



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 31ST OCTOBER 2021

31ST 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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Our Staff

Margaret Cox (Reception & Administration)
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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.



LIVING THE GOSPEL – LOVE

Jesus reminds us 'You must love your neighbour as yourself.' There's an unspoken, underlying idea here that is absolutely crucial. Before you can love your neighbour, you must first love yourself. To say that you love yourself today can imply a level of boastfulness or ego. However, what is required is a genuine love of self – an acceptance; a respect; a true valuing of self. Only then can we know how to treat others. When we ask ourselves how we would want to be treated it points us towards how we should treat others. What is summed up so simply by Jesus is a very tough ask!

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)

31st Week of Ordinary Time, Year B

Monday—1st November

Solemnity of All Saints

- 8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral
- 9:00am Mass @ Tighes Hill
- 6:00pm Polish Mass @ The Cathedral
- 6:30pm Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West

Tuesday—2nd November

All Souls' Day

- 8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral
- 8:30am Mass @ Stockton
- 5:30pm Polish Mass @ The Cathedral
- 6:30pm Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West
- 7:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral, followed by prayers at the Columbarium

Wednesday—3rd November

- 8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral
- 9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West
- 9:15am Tighes Hill

Thursday—4th November

Memorial of St Charles Borromeo

- 8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral
- 8:30am Mass @ Stockton

Friday—5th November

- 9:15am Mass @ Mayfield School Hall
- 10:15am Mass @ The Junction
- 11:00am Exposition @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)
- 11:00am Reconciliation @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)
- 12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—6th November

- 9:15am Mass @ The Cathedral followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help (followed by Reconciliation)
- 6:00pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West (During Daylight Saving)
- 5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Sunday—7th November

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 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/
- 11:00am Italian Mass @ The Junction
- 11:30am Polish Mass @ The Cathedral
- 5:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral
- 6:00pm Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West



In November We Remember

In November, we take time to pray in a special way for those who have died. During COVID, it is necessary to make adjustments to the procedures we've previously employed. This year, we will celebrate the following Masses:

On **Monday—All Saints' Day:**

- 8.15am @ Sacred Heart Cathedral
- 9am @ Tighes Hill
- 6pm in Polish @ Sacred Heart Cathedral
- 6.30pm in Vietnamese @ Mayfield West

On **Tuesday—All Souls' Day:**

- 8.15am @ Sacred Heart Cathedral
- 8.30am @ Stockton
- 5.30pm in Polish @ Sacred Heart Cathedral
- 6.30pm in Vietnamese @ Mayfield West
- 7pm Remembrance Mass & Columbarium Liturgy @ Sacred Heart Cathedral.

We offer Mass to remember those whose funerals were celebrated in Sacred Heart Cathedral this year. After Mass, we will move to the Columbarium to remember and pray for all those whose mortal remains rest in the Columbarium area.

On **Friday** (5th November):

- 10.15am @ St Joseph's. Remembrance Mass for family members of those whose mortal remains rest in the St Joseph's Columbarium

Prayer Requests



RECENTLY DECEASED: Bill Toomey, Anne Allen

ANNIVERSARIES: Con Cagney, Elsie Victoria Martin, Thelma Martin, Sandra Martin, John and Lauder Yu, Ignace & Tiare Ah-Foon, Frank & Gwen Wicks

SICK: Jon Hartley, Kath Murray, Grahame Chegwiddden, Veronica McCann, Wayne Bishop, Paul O'Callaghan, Rozsa Silivinec, Peter Skinner, Carmel Blair, Peter Keddie

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.

OUR ROADMAP TO RE-OPENING CHURCHES

PHASE TWO: Now 80% are fully vaccinated the churches are reopened for public liturgies with “mixed congregations” (i.e. to the fully vaccinated, the partially vaccinated, and the as yet unvaccinated). Many of the restrictions we are currently familiar with will continue. The 4sqm rule is applicable, and the wearing of masks indoors is required. There will be a need to observe physical distancing, practice hand sanitising, and provide good ventilation in our churches. Congregational singing is not be permitted, though a small choir of ten are allowed to sing. We will not be required to check the vaccination status of people attending our churches. Those who are especially vulnerable, or who are vaccinated but anxious about mixing with the unvaccinated, or who are unvaccinated and do not want to risk contact with others, will be free to remain at home; live-streaming of Masses from Sacred Heart Cathedral and other parishes will continue. We will take all reasonable steps to protect those who choose to gather in our churches.

PHASE THREE: When 90% are fully vaccinated (estimated date of 1 December) – “The New Normal” The NSW Government has advised that from 1 December, there will be no difference between COVID safety requirements for all NSW citizens, whether fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated or unvaccinated.

