



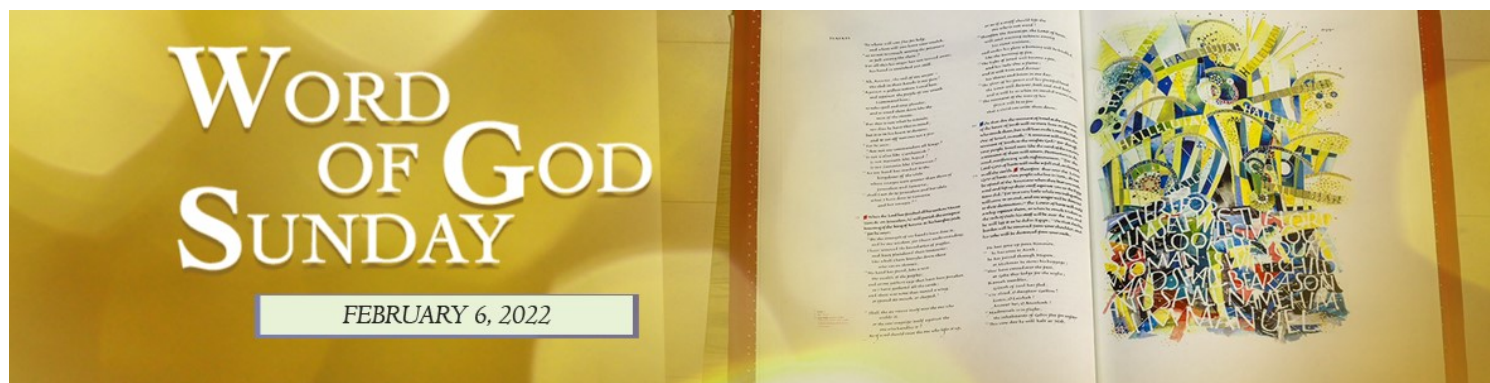
City Pastoral REGION

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 6 FEBRUARY 2022

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C



Our Clergy

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

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*)
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)

Fifth Week in Ordinary Time, Year C

Monday—7th February

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—8th February

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Wednesday—9th February

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

Thursday—10th February

Memorial of St Scholastica

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

Friday—11th February

Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

11:00am Exposition, Adoration & Reconciliation @
The Cathedral (until 12pm)

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—12th February

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

5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Mass @ The Junction

6:00pm Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday—13th February

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

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 *

11:00am Mass @ The Junction (*Italian*)

11:30am Mass @ The Cathedral (*Polish*)

5:00pm Mass @ The Cathedral

6:00pm Mass @ Mayfield West (*Vietnamese*)

* *Livestreamed on the Cathedral's YouTube channel—
www.youtube.com/c/SacredHeartCathedralHamilton*

BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 6th February @ 6pm to discuss
Wild Abandon by Emily Bitto. If you would
like to participate in book club meetings,
please email
newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

I ❤️
Book Club

ENROLMENTS FOR 2022 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

A child's catholic faith journey began with the Sacrament of Baptism and continues by the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation, Confirmation and First Eucharist.

The preparations for these sacraments in the Inner Newcastle Parish run between February and June of every year and is designed for children going into Year, 4, 5 or 6 in 2022. Preparations are done as a family with online activities and volunteer work within the community.

Enrolments are now open for the 2022 program. If you are interested in being a part of the program this year please visit the parish website and complete the online enrolment form.

<https://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/sacramental-enrolment-form/>

For more information please contact the office on 49791101 or newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

VIEW, CHEW, AND CHAT

Begins Feb 9 with a special meeting devoted to the Word of God materials. The schedule for the year is:

Week 1 (no meeting)

Week 2: Bible Study

Weeks 3 and 4: Lectio Divina

All meetings are online via Zoom. All welcome to participate regularly or occasionally.

