T F V E Q R B R A I K M
T Q U B S T Q V B W O P H H Q C K
W R C B L Z Q E W R W F A I R H H

Try to find these words:

- birth
- fair
- hands
- heart
- laws
- Moses
- obey
- special
- teacher
- washing
- words
- worship

CROSSWORD

Obey the commands of God



Across

- 2: to do as you are told
- 5: the opposite of unfair
- 7: someone who teaches
- 10: Jesus said, 'The bad _____ that come out of your mouth are what make you unclean'
- 11: the Pharisees and all other Jewish people always washed these before eating
- 12: God wanted us to be his own _____ people

Down

- 1: evil thoughts and foolishness come from your _____
- 3: the Pharisees wanted to know why the disciples ate without doing this to their hands first
- 4: God sent the true message to give us new _____
- 6: Moses said, 'listen carefully to the _____ and commands that I am teaching you'
- 8: Jesus told the crowd that it is not food that makes you unfit to _____ God
- 9: this man told the people of Israel about God's commandments