It is expected that at this milestone, the 2sqm rule will apply to all indoor religious gatherings, and there will be no limit on the numbers at outdoor events (though COVID Safe plans will be required for outdoor events with more than 1,000 people attending). It is expected that masks will no longer be mandatory inside a church, though some people may wear masks for added protection if they choose. The Importance of Getting Vaccinated The Catholic Bishops of Australia, amongst many others, have highlighted the importance of being vaccinated against COVID. Their information can be readily accessible by visiting the Catholic Bishops’ website (www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus). Good information must be available to those who have concerns about or are anxious about receiving a vaccination. The Bishops’ statement is an excellent place to start for those undecided about receiving a vaccination. When considering receiving a vaccination or not, people of good faith should ensure that they consider the good of the broader community when making their decision. It is not simply a question of the individual but of the whole community. As Pope Francis has said, it is an act of

love to receive a vaccination in the face of a pandemic. The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle wishes to encourage all members of the diocesan community to be vaccinated and will endeavour to provide them with good information to inform their choice. We will offer them particular care since they, and certain vulnerable others, will be most at risk. We will also provide specific care to those who, though fully vaccinated, are anxious about gathering with a “mixed congregation”. Further details and clarifications of arrangements, restrictions and any necessary measures will be developed in due course and communicated as quickly as possible. We look forward to being once again able to gather for Mass and other liturgies. Yet, we remain committed to ensuring that our actions are responsible and attentive to the need to contribute to the efforts to protect everyone who lives in the community, especially those who are the most vulnerable in the face of COVID.

GOSPEL FOCUS

FIRST OF ALL

Jesus is asked which commandment is first and he provides two commandments as his answer. However, he doesn’t bundle them together as one overarching commandment – he very distinctly identifies them as first and second. Sometimes we can feel the way to express love for God is through demonstrating our love for other people in charitable or justice-focused actions. However, Jesus makes clear that the first commandment of all is the love of God with all our being – that God is worthy of love in God’s own right. Our love of God may inspire us to action for others but the first step is loving God for who God is.

The Chuckle



A father was at the beach with his children when the four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore, where a seagull lay dead in the sand. “Daddy, what happened to him?” the son asked. “He died and went to Heaven,” the dad replied. The boy thought for a moment and then asked, “Did God throw him back down?”

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 37:22-23

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!

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 6:2-6

*Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart.*

Responsorial Psalm Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R.v.2

(R.) I love you Lord, my strength.

Second Reading: Heb 7:23-28

*This one, because he remains for ever, has an
eternal priesthood.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to
them. **Alleluia, alleluia!**

Gospel: Mk 12:28-34

*This is the first commandment, and the second is
similar to it.*

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 Cf. Ps 15:11

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

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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
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Reflection

By Richard Leonard SJ

It is amazing to note how leaving out just one half of one verse of the Gospel can affect the Christian life for centuries.

All of us know by rote the command of Jesus that we must love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength and we must love our neighbour.

But the second half of verse 31 is not usually quoted because, sadly, it is not as imbedded in our memory. It reads: 'You shall love your neighbour **AS YOU LOVE YOURSELF.**'

There are very clear historical reasons why the second part of Jesus' summary of the commandments was quietly forgotten. Given the chequered personal experience he had of his own body, St Augustine, in the fifth century, had very ambivalent feelings about the human body. He thought that, generally, it was to be feared as the instrument through which we would sin. He encouraged us to tame it through prayer, mortification and penance. Augustine's ideas about the body held sway until Thomas Aquinas in the 13th century and the Jesuit Theologians of the 15th century argued that while the body can lead us to sin, it is also a temple of the Holy Spirit and a vehicle of God's love and grace.

In the 16th century Cornelius Jansen denounced Aquinas and the Jesuits and argued that Augustine held the correct Christian view. No matter what the Church did to denounce Jansen at the time, his thinking took deep root in Europe, the USA and missionary countries throughout the world. Jansenism, the belief that our body and its desires are evil and that we need to harshly mortify ourselves, is, tragically, still active in Christian thought today.

Jansenism is irreconcilable with today's Gospel where Jesus tells us that the love of God, the love of neighbour and the love of self are the cornerstones of the Christian law. And the opposite must be true too. We **CANNOT** call ourselves Christian if we hate God, hate our neighbour or hate ourselves.

Some people argue that Western society has already gone too far in the direction of self-love. They maintain that the lengths some people go to achieve a sculptured body, the use of steroids, the growing frequency of eating disorders, the adoration of sportsmen and women, the cult of the gym and of the sex industry all point to a culture too much in love with itself. Some argue what we need is a good dose of self-control. They are only half-right.