PRAYER REQUESTS



RECENTLY DECEASED: Anna Di Santo, Barbara Smith, Anna Bartole, Saverio Masi, Constance Jennings

ANNIVERSARIES: Samuel Broad, Margaret Dixon, Angela Worthington-Smith, Gerry Simmons, Trish Leishman, Greg Smith, Ignace and Tavie Ah-Foon, Bernadette Limoy

SICK: Maree Halbert, Carlo Rossi, Kath Murray, Veronica McCann, Wayne Bishop, 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.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Jer 17:5-8

1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

Lk 6:17, 20-26

RESIGNATION OF FR ANDREW DOOHAN

After almost seven years appointed to the Cathedral and the surrounding parish(es), I have resigned from my appointments and will conclude my ministry here on Easter Sunday.

After that, I will be embarking on both sabbatical and annual leave as a time of refreshment. Upon my return, I will take up a new appointment in a yet unknown parish within the diocese.

The full video version of my announcement can be found on the Parish and Cathedral websites.

Fr Andrew

CANTEEN SUPERVISOR

Holy Family Primary School at Merewether Beach are currently advertising for a Canteen Supervisor for one day a week with the possibility of increasing these hours for special events at the school that require hospitality. If this is something that may be of interest to you, you can view the advertisement at <https://www.mn.catholic.edu.au/careers/positions-vacant/job/?id=11894>

or email your interest to the Principal, Ann Jackson, at ann.jackson1@mn.catholic.edu.au The starting date has been extended until Term 2 - 26th April.

**Scriptural
Context**
The Call of the disciples
In the other two synoptic gospels – Matthew and Mark – the call of the disciples is one of the first recorded actions of Jesus' adult life. Luke, on the other hand, delays the call until after Jesus' public ministry has commenced. By this stage of the gospel, Jesus has made a public declaration about the nature of his ministry and begun to enact it. In this way, the sort of ministry Jesus will undertake is already established when the disciples are called to join it. It becomes a more conscious decision by the disciples – they know what they're getting in to!

THE CHUCKLE



Q: What lies on the bottom of the ocean and shivers?

A: A nervous wreck!

CONTINUING OUR JOURNEY... BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD TOGETHER IN 2022 LENTEN REFLECTION

During Lent we are invited into prayer to renew and refocus our relationship with God, with ourselves and others, so we can fully celebrate the Paschal Mystery and live life to the full.

Continuing our synodal journey, you are invited to come together in parishes, schools and across the Diocese, both face-to-face and online, to remain connected during the season of Lent.

"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>

Living the Gospel
Hearing the Call
Like Isaiah and Peter, each and every one of us is called. It may not happen through Jesus stepping into our boat, but when we quieten our minds and our hearts enough to really listen, we become aware that God truly is calling to each and every one of us. The call comes to us through our friends; our experiences; our hopes and our fears. Sometimes we are so afraid of hearing the call that we fill our lives with noise and distractions. We fear that the call will involve hardship, or at the very least: unpopularity. But that's no excuse!

REFLECTION

by Richard Leonard SJ

Think about this for a minute!

It is time to elect a world leader, and yours is the deciding vote. Here are the facts about the three leading candidates:

Candidate A associates with crooked politicians, consults with astrologers, has had two mistresses, is severely disabled, chain smokes and drinks 8 to 10 martinis a day.

Candidate B was kicked out of office twice, slept until noon, used opium at university, is an undiagnosed manic-depressive and drinks a bottle of whiskey every day.

Candidate C is a decorated war hero, vegetarian, doesn't smoke or drink, except for an occasional beer and has never had an extra-marital affair. Who would you choose?

Candidate A is Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Candidate B is Winston Churchill.

Candidate C is Adolph Hitler.

Sometimes the best candidate on paper is the worst leader in reality. Thank goodness Jesus did not hire a management consultancy to help him recruit his earliest disciples. On paper Peter, James and John would not have got past expressing interest in the job. Jesus recognised, however, that they had the three things necessary for Christian leadership: faith, hope and love.

Not that they had it immediately. We know they constantly misunderstood Jesus and tried to steer in other ways. They made promises they did not keep and they abandoned Jesus when the going got tough. But they had the one thing that nearly all great leaders have in their formation: a mentor who knows they are not perfect, forgives their limitations, tells them the truth, brings them back to what they are actually on about and inspires them by what he says and how he lives.

Sometimes we think the Gospel always demands a very different lifestyle to the one we have, and sometimes it does, but today's Gospel should be taken seriously, not literally. Luke tells us that the disciples 'left everything and followed him'. We know that following Jesus did not demand of Peter, for example, that he abandon his family. And we also know that the disciples returned to their work of fishing a number of times in their life with Jesus.

Luke is telling us, then, that to follow Jesus is a radical option and that we have to divest ourselves of anything that stops us serving the kingdom of God. Conversely, it follows that we have to cultivate the very things that draw us on in the Christian life. For

most of us the departures necessary in following Jesus are in our hearts.

Furthermore in this story, Luke is also telling us about the great number of converts attracted to the Christian life. We know that some of these were notorious sinners. No doubt the leaders of the early Church had anxieties about admitting them.

By relating the story of the sinful Peter being called by Jesus, Luke reassures the community that as long as anyone is able to leave behind the destructiveness of their previous life they can, with guidance, become a disciple of Jesus.

Luke teaches that it is not for us to condemn anyone caught up in the net of salvation: simply to trust in God's love and compassion that visits the sick and well alike.

May we pray in this Eucharist for the humility in the Church to accept that God can turn our judgments, laws, customs, protocols and management strategies upside down and sometimes bring forward, from the most unexpected quarters, leaders who show us new dimensions to God's power shining through our human weakness.

© Richard Leonard SJ.

FAITH MATTERS | SHARE YOUR STORY

Each fortnight Faith Matters aims to explore individuals and communities rich experience of their faith.

We invite you to share your faith story.

Everyone has a story.

No matter how ordinary yours may seem, we all have a story to tell and you never know what it can mean to someone until you share it.

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 the stories as part of a Faith Matters.

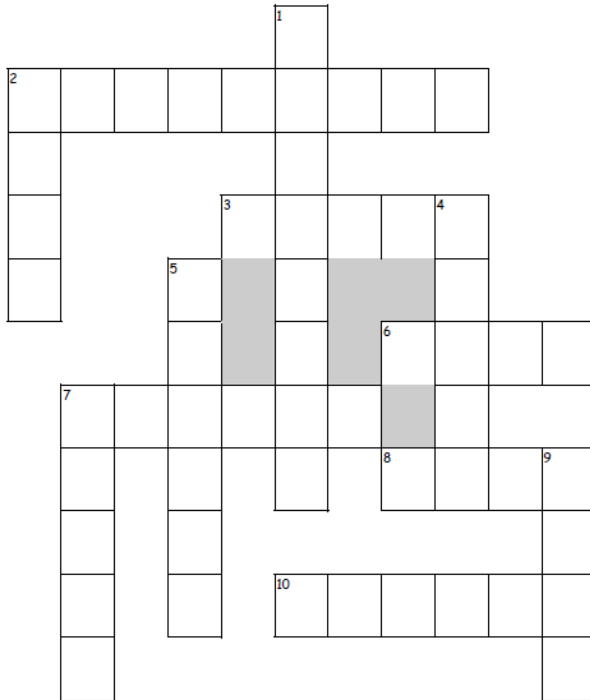
For more information or if you would like to be interviewed, please contact

rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au or send your story to shareourstory@mn.catholic.org.au.

CROSSWORD

The Lord has forgiven my sins

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8
Ps 138:1abcd-2a, 4-5 R.v.1c
1 Cor 15:3-8, 11
Lk 5:1-11



Across

- 2: people who go fishing
- 3: the apostle whose brother was John
- 6: a dark earthy rock used as a fuel
- 7: placed in the ground
- 8: used to catch fish
- 10: something that is seen

Down

- 1: gave a sermon
- 2: not able to hold more
- 4: land along the edge of water
- 5: the seat where a king sits
- 7: vessels for transport on water
- 9: to become submerged

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

The Lord has forgiven my sins

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8
Ps 138:1abcd-2a, 4-5 R.v.1c
1 Cor 15:3-8, 11
Lk 6:1-11

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

Try to find these words:

boats
buried
coal
fishermen
full
James
nets
preached
shore
sink
throne
vision

SYNOD OF BISHOPS

Have you taken up Pope Francis' invitation to participate in a global conversation about the Catholic Church? You still have three weeks to make a submission to your local consultation for the international Synod on Synodality, calling the People of God to walk together in our mission as Christians. Submissions close on February 27. Find out more at: <https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

ART EXHIBITION:

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT CRY OF THE EARTH, CRY OF THE POOR

In the 2021-2022 Social Justice Statement Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, Pope Francis reminds us that encounter, dialogue, and listening with an open heart enable God's transforming love to move more powerfully in the world.