The problem with the term 'love of self' is that we often hear in it an encouragement to 'adore self'. Nothing could be further from what Jesus is saying. We are called to love our body, not worship it. Jesus is not calling us to a narcissistic love, like we see in the sex industry and the gym cults, where the only thing we love is ourselves. If we have no sense of our own self worth, our own dignity and the personal love of God for each of us, it is impossible for us to give the same to others and to claim from others the dignity we deserve. We will either treat others as our inferiors on the one hand, or allow others to walk all over us, on the other.

Love of self is not about canonising a loss of self-control. Jesus shows us by the way he loved his Father, us and himself that true love always involves sacrifice. If we love our self in the right way, we have the self control to forgo those things that are most destructive in our life and we have the generosity to do for others the things that will enrich their lives. Jesus knew, that we can never love others if we hate ourselves.

Let's pray in this Eucharist, then, that we will develop our mind, heart, soul and strength to love the One who has created us in love and love those given into our care with the same love we lavish on ourselves. The Gospel of Jesus Christ demands nothing less!



Have YOU thought? Integrity

Who do you really admire? Who would you really like to be like? Aside from sports stars, models and actors whose particular skills you might admire or even envy; who is a person who lives their life in a way that you would like to emulate? Perhaps it's not that you want to do exactly what they have done but rather it's the way they've gone about living their life. I would bet that there is a close match between what they hold to be true and the way they live their life – integrity!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

1 Kgs 17:10-16

Heb 9:24-28

Mk 12:38-44

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

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. Beginning in November, we will participate in the Diocesan's Advent program.

The program for October and November is as follows:

3rd November: No Meeting

10th November: No meeting—(to allow time to practice Mystagogical reflection)

17th November: Lectio

To participate, please email the parish office.

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

BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 7th November @ 6pm to discuss *Deacon King Kong* by James McBride. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Just be Kind 😊

You never really know the true impact you have on those around you.

You never know how much someone needed that smile you gave them.

You never know how much your kindness turned someone's entire life around.

You never know how much someone needed that long hug or deep talk.

So don't wait to be kind.

Don't wait for someone else to be kind first.

Don't wait for better circumstances or for someone to change.

Just be kind, because you never know how much someone needs it.

"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>

THE COMMANDMENTS

Which commandments do you follow? Do you conform to the mighty ten as given to Moses? Or is your heart focused on the two Jesus gives us in today's Gospel?

They are certainly very different. A penitent might run through the checklist of ten commandments and pat his or herself on the back—went to Mass on Sunday, didn't kill, didn't steal, didn't covet my neighbour's wife. Go me! The two great commandments of Jesus, however, present a greater challenge. They are about love, which knows no limit. There's no checklist for love. Love is never "done."

Like that scene in the *Pink Panther* movie. Inspector Clouseau, played by Peter Sellers, while checking into a hotel, notices a dog sitting by the front desk. Does your dog bite, he asks the man at the desk, who answers "no." Sellers reaches down to pat the dog, which promptly and savagely bites him. I thought you said your dog didn't bite, he says to the man, who replies...That's not my dog.

Fair enough. The man did not lie. Or is it fair enough? The man answered the question, as posed. But he failed to respond to the spirit of the question—does this dog right here bite?

Sometimes it's easy to stick to the checklist. It's easy to look at the things we are not to do and not do them. But is that enough?

Anne Millard

DIOCESAN ADVENT REFLECTION: WAITING WITH PURPOSE

In response to a request from the Synod Working Party, Pastoral Ministries has prepared an Advent resource for our diocese. It's called, ***Waiting with Purpose***. In doing this we took note of the voice of the faithful heard in the Synod process expressing a longing for different forms of prayer that include faith sharing.

Waiting with Purpose

As we continue our Synodal journey an Advent resource, ***Waiting with Purpose*** has been created for our diocese. ***Waiting with Purpose*** responds to the voices heard during Synod reflections of longing for different forms of prayer that include faith sharing.

Waiting with Purpose invites us to use Mystagogical Reflection as our way of encountering Christ in the Advent gospels. It invites us to focus on the presence of Christ in our experience and in the living tradition of our faith, to connect it to life now and to be changed by it. Mystagogical reflection meets us where we are. No preparation is needed. It's about being open to encountering Christ so we can live from Christ. It's deeply personal and communal.