Artists are invited to create a work based on the themes found in the Social Justice Statement. Works can be 2 or 3 dimensional no larger than 1 x 1 metres.

Name, title of work, school, parish and phone number clearly labelled on the back. This information, plus a 150 word (maximum) artist statement, must accompany the work and be emailed before 29 April through to rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

Delivered to Catholic Schools Office reception, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West 2302

Exhibition date: Saturday May 14

Location: TBA

Time: 2pm– 5pm

Categories Stage 3, Stage 4, Stage 5, Stage 6, Adult. \$150 prize for the winning entry in each Category

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/61036103033>

Password: pray

For more information contact:

rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

On September 30, 2019, on the liturgical memorial of St. Jerome, Pope Francis announced that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time would be celebrated as the Sunday of the Word of God.

Pope Francis instituted the celebration last year when issuing the apostolic letter *Aperuit Illis*.

The Australian bishops, in light of the regular coincidence of the Australia Day holiday or associated long weekend with the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, decided to choose another date to mark the occasion. Consequently, the Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God today.

Pope Francis launched an appeal to all the faithful to keep the Sacred Scriptures close at all times and to read them frequently.

Let us pray so that more Catholics would get to read, know, listen, and live the Word of God, so indispensable in our relationship with our Lord, through the guidance of the Sacred Tradition and the Church Magisterium.

TAKE PART!

Here's two suggestions for ways to be involved with the Sunday of the Word of God. Choose one or both of these options:

First, through an octave of readings :

- Is 40:6-8: "The word of our God stands forever."
- Jer 1:4-6: "The word of the Lord came to me."
- Jn 1:6-9, 14: "And the Word became flesh."
- Jn 17:17-19: "Your word is truth."
- Acts 6:6-7: "The word of God continued to spread." 3
- Col 3:12-16: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you."
- Heb 4:12-13: "The word of God is living and effective."
- Jas 1:19-22: "Be doers of the word."

Second, participate in View, Chew, and Chat's special gathering online on Wednesday, February 9 @7pm

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter, *Motu proprio "Aperuit illis"*, published on 30 September, establishes that "the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God". (In Australia the date is changed to the first Sunday in February)

By Vatican News

The timing of the document is significant: 30 September is the Feast of Saint Jerome, the man who translated most of the Bible into Latin, and who famously said: "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ". This year also marks 1600 years since his death.

The title of the document, "*Aperuit illis*", is equally important. They are its opening words, taken from St Luke's Gospel, where the Evangelist describes how the Risen Jesus appeared to His disciples, and how "He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures".

A response to requests

Recalling the importance given by the Second Vatican Council to rediscovering Sacred Scripture for the life of the Church, Pope Francis says he wrote this Apostolic Letter in response to requests from the faithful around the world to celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God.

An ecumenical value

In the *Motu proprio* (literally, "of his own initiative"), Pope Francis declares that "the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God". This is more than a temporal coincidence, he explains: the celebration has "ecumenical value, since the Scriptures point out, for those who listen, the path to authentic and firm unity".

A certain solemnity

Pope Francis invites local communities to find ways to "mark this Sunday with a certain solemnity". He suggests that the sacred text be enthroned "in order to focus the attention of the assembly on the normative value of God's Word". In highlighting the proclamation of the Word of the Lord, it would be appropriate "to emphasize in the homily the honour that it is due", writes the Pope.

"Pastors can also find ways of giving a Bible, or one of its books, to the entire assembly as a way of showing the importance of learning how to read, appreciate and pray daily with Sacred Scripture".