Waiting with Purpose and accompanying resources will be available soon on the diocesan website: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/liturgical-year/>

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COURSE (CFC) 2022

Are you wanting to know more about Christianity?
Expressions of Interest are now open for the Christian Formation Course 2022

The Christian Formation Course (CFC) is a face-to-face learning experience that allows participants to explore their life's journey and their faith within the Catholic Tradition. This one-year course introduces participants to scripture, theology, church history, sacramental life, and liturgy. The course runs across twelve months and comprises of eight units.

Commencing on Tuesday February 1, 2022, no prerequisite formation or qualification is required to enrol. All who complete the Course are awarded a Diocesan Certificate in Christian Formation.

Expression of Interest close December 10. For more information go to:

www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/christian-formation-course/

aMeN caMiNo

aMeN caMiNo Expressions of Interest are now open for 2022.

Dates for 2022 are May 28 - June 1, June 18-22, July 2-6, July 9-13 & August 6-10.

For more information and to register your interest, go to <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/amen-camino/> or contact formed@mn.catholic.org.au

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2022 PASTORAL PLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Pastoral Placement Program offers participants an experience of ministry in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The purpose of this program is to enable participants the opportunity to experience different workplaces and ministries across the diocese. These 'on the ground' ministry work placements help participants explore the opportunities that are available to them to serve God and the local community of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The Pastoral Placement Program provides participants a year-long discernment journey, involving the see, judge, act philosophy, to make an informed choice about the possibility of their future ministry or career choices.

For more information and to learn to how to apply go to: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/pastoral-placement-program/>



CATHOLIC MISSION

When we give in faith, to agencies of the Church like Catholic Mission, miracles can, and do, take place. On behalf of the missionaries we support, and those they, in turn serve, thank you for having pity. May God Bless you for your generosity.

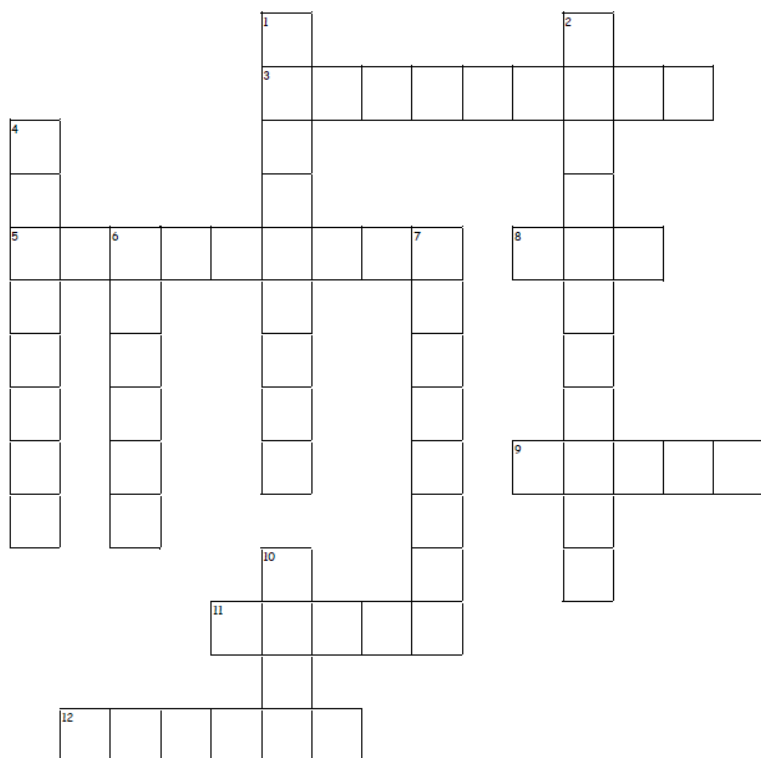
For more information about ways you can contribute to the vital, life-giving work supported by Catholic Mission, visit catholicmission.org.au.

To follow up Catholic Mission, about any aspect of its work or your support and contact details, please call the Diocesan Director in Maitland/Newcastle, David McGovern on 0488 115 401 or email him at dmcgovern@catholicmission.org.au

CROSSWORD

Love the Lord with all your heart, soul and strength

Dt 6:2-6
Ps 18:1-2ab, 46 R.v.2
Heb 7:26
Mk 12:28-31



Across

- 3: members of a family who lived a long time ago
5: significant
8: rules that must be obeyed
9: "Love the Lord your God with all your _ _ _ _ _"
11: he received the ten commandments
12: God's kingdom

Down

- 1: without fault
2: an instruction or order
4: kids
6: a person who performs religious rites
7: people who educate others
10: "_ _ _ _ your neighbour"

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

Love the Lord your God. Love your neighbour

Mk 12:28-31

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

Try to find these words:

arguing
commandment
first
God
heart
important
Israel
law
love
Moses
second
teachers