The Bible is for all

The Bible is not meant for a privileged few, continues Pope Francis. It belongs "to those called to hear its message and to recognize themselves in its words". The Bible cannot be monopolized or restricted to select groups either, he writes, because it is "the book of

the Lord's people, who, in listening to it, move from dispersion and division towards unity".

The importance of the homily

"Pastors are primarily responsible for explaining Sacred Scripture and helping everyone to understand it", writes Pope Francis. Which is why the homily possesses "a quasi-sacramental character". The Pope warns against improvising or giving "long, pedantic homilies or wandering off into unrelated topics".

Rather, he suggests using simple and suitable language. For many of the faithful, he writes, "this is the only opportunity they have to grasp the beauty of God's Word and to see it applied to their daily lives".

Sacred Scripture and the Sacraments

The Pope uses the scene of the Risen Lord appearing to the disciples at Emmaus to demonstrate what he calls "the unbreakable bond between Sacred Scripture and the Eucharist". Since the Scriptures everywhere speak of Christ, he writes, "they enable us to believe that His death and resurrection are not myth but history, and are central to the faith of His disciples".

When the sacraments are introduced and illumined by God's Word, explains the Pope, "they become ever more clearly the goal of a process whereby Christ opens our minds and hearts to acknowledge His saving work".

The role of the Holy Spirit

"The role of the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures is primordial", writes Pope Francis. "Without the work of the Spirit, there would always be a risk of remaining limited to the written text alone". The Pope continues: "This would open the way to a fundamentalist reading, which needs to be avoided, lest we betray the inspired, dynamic and spiritual character of the sacred text". It is the Holy Spirit who "makes Sacred Scripture the living word of God, experienced and handed down in the faith of His holy people".

Pope Francis invites us never to take God's Word for granted, "but instead to let ourselves be nourished by it, in order to acknowledge and live fully our relationship with Him and with our brothers and sisters".

Practicing mercy

The Pope concludes his Apostolic Letter by defining what he describes as "the great challenge before us in life: to listen to Sacred Scripture and then to practice mercy". God's Word, writes Pope Francis, "has the power to open our eyes and to enable us to renounce a stifling and barren individualism and instead to embark on a new path of sharing and solidarity".

The Letter closes with a reference to Our Lady, who accompanies us "on the journey of welcoming the Word of God", teaching us the joy of those who listen to that Word – and keep it.

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon: Ps 94:6-7

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading: Is 6:1-8

Here am I! Send me.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 137:1-5. 7-8. R. v.1

(R.) In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises,
Lord.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)
3. All earth's kings shall thank you
when they hear the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the Lord's ways;
'How great is the glory of the Lord!' (R.)
4. You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Cor 15:1-11

I preach what they preach, and this is what you believe.

Gospel Acclamation: Mt 4:19

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come follow me, says the Lord,
and I will make you fishers of my people.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Lk 5:1-11

They left everything and followed him.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 106:8-9

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

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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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PASTORAL LETTER FROM FR ANDREW

Fr Andrew's letter concerning the future of our
Parishes has been available on the website for a few
weeks:

[https://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/2021/12/09/
pastoral-letter-future-challenges-and-directions/](https://www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/2021/12/09/pastoral-letter-future-challenges-and-directions/)
You are encouraged (implored) to please send
feedback, which you can do in any one of three ways.

1. Via a dedicated email address for any feedback from
the Pastoral Letter CityRegionFeedback@outlook.com
2. Via a form on the Cathedral website, which will
automatically send to the above email address.
3. Communicate with members of the Pastoral Council
directly, either before or after Mass, or via their
contact information provided here:

Gail Lovell: Email: thelovells@bigpond.com
Mobile 0417210171

Janet Tully: Mobile 0435518671

Maureen Frize: Home 40237011 Mobile 0466681773
Email maureenfrize96@gmail.com

Alicia Jenkins: alicia.jenkins@mn.catholic.edu.au

Amanda Mohr: amanda.mohr@mn.catholic.edu.au

Mark De Souza: use the parish feedback email

